

309 North Mills Street, Madison, Wisconsin,

Minutes of Blue River Quarterly Meeting 8/25/'51

Named representatives from St. Louis: John Brush, Keith Reeder, and Miriam Brush. All absent. From 57 Street: Jeannette Cox, Martha Balderston, ~~Louis~~, Mary Ruth, and ~~Tom~~ Jones, and Rudolph Longshore. All present but Martha Balderston.

From Clear Creek: Arthur and Anna Mary Wilson, Martha R. Mills, Lucretia Franklin, and Ruth Heider. All present.

Attending from Milwaukee: Beatrice Kirkbridge, Maxine Franz, and Elizabeth Thiermann.

A round table discussion, Merritt Y. Hughes presiding, was lead by Francis Hole; subject: "The Full and the Hungry."

Francis Hole served as assistant clerk, substituting for the local clerk, who was occupied by welcoming the monthly meeting's DPs, just arriving by train at that hour.

St. Louis reports growth in spiritual and in material things. Their worship is alive, not languid. Friendly gatherings and First-day schools are stimulating to Milwaukee, also discussions of the Discipline.

Pursuit of progressive revelation is reported by 57 street as integrated by study groups, First-day schools, retreats, and youth gatherings.

Reports were read from Oak Park, Peoria, and Madison.

Meetings are aware that they are primarily spiritual families, who derive their inspiration and strength from meetings for worship. With the new strength gained at these meetings, Friends have engaged during the past quarter in a multiplicity of activities directed toward the bringing in of the kingdom of God.

The small meeting is a concern. Charles Harker suggested that the mobility of the 57 street meeting be turned to the advantage of small meetings.

Omissions in the reports on business integrity, simple living and moderation, and the use of alcohol and narcotics suggest the desirability of a review of our Queries when making reports on the state of society. The clerk expressed a desire to receive the reports a few days before the meeting to which they are directed.

Minutes made in Milwaukee were read and amended.

Martha R. Mills, the new Quarterly and Yearly Meeting treasurer, held up before us the old treasurer's book, the initial pages of which were written by the hand of Amos B. Wilson and was long used by Clement B. Flitcraft. The new one exhibited has size to outlast the century.

Reminders were given monthly meetings to complete the \$300 fund needed to supplement travel expenses of delegates to the Oxford Conference. And that additional funds are desired for helping delegates from Holland, Japan at al. to attend the World Conference. Martha asked advice regarding the use of money in the treasury. She was directed to send \$20 to Friends Intelligencer Associates, ten for each of two years' membership. Last year our \$10 offering was omitted.

Representatives to the Yearly Meeting reported that they called for the retention of the three clerks. For his first year at the clerk's desk, Charles Harker was warmly commended. The program committee was praised. Most acceptable was the larger use of Members of Illinois Yearly Meeting. Friends from Urbana-Champaign stirred a hope that affiliation might be encouraged.

Relief clothing work was reported by Madison, Milwaukee, and 57 street.

Garfield Cox reported the appointments of John Willard as secretary of the Chicago Regional Office, and Robert Pickus as secretary of the Peace Section of that office. Betty Mansfield is still recuperating from her illness. The work on job opportunities for minority persons is progressing. Department stores and a Loop bank are hiring negroes. The selection of competent and trained negroes is crucial in this program. A.F.S.C. interns in industry have attended Illinois Yearly Meeting for the past three years.

Civil Defense was discussed briefly by Francis Hole and Merritt Hughes. Restrain in participation, and yet willingness to help the needy everywhere, was urged.

A joint Quarterly Meeting at Evanston was announced for the ~~first week-end in May~~ last week-end in April. Our next meeting will be in St. Louis in November.

During the evening session Helen Allen showed pictures taken by her on a recent visit to the Near East. And Leonore Goodenow, Headmistress of Scattergood School, West Branch, Iowa, pleased us with an instructional address on some aspects of Friends' Education. The foresight of Iowa Yearly Meeting and the devotion of teachers at Scattergood pay rich dividends in the lives of the 30 to 40 young people that enroll annually.

Many guests remained over night for genuine hospitality in homes ~~of hosts~~ and to participate in a stimulating Sunday morning worship.

Albert T. Mills, Clerk
Francis D. Hole, Asstant Clk.