

Minutes of the Blue River Quarterly Meeting held at St. Louis, Missouri

October 26, 1963

Following the worship period Francis Weeks asked delegates of Meetings to introduce themselves. Those present were as follows:

Clear Creek: Turner Mills, Kathryn Mills, Anna Mary Wilson
Arthur Wilson, Mildred Whitney

Urbana-Champaign: Mary Nell Eldridge and Natalie Davis

Peoria: Ruth Smythe and Marjorie Smith

St. Louis: Gertrude Oldendorph, Ann Hubbell, William Walton,
Althea Walton, Melvin Jones, David Swaney, Dolores
Swaney, Clifford Haworth, Margaret Haworth, Walter
Bauer, Gertrude Wood.

Francis Weeks read the minutes of the previous Quarterly Meeting held 8th month, 14th day, 1963, at McNabb, Illinois. The minutes were approved as read.

Arthur Wilson reported that no money had been received and none had been paid out. Clifford Haworth reported that the books had been audited and found in order.

States of Society Reports:

Clear Creek - The report was read by Kathryn Mills and is appended.

Urbana-Champaign - The report was read by Mary Nell Eldridge and is appended.

St. Louis - Walter Bauer reported orally for the St. Louis Meeting. Meeting for Worship and First-Day School are well attended. Several members are expressing their social concerns by active participation in groups in the larger community, such as the Freedom of Residence Committee which seeks to establish integrated housing, the Committee on Race and Religion and the Committee on Nuclear Information. The Study Group is discussing the tape recorded lectures on the Gospel of John, given by Henry Cadbury at the 1960 Cape May Conference.

A concern for the physical improvement of the Meetinghouse is leading to the remodeling of the kitchen. On August 31 a Quaker wedding was held for a young couple from Carbondale. A bill in the Missouri legislature which would permit a wedding to be conducted after the manner of Friends, was defeated. Friends will continue to work for passage of the bill.

Peoria - Ruth Smythe and Marjorie Smith reported orally on the Peoria Meeting. With the return of Cecil Smith and family from Kalamazoo their meeting now consists of five active families. They meet on the campus of Bradley University and look forward to building up their meeting.

The status of other groups within the circle of the Quarterly Meeting was reviewed:

Bloomington, Ill. - The group holds Meeting for Worship on Sunday evening. There is a sincere desire to build up their group.

Jacksonville, Ill. - A meeting has been started in Jacksonville with three families and several attenders. Meeting for Worship is held on Sunday evenings.

Carlinville, Ill. - Correspondence with John Forbes of Carlinville indicates a small group meeting there on Sunday evening.

Carbondale, Ill. - Several of the St. Louis members visited the Carbondale meeting on a week-end last spring. The group is now considering becoming a preparative meeting to the St. Louis Meeting. Their Clerk is Robert Jones.

Columbia, Mo. - Arthur and Esther Dunham from Ann Arbor Meeting, are spending the academic year in Columbia and hope to form a Meeting there. They have secured the names of several families and interested persons with whom they hope to start a worship group.

There was the feeling that all of these small groups need the support of stronger meetings, particularly through intervisitation. The following were suggested as sources of information when visiting these groups:

1. Friends World Committee Directory
2. Charles Wright, Chairman of Advancement Committee, Illinois Yearly Meeting
3. The pamphlet, "The Nurture of Preparative Meetings" by Robert Blood.

Francis Weeks announced that the next Quarterly Meeting would be held April 18-19. Urbana-Champaign will be host.

The business meeting closed with a few moments of silence.

Respectfully submitted,

Gertrude Wood