

MINUTES

BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY MEETING, URBANA, ILLINOIS

FOURTH MONTH 19, 1969

The Meeting began after a period of silent worship. Frances Day, Clerk, presided. The Minutes of the Fall Meeting, held in St. Louis, were read and approved with corrections.

Reports of the state of the society were presented by the representatives.

Urbana-Champaign. Gene Gilmore reported orally for Urbana. The Meeting is pleased at the increase of attendance of high school students. The Meeting is participating in setting up a community draft counseling program, and the peace testimony is being studied in before-Meeting forums. Frustration and fatigue, experienced during the winter, are giving way to new hope and energy.

St. Louis. Rachel Stalnaker read the report from St. Louis, which report is attached to these minutes.

Clear Creek. Anna Mary Wilson read the report from Clear Creek. The report is attached.

Decatur. Larry Frye reported orally for Decatur. The Decatur meeting is losing all its former leaders. New Friends with a background in pastoral meetings are joining. The presence of more children makes necessary the establishment of a First-Day School. The meeting is participating in draft counseling at Millikin University.

Peoria. Cecil Smith read the report from Peoria which report is attached. He added that Peoria Friends have been meeting with Galesburg Friends both in Peoria and in Galesburg.

Columbia. Columbia Friends Meeting was unable to send a representative but reported by a letter which was read and is attached.

Larry Frye, Quarterly Meeting Treasurer, reported that there is \$128.70 on hand; that there have been no expenses in three years. He recommended that the office of Quarterly Meeting Treasurer be discontinued.

Rachel Stalnaker suggested abolishing all Quarterly Meeting offices. The Meeting approved abolishing the office of treasurer and asking the Treasurer of Yearly Meeting to take on the function of Quarterly Meeting Treasurer provided that \$100 will be budgeted for the use of the Quarterly Meeting. A proposal to discontinue the office of Clerk was not approved. As in the past, we shall attempt to rotate the job of clerk among the meetings of the Quarter. The Clerk will write the Yearly Meeting Clerk to get approval of the \$100 budget item for Quarterly Meeting to cover travel expenses of the clerk and of visiting speakers. Funds that are not used during the year will revert to Yearly Meeting.

Rachel Stalnaker raised the question: "Is there any need for Quarterly Meeting at all?" St. Louis Meeting has been disappointed at the attendance at the Fall Quarterly Meeting, a feeling which is shared by the entire Quarter. There was considerable discussion of this issue. Francis Weeks said that the Society of Friends has no way of getting its work done except through attendance at the business sessions of the monthly, quarterly, and yearly meetings. Anna Mary Wilson believes that programs and activities do not promote attendance -- that Friends attend because of the people who are there. Marvin Fridley said that the proper business of Quarterly Meeting is to create a community of Friends.

The Meeting adjourned after a period of silent worship. The subject of the discussion following the business meeting was "Community."

Francis W. Weeks
Minute Clerk

Blue River Quarterly Meeting, Fourth Month 19, 1969, Urbana, Illinois

Representatives of the Monthly Meetings

Urbana-Champaign

Mahlon and Frances Day
Francis Weeks
Rachel Weller
Wilbur Luce
Gene Gilmore
Margrit Meyer
Barbara Bucknall
William and Kate Shoemaker
Benjamin and Marilyn Rasmussen
Marion Freeman

St. Louis

Marvin Fridley
Rachel Stalnaker

Decatur

Larry Frye
Agnita Wright

Clear Creek

Richard and Grayce Haworth
Helen Jean Nelson
Anna Mary Wilson

Peoria

Cecil Smith
Marjorie Smith