

Blue River Quarterly Meeting held at Hull House, Chicago, Second month 25th. 1928.

Reports from Salem, Clear Creek and Chicago show that Humphrey Baynes, Loran Payne, Myrtle Baynes, Sadie Mills, Edna W. Wolf Clarence Mills, Ruth B. Ash, Harold Mills, Ray Bumgarner, Thomas A. Jenkins, Sally J. Flitcraft, Sarah Poulson, Maria Frederickson and Charles Smith were appointed representatives to this meeting.

Six of these were present – Edna Wolf being the only one outside of Chicago representatives.

Letters from Clarence Mills – Loran Payne and Humphrey Baynes expressing regrets at not being able to be present, were read by the assistant clerk.

The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held at Clear Creek in Eleventh Month were read and approved.

To audit the Treasurer's Books and bring forward names to act for the coming year we appoint, Thomas A. Jenkins, Loran Payne, Edna Wolf, Clarence Mills and Eleanora Brown.

Elizabeth Mills of Decatur, Illinois was in attendance and presented her fathers report of the Peace Conference in Richmond December 2nd. 1927, as follows, Forty or fifty Friends gathered at this Conference under the roof of a splendid new building of Earlham College.

In the beginning, there was more or less of shyness, a shyness which made us hold back from speaking. But soon warmth a plenty of the truly friendly sort was radiated and the early thaw opened the way for freedom of expression. The majority of representatives were from Indiana – (Albert Mills) – the writer was the lone one from Illinois.

The subject of consideration was the desirability of a central western branch of Friends Service. Friends Service — particularly Peace work in its broader sense, is a mutual concern of all Friends and in it cooperation has been found possible and very pleasant. We seemed to be a unit in holding the thot that the work is worthy and that it should be projected, and that a western branch should be organized if it can be done without weakening the service already organized at the central office.

To illustrate the scope of work undertaken already, we were informed that Elbert Russell was then in Nicaragua studying the economic and other aspects of the intervention of the United States.

The finance question, always serious one, can best be solved it was thought by making an appeal directly to persons of means. The appropriation of meetings to the Friends Service work now organized should not be withdrawn. We should not rob Peter to pay Paul. A committee is studying the question of leadership.

This report was accepted and the meeting recommends that the expense of this delegate to the Peace Conference be paid out of the Quarterly Meeting Relief Fund.

The Twelfth Query on Peace and Cooperation was then read followed by the reading of paragraphs in the new discipline with these headings — “Our Position” “Prevention of War” “Creating a Peace Spirit” “Patriotism” and “International Cooperation and Arbitration.”

Quite a lot of discussion was brought out at this time in regard to conditions in Latin America and comments made on conditions in Washington during the Naval Committee meeting and experiences of Frederick Libby and others.

The Clerk of Chicago Meeting — Harold W. Flitcraft reported the sending of nine telegrams to our senators and congressman protesting against the Naval Bill

The question of securing a Field Secretary for Illinois Yearly Meeting was talked over. This meeting favors the securing of a secretary to work part or full time among groups of Friends in Illinois Yearly Meeting with the hope that it will be fully discussed at Quarterly Meeting held in Salem Indiana.

Thomas Jenkins spoke with feeling regarding the separation of Friends.

The most hopeful thing we could do — he said — would be to draw together the larger body of Friends. We deplore the division in the society and hope that a large delegation will be sent to the All Friends Conference in 1929 and that this conference will be held in the middle west.

Percival B. Coffin from the Indiana Avenue Meeting expressed the thought that the most hopeful sign in our society is the volunteer worker. We gain our spirituality from our meetings for worship.

The meeting was united in the suggestion that the Clerk send a letter to Rachel Walters – Watseka Illinois – Clerk of Chicago Quarterly Meeting of Western Yearly Meeting expressing our willingness to cooperate in Christian work whenever opportunity presents itself.

The suggestion was made that the clerk send a letter with short summary of this meeting to Salem and others who could not be present.

There being no further business we are adjourned to meet in Salem Indiana —

Luella W. Flitcraft
Sarah P. Poulson
Clerks.