

MINUTES

The Representative Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), met for interim mid-year sessions on March 5, 1977, in the meetinghouse of Orange Grove Monthly Meeting, 526 E. Orange Grove Boulevard, Pasadena, California 91104.

MORNING SESSION

Representative Committee commenced at 9:30 a.m. with a period of worship after the manner of Friends. PYM Clerk Lowell Tozer then shared with Friends a letter he had prepared as an advance mailing, discussing the purposes of, and Friends' expectations about, Yearly Meeting.

PYM Assistant Clerk Asenath Young introduced Friends in attendance by their monthly meetings. Meetings represented were Berkeley, Claremont, Davis, Delta, Fresno, Grass Valley, Hayward, Honolulu, Logan, Los Angeles, Marin, Marloma, Mexico City, La Jolla, Orange County, Orange Grove, Pacific Ackworth, Palomar, Palo Alto, Redwood Forest, Reno, Sacramento, San Diego, San Fernando, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Santa Monica, University, Westwood, and Whitleaf. Friends representing Monterey Peninsula, Redlands, Riverside, San Jose, and Visalia Meetings were not identified as in attendance. (List of Friends in attendance attached.)

Lowell Tozer briefly reviewed the responsibilities of the PYM Representative Committee during our mid-year session as (1) beginning preparations for 1977 PYM, and (2) responding to preliminary reports from PYM Committees. Cautioning Friends that Representative Committee was not expected to function as a delegate assembly, he reiterated that "representation should work in both directions" and urged Friends to keep their home meetings informed of PYM work. He voiced hopes that Friends could proceed with "self-discipline, restraint, and understatement, but not compromise, as we seek to discern God's will".

Lowell Tozer proposed switching the agenda scheduled for the afternoon session with that for the evening session (with the exception of reports by the Treasurer and Finance Committee), and Friends approved that change.

Rep 77-1

Speaking for the PYM Ministry and Oversight Committee, Ellie Foster reported that M&O, trying to "keep in our hearts the spiritual life and good order of Friends", had met on November 5 and will meet again on April 1, to consider the purposes of Yearly Meeting, the experiences of monthly meetings in learning to care for one another in crisis, and the meaning of membership. PYM, its purpose "primarily fellowship", must be both a mirror and a model for all Friends' meetings. Each PYM sessions must have a life of its own, the dynamic experience, not the scheduled program, being the goal.

Marie Schutz reported for PYM Nominating Committee, first noting that the Committee was working very hard to cope with a "year of changes". Friends approved the Committee's nominations of

Rep 77-2

Micki Graham as Clerk of PYM Sites Committee (Gerri House being released from that responsibility);

Herb Foster as Clerk of PYM Social Order Committee for the duration of 1977

(Sali Damon-Ruth released);
Shirley Ruth as Acting Convenor of PYM Finance Committee (Richard Dale released);
Elizabeth Gustafson as Clerk of PYM Committee on Creative Aging (Ed Borgers released);
Alice Newton as Clerk of the Committee on PYM Worship-Fellowship Groups;
Bob Vogel as member of Peace Committee;

Carmen Broz as PYM Representative to the Conference of the Friends in the Americas, to be held in Wichita, Kansas, June 25-July 1 (Jamie Newton released);
Victor Robinette as PYM Representative to Friends World Committee on Consultation, for a five-year term; and
John Draper as PYM Statistical Clerk (Betty Draper released).

Marie Schutz mentioned that the PYM Nominating Committee was still seeking a Clerk for the PYM Discipline Committee (Brent Howell having been released from that responsibility), and also Correspondents from University, Honolulu, and Mexico City Meetings to serve with PYM Committees on Peace, Social Order, and Education, and the M&O Subcommittee on Visitation.

PYM Nominating Committee is preparing a document with "job descriptions" for all PYM officers and committees, to help in identifying Friends to fill the 166 positions for which they make nominations. Nominating Committee is also developing a packet of materials for newly-approved Clerks, including information on how to prepare budgets. Friends were encouraged to submit names of possible nominees for any position to members of the Nominating Committee: Helen Currier, Marie Schutz, Nancy Springer, Jon Vogel, and Bob Young.

Bill Lovelady reported for the PYM Education Committee. Lee Steelman and Joan Fasken were introduced as Co-Coordiators for this year's children's program. Bill Lovelady said that more capacity in the nursery section was planned, and that childcare will be available during the Monday meeting of Representative Committee as well. PYM Education Committee has received many requests to expand their program at PYM, but additional funds will be needed. Friends discussed the dilemma of PYM attenders who forego other aspects of Yearly Meeting in order to contribute their time in the children's program. Worship-fellowship groups have been scheduled at special times for such workers, but the continuing question of how Friends handle our responsibility for the youngest Friends at PYM deserves more attention from PYM as a whole.

No report was received regarding Friends schools, George Turner not being in attendance.

Brent Howell spoke briefly about the continuing work of the PYM Discipline Committee, listing Committee members and reminding Friends that a proposed up-date of the current version of the PYM "Faith and Practice" is now in process.

Van Ernst spoke first during the time allotted to the PYM Peace Committee, reviewing the plans of the Friends World Committee on Consultation (FWCC), in conjunction with Mennonite and Church of the Brethren groups, to sponsor a series of conferences on the "New Call to Peacemaking". A regional conference, involving 15 Brethren, 15 Mennonites, 15 California YM Friends, and 15 PYM Friends, is scheduled for September 23-25 at Ben Lomond Center. A national conference will be held in Wisconsin a year later, October 5-9, 1978. Friends

Rep 77-3

approved asking PYM Nominating Committee, in consultation with PYM Peace Committee, to nominate 15 PYM Friends to attend the regional conference.

Rep 77-4

In another matter, Friends approved PYM offering to host the November 1977 or February 1978 meeting of the FWCC Section of the Americas, without suggesting either a northern or southern California site at this time.

Glad's Innerst outlined the PYM Peace Committee's hopes that 1977 PYM will give in-depth consideration to one major peace-related concern, rather than listening to a series of minutes. The Committee will ask Friends at PYM to consider how we may work to heal the wounds of the war in Indochina; Earle Reynolds will prepare a background paper on this concern.

Colleen Wells listed the peace-related interest groups suggested for 1977 PYM:

- (1) United Nations and the work of the Quaker QUNO team there
- (2) How have personal lives of PYM Friends incorporated the peace testimony?
- (3) Sharing of group processes and procedures among peace committees of different monthly meetings
- (4) World Peace Tax Fund
- (5) Mid-Peninsula Peace Conversion project
- (6) Simple Living and nuclear power issues

Colleen Wells asked if the PYM Peace Committee was expected to "pass" on the suitability of topics suggested for such interest groups. Asenath Young explained that the PYM Committees' oversight of interest groups was intended only to prevent overlap of closely-similar topics and overscheduling of interest groups in general. Forms for listing planned interest groups will be sent out to all PYM Committees. Friends approved PYM Peace Committee attempting to book a speaker from the Quaker QUNO team for PYM. Colleen Wells also read a letter sent by the Committee in response to notification that the Camp Sealy Conference had been laid down.

No report was received from PYM Social Order Committee, Herb Foster not being in attendance.

Dick Ernst reported for the PYM Holding Corporation, reviewing for Friends the legal function of a holding corporation. He mentioned that the articles of incorporation and by-laws of our holding corporation were being re-drawn and would be ready for consideration by PYM in August. The Holding Corporation is also seeking a legal ruling clarifying the tax-exempt status of PYM and extending that status through PYM to all of its constituent monthly meetings.

Martha Dart reported for the PYM "Friend in the Orient" Committee. Marjorie Sykes, now Friend-in-Residence at Pendle Hill, is writing a book about Friends in India and will present the Cadbury Lecture. Mike and Margaret Yarrow, now living in Honolulu, are considering the Committee's offer to become our "Quaker Family in Korea". Floyd Schmoie is leading an effort to finance publication of Margaret Simkin's China Letters, toward which PYM Friends are urged to contribute. Catherine Bruner has prepared for Friends' approval a traveling minute to accompany Leonard and Martha Dart, who will be shortly returning to India for a visit.

Martha Dart also reported on Ed Morgenroth's progress as the first of PYM's annual Brinton Visitors, highlighting his visits to Logan and Honolulu Monthly Meetings, to winter quarterlies, and to North Pacific meetings. The balance in the Brinton Visitor account has fallen from \$1489 in January 1977 to a present level of \$479, with a \$300 check from North Pacific YM yet to be deposited. Monthly meetings will be contacted to encourage additional contributions to this special account. Pegge Lacey related several phone calls she had received from Ed Morgenroth, talking of his hopes to see the establishment of a Friends-related contemplative center on the West Coast.

Ron Steelman reported, for the PYM Friends Bulletin Committee, that Robert Schutz had agreed to continue as Bulletin editor through 1978 PYM. Ron Steelman also introduced the idea of stabilizing the Bulletin's funding, now tied to subscriptions and renewals by individual readers, by subsidizing automatic subscriptions for all recognized members of PYM monthly meetings and passing the costs of such subsidy on to monthly meetings via an increase in their PYM dues. Friends questioned whether each member or only each home would need an individual copy under such a plan.

Robert Schutz encouraged clerks of PYM Committees to submit reports of committee actions and plans, as articles for inclusion in the March-through-July issues of the Bulletin, in order to better prepare Friends for the program at PYM.

Elizabeth Gustafson, reporting for the PYM Committee on Creative Aging, identified that Committee's main function as a communications link between the separately active creative aging committees of College Park Quarterly and Southern California Quarterly. The College Park group is (1) compiling the results of a survey of aging Friends and (2) studying the feasibility of sponsoring a congregate residence for older persons who cannot live alone for physical and/or social reasons, combining the services of a residential care home, a skilled nursing facility, and a daycare program for the surrounding community. The Southern California creative aging committee reports efforts to gain wider distribution of the pamphlet, "Toward a Quaker View of Aging". Elizabeth Gustafson closed by asking for suggestions for aging-related interest groups at PYM.

Elsa Sabath brought greetings from Honolulu Monthly Meeting. She expressed their thanks for Ed Morgenroth's visit, talked of their search for a new resident couple, mentioned a new worship group on Maui, and asked if Friends knew of residents on the "big island" of Hawaii who might be interested in a new worship group just getting started there.

Ed Duckles, representing Mexico City Monthly Meeting, brought disturbing news of the effects the peso devaluation has had on the price of necessities there. Casa de los Amigos, the Friends' center in Mexico City, is experiencing financial problems. Ed Duckles also reported on the activities of the Mexican Friends Service Committee, on a Children's Conference to be held during Easter week at the Casa, and a general reunion of all Mexican Friends held in Ciudad Victoria in September. A worship group, in which Tom and Trudy Hart are active, is meeting in Guatemala City.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Marvin Gregory, reporting for University Meeting, spoke of University Friends' receipt of a bequest with which to "be Quakerly", sponsorship of a family of Chilean refugees, and involvement in a public trial stemming from demonstrations against the Trident submarine fleet. He also reported on University Friends' use of small "get-acquainted" meetings to welcome new members and attenders.

Rose Lewis reported for North Pacific Yearly Meeting that NPYM will hold its annual gathering July 21-24 at Camp Adams, southeast of Portland.

Virginia Croninger, speaking on behalf of John Woolman School, emphasized their need for new teachers, especially with the departure of the Traverses.

Rep 77-5

Friends approved the traveling minute for Leonard and Martha Dart, the wording having been finalized over lunch.

Micki Graham, as Acting Clerk, presented the report of PYM Sites Committee. The Committee had finally come down to two possible sites for 1977 PYM: (1) the "City of Ten Thousand Buddhas", a Buddhist center near Ukiah, and (2) Craig Hall Complex, a three-building private dormitory in Chico, occupied most of the year by students of Chico State College. The Committee had photographs and site maps of both locations available for Friends' inspection. The Committee recommended selection of the Craig Hall site for the following reasons:

- (1) Craig Hall would be \$2500 cheaper, and the rate for Friends choosing to camp would be considerably less than at the Buddhist center;
- (2) The Craig Hall site is smaller in total area (13 acres) and has no built-in architectural barriers, advantages for Friends with mobility problems; and
- (3) The Craig Hall arrangement could more easily provide both vegetarian and non-vegetarian menus than could the Buddhist center.

Micki Graham also said that Craig Hall included lounge areas for meetings of committees and interest groups, one lounge large enough for plenary sessions, and adequate indoor/outdoor space for the children's program. Passing traffic should not be a problem, as Craig Hall is located at the end of a dead-end street. Craig Hall appears to be a good possibility for year-after-year reservations if we desire, and a late-hours snack bar is available nearby. Although August weather promises to be hot and dry, the entire Complex is air-conditioned, and Chico's water comes from deep-drilled wells. The Committee described PYM relations with the Buddhist monks as continuing cordial, and urged Friends to consider the possibility of locating PYM at the Buddhist center some future year as a "religious opening", an opportunity to see our beliefs against a different background.

Friends asked if any 1976 PYM action had already committed us to using the Buddhist center this year, and the pertinent 1976 minute was found and read; it authorized the Sites Committee only to enter into negotiations with the Buddhist group and committed us to nothing beyond that. Friends approved that 1977 PYM be held at Craig Hall Complex in Chico. Micki Graham also mentioned the possibility that 1978 ^{PYM} could be held at Whittier College, or even back at St. Mary's in Moraga, the latter's plans to house professional sports teams apparently having failed to materialize.

Rep 77-6

Rep 77-7 Micki Graham, now acting as Clerk of Arrangements Committee, distributed copies of an organizational chart of PYM and outlined plans for making the traditional PYM "family night" into an outdoor picnic as well. Friends approved inclusion of a PYM orientation booklet with registration materials and the scheduling of a special orientation interest group for first-time attenders.

Rep 77-8 Frank Burnham presented the PYM Treasurer's report. Only 13% of PYM anticipated annual revenue has been received to date. Our fiscal year is now October 1, 1976 through September 30, 1977, and PYM actually needs at least half its annual revenue by February 15, and the other half by the time PYM opens. The Treasurer may find himself unable to pay the costs charged by Craig Hall out of registration checks received at PYM. Friends approved the proposed PYM Session Budget, based on Craig Hall costs, and accepted the Treasurer's Report and Interim Financial Statement.

Rep 77-9 Shirley Ruth reported for the PYM Finance Committee. Friends approved the addition of \$100 to the PYM Peace Committee's annual budget, bringing that committee's total to \$450. Friends approved offsetting the assessment of Mexico City Monthly Meeting's PYM dues against the travel allowance granted to help bring a Mexico City representative to PYM, in order to enable Mexican Friends to avoid losing any of their limited funds in the peso-dollar exchange.

Rep 77-10 PYM Finance Committee will sponsor, jointly with PYM Ministry and Oversight, an open meeting at 1977 PYM to discuss the problem of inactive members and the financial burden they pose under the present assessment system, which counts them on a equal basis with active members in figuring out each monthly meeting's PYM dues. Friends wondered if the ratio of inactive to active members was not about the same in every meeting, which would mean that the present system might turn out to be approximately equitable after all. Marlee Coughlan proposed two types of membership in a monthly meeting, active and inactive, the latter not to be assessed; she pointed out that under the present system, there exists a considerable financial incentive to drop altogether any member who becomes inactive. Friends with suggestions and alternative solutions were asked to write PYM M&O, in care of Ellie Foster, in advance of the open meeting at 1977 PYM.

Shirley Ruth urged Committee clerks to turn in their bills for telephone calls incident to committee business to the PYM Treasurer. She also reminded Friends that requests, from representatives from monthly meetings and from other prospective PYM attenders, for travel subsidies should arrive via the monthly meeting and not from the individuals themselves.

Rep 77-11 Ed Duckles brought another financial matter to Friends' attention. Mexico City Monthly Meeting has over a five-year period accumulated a debt of \$124 in its annual PYM dues. The problem seems to have stemmed from differences in calculations as to how many members Mexico City had and from the disparity between the fiscal year periods adopted by the Monthly Meeting and PYM. Friends approved a \$124 "donation" from PYM to Mexico City Monthly Meeting, to clear this debt.

PYM Registrar Lonnie Harvey reminded Friends to help see that all those planning on attending PYM register by July 15. She passed out copies of the proposed registration form and asked for any suggested improvements in the form by April 1. She promised an "express line" at the registration desks for Friends who had pre-registered.

Friends expressed their continuing dismay at the amount of food wasted in the dining hall arrangement at PYM. Others wondered if the servers employed by SAGA, who will also provide the food at Craig Hall, did not almost without exception give younger Friends more than they could eat.

Asenath Young reviewed the agenda for the week of PYM and noted that the agenda would be reviewed once again on Monday evening, the first day of PYM, by the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, M&O Clerk, Young Friends Clerk, and Junior Friends Clerk. She asked Friends for their suggestions as to how we can make worship at PYM more central and less "peripheral, parenthetical, and perfunctory".

Bill Lovelady introduced additional items from the PYM Education Committee. Lee Steelman said she thought that Friends were happy to be involved in the children's program, but needed more leadership from the coordinators and a unifying theme for the entire week. The theme for this year will be "conflict resolution", and group leaders will attend a workshop on Monday afternoon on that topic. Volunteers are needed during this time to stay with those children who have already arrived, so that group leaders can attend. Friends approved the Education Committee's seeking a resource person skilled in religious education to lead interest group(s) at PYM, not more than \$200 to be spent for his/her expenses and the PYM registration fee to be raised to cover this additional expense. Lee Steelman will be working with the children five years old and up, and Joan Fasken with nursery age Friends, who may be numerous enough to justify division into two groups. Friends asked if craft tables might be provided in an area for Friends of all ages to share with one another.

Rep 77-12

Kerri Hamilton listed suggestions for Junior Friends-sponsored interest groups at 1977 PYM: sexuality, poetry workshop, vocations, PYM history, Irish "Peace People", the Pacific Life Community on Non-violence, and crafts. She said that Junior Friends were uneasy with age separations during PYM and would like to work on a cross-age event, perhaps for "family night". Junior YMers may be able to do something to "conscientize" PYM Friends to food waste. Kerri Hamilton asked if it would be possible to have Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Friends events scheduled well in advance and publicized, possibly in the Friends Bulletin. Regardless of what site we choose, she concluded, as far as Junior Friends are concerned, "there's got to be a dance...."

Susanna Calderon continued the Junior YM report, terming the Junior YM "a buffer when necessary, a conduit when possible". She presented the consensus of Junior Friends that there be no "high school dorm" this year, and that Friends of all ages be able to camp together. What peer groupings they need, Junior Friends felt, could be accomplished with meetings in lounges. Susanna Calderon also pointed out the lack of Friends to serve as advisors to high-school-age Friends during 1977 PYM.

Caroline Cox and Chris Barns, reporting for Young Friends, also asked for an interest group on PYM history. Young Friends are "looking for something new" for this year's PYM, and will publish a schedule in the Bulletin.

EVENING SESSION

Ferner Nuhn brought to Representative Committee a minute from Claremont Monthly Meeting, developed in response to PYM Minute 76-23, "role of PYM Observer". The Claremont Friends' minute, dated 1-23-77, reads: "After consideration of PYM Minute 1976-23, the Meeting agreed it is quite uneasy about the portion which expects a purely silent role on the part of an Observer at Representative meetings. We feel this is not in keeping with Quaker ways or likely behavior. We also feel an Observer may sometimes need to serve as an Alternate Representative." Friends approved referring the minute to the PYM Discipline Committee.

Rep 77-13

Rep 77-14

Friends approved a Committee to Name the Nominating Committee: Pegge Lacey, convenor; John Mackinney and Charles Swift, members; and Gretchen Tuttle, alternate. Robert Schutz presented the report of the 1976 Committee to Name the Nominating Committee, and Friends approved the addition of Judy Bruff to the PYM Nominating Committee.

Rep 77-15

Stewart Mulford reported on the life of the Southern California Quarterly Meeting: 16 monthly meetings and two worship groups, the most distant a full 200 miles from one another. He summarized the discussions of the "Ad Hoc Self-Examination Committee": what are the functions of a quarterly meeting, and how large should a quarterly meeting be? He also spoke of SCQM plans to hold a retreat in May at a Benedictine monastery, in order to "develop spiritual strength in interaction with another discipline".

Larry Perry brought Friends up to date on news from College Park Quarterly Meeting: the establishment of worship groups in Mendocino, Philo, and Arcata, and the regional gatherings held this winter by CPQM Friends in the Utah, Marin-Redwood, and South Bay areas. He presented a minute from Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting, requesting that PYM place in its budget a \$500 annual contribution to John Woolman School. Friends approved forwarding this minute to the PYM Finance Committee. Larry Perry presented another minute, forwarded through CPQM M&O Committee, requesting that PYM consider sponsoring the Theology Conference held the weekend prior to PYM. Friends approved referring this minute to PYM M&O Committee. Larry Perry brought a third minute, again forwarded through CPQM M&O, regarding the practice of recording vocal ministries offered in meetings for worship. Friends approved referring this minute as well to the PYM M&O Committee.

Rep 77-16

Rep 77-17

Rep 77-18

Frank Burnham presented the revised Treasurer's Report and 1977 Session Budget, amended to reflect the changes approved by Friends in the minutes above. Friends accepted the documents as revised.

Rep 77-19

The 1977 mid-year interim meeting of PYM Representative Committee closed with a time of worship after the manner of Friends, as we gathered in the silence around the spiritual bases that had enabled us to conduct business after the manner of Friends as well.

Eric Moon, Recording Clerk
PYM Representative Committee