

Discipline Committee Report to Pacific Yearly Meeting, July 31, 2013

Discipline Committee met March 15-16, 2013.

Update on copies of Faith and Practice

Following the transfer of copies of *Faith and Practice* from the Los Angeles AFSC bookstore, most of the copies are now available for sale at San Francisco AFSC (which received 32 boxes of 20 on January 18, 2012), while Southern California Quarterly Meeting has purchased the remainder (purchased 11 boxes of 20 in August 2012) and will make these available. At RepCom the Treasurer had noted problems with the arrangement with SF AFSC, and we will be continuing to look into the best way to facilitate management of this stock. The possible transfer of some copies to Earthlight bookstore was explored and the committee agreed to ask Earthlight to again make copies available for sale at Annual Sessions, as they had last year. Roughly 150 copies of the small booklet on Advices and Queries remain at Los Angeles AFSC, while Discipline Committee now has the remaining 43 copies.

M&O had suggested distribution of the remaining copies of *Fe y Practica* to Mexico City and Guatemala Meetings. A member of Discipline suggested that it would be good to be sure that each PYM meeting have at least one Spanish language copy. This was approved, and we will consult with M&O on this issue.

Faith and Practice website issues

At our last meeting, we approved making F&P downloadable from our website, as requested by Don Bean, PYM webmaster. Stratton will supply the official pdf version to Don and work with him to be sure that it is printable but not editable. Discipline Committee agreed that the PYM website should announce the availability of *Faith and Practice* through SF AFSC, with a link to that office. *Fe y Practica* will be made available through a link to the Mexico City Meeting website, as suggested by that meeting and M&O. We agreed to ask Mexico City to list this as *a* translation rather than *the* translation. We will also ask that a copy be posted on the PYM website. Discipline Committee will work with the electronic communications subcommittee of M&O on these issues.

2013 PYM Interest Group on “The Advices”

The committee agreed to present an interest group on the advices at the 2013 PYM Annual Gathering.

Faith and Practice Revision

Among the concerns that were either brought to us or recognized by the committee over the years have been various concerns about the advices and queries, including possible separation again of the queries from the advices, conciseness and clarity of the advices, the first person vs. third person and singular vs. plural format of the queries (which in

turn speaks to examining the purpose of the queries), and concerns over certain sets of advices, in particular those on personal relationships. Other concerns included the clarity of certain sections, including the section on minutes, guidance on laying down meetings and on record-keeping, possible recognition of new testimonies, changes in the structure of Yearly Meeting, including certain committees having been laid down since the last edition, clarity on the responsibilities of various committees, and inaccuracies that had not been caught in final editing of the last edition. (We also noted that the booklet on Advices and Queries is incomplete.)

With the understanding that our faith recognizes that we are brought continuing revelation, we agreed that our light so far leads us to conclude that it is time to ask Pacific Yearly Meeting for a revision of *Faith and Practice*.

After extensive consideration of the many concerns raised, the committee came to unity that it was time to recommend to PYM that a Faith and Practice Revision Committee be set up and empowered to begin on a revision of the current *Faith and Practice*.

Discipline Committee proposes the following minutes:

Proposed minute 1:

Pacific Yearly Meeting approves beginning on the next revision of our *Faith and Practice*.

Proposed minute 2:

Pacific Yearly Meeting approves converting the existing Discipline Committee to the *Faith and Practice* Revision Committee for the duration of the work on the *Faith and Practice* revision. Nominating Committee is asked to nominate, as quickly as possible, a committee consisting of 6 members of Discipline Committee (2 approved each year, for 3-year terms, renewable) and *ex officio* the Historian/Archivist, plus 4 “permanent” members to serve for the duration of the revision work. Nominating Committee is also asked to nominate a Clerk, for a one-year term, each year for this committee.

Submitted by Carolyn Stephenson, Clerk, Discipline Committee