

Pacific Yearly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Executive Committee Meeting held at San Francisco Friends Meeting
March 14, 1970

The meeting opened with a period of worship at 9:00 a.m. on March 14th, 1970 at the San Francisco Friends Meeting House.

The Agenda proposed by the clerk was circulated and approved.

Ex. 70-1 New appointment to Nominating Committee: After the Yearly Meeting closed, Lois Bailey (San Fernando) was asked to serve on the Nominating Committee in place of Miriam von Seggern, who was unable to work for the committee. This action was approved by the Executive Committee.

70-2 Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee to name Nominating Committee: It was agreed that the Committee should be appointed at Executive Committee and make its recommendations to the third session of the Yearly Meeting Representative Committee.

70-3 The following Friends were appointed to serve on the Ad Hoc Comm. to name Nominating Committee:

Crystalle Davis - Willamette
Marian Hoge - Albuquerque
Esther Morgan -
Catherine Bruner - Delta

Marian Hoge will
serve as convenor.

70-3 Friends Schools Committee: Mia Polifroni will take responsibility for the Friends Schools Conference in the summer. She will chair the conference and report to Y.M.

The Schools Committee was able to be of assistance to the John Woolman School and Grass Valley Meeting at the time of the resignation of the Blickenstaffs.

A conference was called by the Schools Committee in Minneapolis, attended by Friends School Principals and others, with the concern being "How to be a Friend in our Time." They described the school situation as a loving experience wherein the work and the studying are the tools. They recognized that when a person or group takes responsibility for someone else's life that person or group is setting up moral patterns. They realized that they did not have answers to the problems of changing moral patterns, but felt they were finding directions.

After being together over several days, often meeting until midnight, they felt the need to meet more often and will be asking PYM to help this take place. They are looking forward to further intervisitation between schools, the Schools Committee and Monthly Meetings. A copy of the report of the conference is to be sent to the Bulletin. We noted that Bob and Marilyn Heilman are Junior Friends Advisors for 1970. The Schools Committee in consultation with YM Nominating Committee and JYM Nominating Committee are to appoint a sub-committee to assist the Junior Friends advisors.

70-4 We expressed our deep appreciation for the devoted service of Bob and Marilyn Heilman, and recognized the difficulties which their responsibilities entail.

Brent Howell, Editor of the Bulletin asked that reports from Committees be sent as soon as possible. A deadline of the 15th of the month prior to the month of publication is in effect. We reaffirmed that it is the responsibility of the Editor of the Bulletin to use his editorial judgment in all material published even though the Bulletin is a vehicle for publishing both official reports and more general items of news and opinion. We recorded that Pegge Spear is now chairman of the Bulletin Comm.

Discipline Committee The Committee met in December at Palo Alto. They have asked Monthly Meetings and individuals to get their suggestions for revision of the Discipline to the Committee by April 15. They are asking Friends to examine in particular those parts of the Discipline dealing with Membership, Peace, Social Concerns, and the Queries. They hope to meet as a committee in May, 1970, to go over the suggestions they receive and then to prepare a "draft of revisions." These will be made ready for distribution at 1970 Yearly Meeting, for discussion and study during the Fall and Winter. By March 1, 1971, all comments should be sent to the Committee so that the Committee can prepare its report to the Executive Committee, with the intention of publishing the revised Discipline in June, 1971. It was suggested that in addition to the general distribution of their "draft of revisions" at YM in 1970, the Monthly Meeting representatives be given a copy to take back to their meetings.

Education Committee has been sending the Educ. Committee Library round to Monthly Meetings. The committee sent Norman and Leanna Goerlich to Pendle Hill to the David Mace Conference. Upon their return they held a retreat in Northern California to help others to hold retreats. The Committee is also planning a retreat for young single people to study the expectations of human relationships including the expectations of marriage.

Finance Committee reported that the Yearly Meeting books of account have been audited by Stanley Cobb, public accountant. He reported that the books are in order, although he expressed opinions:

1. That the savings institutions we use are unfair to blacks.
2. That we are too wealthy and should distribute our funds.
3. That we should either reduce fees at the next Yearly Meeting or the per capita assessment.

We investigated the charge made against the savings institutions and found it false. The Finance Committee chairman stated that the Committee does not feel in agreement with the auditors opinions.

70-5 Executive Committee agreed that travel payments to Yearly Meeting and Executive Committee by designated officers, chairmen and representatives be reimbursed on the basis of actual costs, rather than on the mileage basis, as detailed in 1969 Yearly Meeting minutes #13. This decision applies to the current session of Exec. Comm.

Peace Committee met in Pasadena last week. Five members were present and four other Friends were co-opted.

70-6 On their recommendation we agreed that the Yearly Meeting Vietnam Aid account be closed and Friends be encouraged to send their contributions to AFSC or the Canadian Service Committee, and that the balance in the account be made over to AFSC.

They propose that the theme of the 1970 Y.M. be "Friends in a Revolutionary World" with committees speaking to that concept during plenary sessions. Action on this suggestion was deferred.

The committee distributed its recommendations concerning reorganization of the structure and function of the Peace Committee.

70-7 We agreed that the membership of the Peace Committee be made up of a chairman, the Peace Committee chairman or a representative from each regional meeting, and three members at large, serving for 3 years, with staggered terms. We approved the plans outlined in their report, which is attached to these minutes, except that the cost be totally born by the YM. The Peace Committee will appoint the correspondent and editor of the Manual.

When we reconvened after lunch we were reminded that it is our purpose at Executive Committee to work toward a more unified and rich experience at YM. Many young people turn to the Society of Friends because they feel that they will find an unusual kind of freedom to look at things a new way, but at the same time find a kind of reassuring stability. We need to answer for ourselves wherein lies our freedom and wherein lies our stability.

Friend in the Orient Committee hopes that Steve Thomas will be back by YM time and should be given the opportunity to report. Ben and Madge Seaver's plan to go to Hong Kong are firmed up. We have sufficient funds to finance the Seaver's transportation costs at this time, with a balance of \$3506 in the account, but we need further contributions to provide something for living expenses while they are there.

Steve Thomas has sent a report on Taiwan which is to be published later.

Arrangements Committee reports that St. Mary's College has changed their fee basis to \$9,000.00 for use of the campus; about a 22% increase over last time. However, there is some increase in facilities which would allow some increase in attendance.

We were reminded that all costs, including salaries of Yearly Meeting employees should be covered by the fees charged those attending YM. We encouraged the registrar to enforce the cut-off for registration both with respect to the date itself and to the limitation of space and accommodation, and recognized that there can be no provision for unregistered guests.

Program of YM Sessions M & O Committee reported that the organization of Worship-Fellowship groups will be the same as last year. They suggested that members of Worship Fellowship Committee be from the area where the YM is to be held. We asked nominating committee to be guided accordingly. The Committee asked that a High School Junior Friends lounge be made available, and that the Yearly Meeting maintain an operations office from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. at YM. We approved these recommendations provided the Arrangements Committee can implement them.

70-8

70-9 The Junior Yearly Meeting enumerated their needs in terms of facilities and equipment at YM. Their request was referred to the Arrangements committee with the recommendation that four or five Friends be appointed who would assume full responsibility for equipment provided.

The Theme and Emphasis of the Yearly Meeting There followed a discussion on the theme and emphasis of the yearly meeting. We were striving to find ways to make our time together as meaningful as possible. We recognized that the primary value of YM is the contact we establish between individuals. In trying to evaluate the place of preplanning we were reminded that sometimes a theme for just a single session has helped to bring the whole YM - old, young, and Junior Meetings - together. The plenary sessions should be times when we learn which values they are which we want to probe together, learn from each other how to listen to the small voice of God speaking within us. We wondered if we need more time for worship together or can we carry the spirit of worship in all the sessions of the YM.

Social Order Committee chairman told us that he had no committee report to make. He did tell us that the committee is making headway on suggestions for restructuring the committee. A final recommendation will be made at Representative Committee. Regarding the National Conference of Friends on Race Relations, Ann MacKinney has attended two executive sessions of the conference, which is planned for this summer. The first of two conference parts, involving some 20 college-age people, is for six weeks from June 2 - August 1. They will learn from those experiencing racism, and take a solid look at our society and how our institutions have been involved in racism. The second part, July 27-31, is for 350 Friends. We have been asked to provide funds. The Committee may decide to make a response to this request from their own budget. There are scholarship funds available for Young Friends to attend the conference and we were asked to suggest names to Ron Raitt of YF from our area who might like to go. The Social Order Committee plans to meet in April at which time they will prepare recommendations regarding the conference for the consideration of Monthly Meetings.

It was suggested that Peace Committee, Social Order Committee, and representatives to different Friends organizations be responsible for a session of the YM to discuss the interrelatedness of our problems and concerns.

70-10 Agenda Review Committee is to be made up of 2 persons plus someone from the Junior Yearly Meeting to help the clerks consider revisions to the Agenda. We appointed Harold Carson, Esther Richards. Lois Barton will act as convenor. It is hoped that Jr. Friends will appoint someone to meet with this committee.

70-11 A National Conference of Friends is to meet in St. Louis the first week in October, to bring Friends from many different Yearly Meetings to study "Quakerism and its Growth and its Relevance to Today". We agreed to accept an invitation from the conference to send representatives to the gathering and asked Ed Sanders, Jamie Newton, and Lois Barton to attend. Should any of these ultimately be unable to attend, the Clerks, in consultation with the Nominating Committee, are authorized to name some other Friend to attend.

70-12 The Consultative Committee on Organization was established at YM, 1969. The Nominating Committee has not at this time named anyone to this committee. We asked the Nom. Comm. to recommend the names of 5-7 Friends, including at least 2 Young Friends, for membership in the committee, bringing their report to the 1970 Representative Committee. It is our understanding that, on a trial basis, the term of membership should be for three years.

70-13 Friends World Committee 1% More Fund. We agreed to ask FWC delegates to make recommendations to us on how this project can be implemented, and at the same time undertake an education project with the Monthly Meetings.

70-14 We asked the Treasurer to forward funds received for this purpose to FWC, earmarked for an AFSC project, until we have some other recommendations.

70-15 Harold Carson made some suggestions to the YM, which are attached to these minutes. In response to item 1, we agreed to investigate this and if possible to arrange for a demonstration of the sound system described at YM 1970. The clerks should be responsible for this investigation and arrangement.

We referred item 5 to the Arrangements Committee.

We referred items 3 & 4 to Representative Committee.

We believe that item 2 has already been undertaken by the archivist.

A proposal regarding PYM relations to Friends General Conference, presented by Ferner Nuhn, was postponed for consideration at Representative Committee.

Executive Committee sessions closed about 10:00 P.M. after a period of worship.

Francis Dart, Clerk

Richard Manners, Recording Clerk

Attachment I

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION OF THE PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING
PEACE COMMITTEE.

Presented by the Peace Committee to
the Executive Committee, March 14, 1970

In considering the organization of the Peace Committee as charged by the Executive Comm. in August it was necessary to examine the functions the Committee is intended to serve and its relations to the peace committees of Monthly Meetings and regions in Pacific Yearly Meeting.

The Committee was in agreement that most effective peace and service activities are carried forward by Friends working through their Monthly Meetings and that local peace committees or meetings acting as a whole are therefore the focus of most peace and service projects.

Regional peace committees or meetings can provide opportunities for face-to-face sharing among Friends from various monthly meetings, coordinate projects involving several monthly meetings, and facilitate the involvement of Friends in AFSC and FCL activities. The Committee felt that in order to carry out its functions as defined in the discipline--to encourage individual Monthly Meetings to undertake recommended peace and service projects, and with the approval of the Yearly Meeting, to coordinate such projects for the Yearly Meeting--the Committee needs to provide ready means of communication among regional and monthly meetings, work through regional peace committees or meetings to stimulate mutually supportive activities throughout the Yearly Meeting, and prepare peace concerns for consideration by Pacific Yearly Meeting.

We believe that the functions suggested above can best be fulfilled if the Peace Comm. is made a truly representative body composed of individuals deeply involved in Friends' peace and service projects from all regions and if the Manual can be developed as an effective means of sharing the resources developed in local and regional meetings. To these ends the Peace Committee makes the following recommendations:

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Peace Committee of PYM shall be composed of:

1. A chairman
2. The Peace Committee chairman from each region or in the case of regions without peace committees a representative.
3. Three at-large members serving for staggered three-year terms.
4. A person serving as corresponding secretary and editor of the Manual.

Regional representatives would serve ex-officio; all other members would be named by the Nominating Committee.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee shall meet three times each year: at Yearly Meeting and once in the Fall and Spring. Fall and Spring meetings shall be rotated in their location so that one meeting is held in each region every three years. Each of the meetings in regions should be at least two days--one day for the committee to meet as a committee and the remainder of the time for a reporting and discussion meeting or special event which would be open to all Friends in the host region. In order for the Committee to be truly representative and to insure a wide exchange of experiences and insights among Friends working on peace concerns, it is essential that all regions be represented at each meeting. This will require travel funds in addition to those now budgeted by the Yearly Meeting. The Committee recommends that the Yearly Meeting provide for travel expenses of the non-representative members of the Committee and that each region be asked to contribute to an inter-regional travel pool on the basis of active membership to cover the travel expenses of its representative (Total regional representative travel costs: approx. \$1350.00).

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY/MANUAL EDITOR

An individual is needed who can devote significant time to correspondence with monthly and regional peace committees and to preparing periodic mailings of Manual materials for all meetings. The Committee estimates that this work will require at least one week per month. We hope to find a volunteer to take this on for the time being, but we recognize that the scope of the job may warrant providing a stipend to insure that if begun and found important such a program could be carried on without interruption. The Committee would appreciate the Executive Committee's consideration of this possibility.

Attachment 2

TO: Pacific Yearly Meeting

From: Harold Carson

The following are some suggestions which have come to some Friends which are related to the functioning of the Yearly Meeting in session each year. In time we will know if any of the suggestions have value.

1. Purchase for Yearly Meeting use a sound system with ear phones, (volume control) for about 10 hard of hearing Friends attending the Y.M. sessions. There hearing aids do not seem to be adequate at our past sessions.
2. A hand book for clerks and others who function at the sessions. Many directions and suggestions are listed here and there, but they need to be listed clearly for the use of those serving the business sessions.
 - a. Minutes, the stating of
 - " the recording of
 - " the approving of
 - " the rereading of at future sessions
 - b.
3. The function of the Representative Committee and its relationship to the Executive Committee. At the 1969 sessions it appeared at times that the R.C. needed to be regarded as the Ex. C. for certain types of business in order to have time for the more valuable experiences Friends need.
4. It might be helpful to have the R.C. spend part of the final session evaluating the current Y.M. rather than leave it for the Ex. C. in the spring.
5. Would it be possible to experiment with a plan to keep Friends from standing in line for food for long periods. We might experiment with one line using numbers and let Friends take a number and then they could talk with certain Friends they want and need to visit with and then return to the line at the right time to enter with their number. It may sound difficult but some would like to try it next time.

8/9/69