

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING

Representative Committee Minutes

St. Mary's College, Moraga, California

SESSION I Saturday, August 12, 1972, 7:00 p.m.

The 26th session of Pacific Yearly Meeting began with a welcome from the Clerk, Ed Sanders, and a period of silent worship. The Clerk asked all present to rise and introduce themselves. A sign-up sheet was passed around and the committee's agenda distributed by the Assistant Clerk. The Clerk reminded the committee that its functions were to present a workable agenda to the Yearly Meeting with: 1) items requiring action; and 2) reports providing information necessary and helpful to the plenary sessions.

Ministry & Oversight: Stratton Jacquette reported scheduling: 1) a session on homosexuality; 2) a session on death, memorial meetings and related items; 3) the Sunday evening plenary session (III). He announced that an open meeting is being planned and requested that those present list the names of members and attenders of their Meeting who have died in the past year so that they can be included in Tuesday's memorial meeting. This was to be done even though a memorial minute had been forwarded previously.

Consultative Committee on Organization: Gretchen Tuthill reported that the committee has never met under its former or new chairman; that she met with but one member of the committee that afternoon; and that her report therefore was a personal one. She has attended the gatherings of both the North Pacific Meetings which agreed (July 17) to become the North Pacific Yearly Meeting made up of six Monthly Meetings (Eugene, Corvallis, Multnomah, Salem, Tacoma and Vancouver) and the Intermountain Fellowship which plans to leave Pacific Yearly Meeting in 1973. Reports on both these sessions will be given at a plenary session. While action is not required by PYM on these reports, a minute of recognition should be forwarded.

Concern was expressed that an active, functioning Consultative Committee on Organization be named to follow through on future relationships with these Friends.

Rep. I. Representative Committee approved having Nominating Committee Chairman, Jean Young, and Gretchen Tuthill work together toward strengthening the committee.

The Clerk read three letters from Meetings that have formally withdrawn from Pacific Yearly Meeting: Calgary, which has become part of Canada Yearly Meeting; Vancouver and Salem, which have become part of Pacific Northwest Yearly Meeting. All expressed concern for a continuing warm relationship with Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends. "These Meetings," commented our Clerk, "have flowered into their own Yearly Meetings. They have found rich experiences together that they have been looking for but could not find in this Yearly Meeting. It is my hope that we might reflect our loving support."

Visitors: Several newcomers introduced themselves; among them Carlos and Gloria Camelo from Mexico City who brought greetings from Friends there, and San Dal Cha from Honolulu.

Bulletin Committee: Peggy Spears announced the need for a new editor and urged us to suggest qualified, interested individuals to the Bulletin Committee. Although it is suggested that the editor be a part of PYM, she expressed hope that there would be participation from New Mexico and North Pacific Friends. Travel funds will be available next year to make meetings from different areas possible. The Bulletin is in the black.

To express appreciation to Brent Howell as Bulletin editor, it was agreed to have a Bulletin Committee report on the agenda.

Discipline Committee: Lowell Tozer reported that a new printed Faith and Practice would be ready by 1973. Two proposed advices still in the process of revision will be distributed at plenary sessions: 1) "Towards an Active Peace Testimony" (Monday); 2) "Advice on Marriage" (Tuesday).

The committee asks for written responses to these advices here and now at PYM. It was agreed that this report be made at plenary session Monday morning.

Finance Committee: Isaiah Meyer commented that though the withdrawal of several Meetings from PYM adds "complexities, uncertainties and miasmas" to the job of arriving at a budget for the coming year, we must act with equity and generosity to all concerned in the change. Since the budget is to be presented Tuesday morning, he urged that budget figures be given him from all committees.

The Clerk pointed out that the budget will not come to Representative Committee before presentation to the plenary session as it has in the past. Representative Committee will still have time at its third session to act on plenary session changes should there be any.

Friend in the Orient Committee: Stuart Innerst reported meeting with the Seavers to try to evaluate the program. The Seavers suggested that the job description be more clearly defined. What does PYM get out of the Friends in the Orient program? What does it expect of those it sponsors? Does PYM benefit enough from the investment? Ben pointed out the need for time to adjust to the Orient, the last nine months being the most profitable for him. A guest from the Orient might be a consideration for PYM. Stuart pointed out the need to re-evaluate and change, if need be, the program in a fast changing Orient. Changing trends were important to note.

He announced that the Seavers slides will be shown Monday afternoon and Stuart Innerst slides Tuesday afternoon.

Junior Yearly Meeting: Margaret McInnes reported that a session was scheduled Monday at 3:00 p.m. on education versus schooling, the validity of public schools, job training out of school. Another session was planned to discuss "Why we come to Yearly Meeting. Is it worth coming to?" Other activities include folk dancing, awareness sessions, balancing.

Young Friends: Jim Balderson's report was brief because the Young Friends were planning to meet after Representative Committee. He asked Representative Committee's approval to set up an interest group in "creative swimming" (skinny dipping). The Clerk gave background information on a similar request two years ago. Friends were not united on approving the request then. This year Brother Martin of St. Mary's was approached. The college, he indicated, has no policy on this matter since there has been no request that necessitated setting one up, but he would feel uncomfortable about the activity. Our Clerk commented, "It seems to me that if some are uneasy, a relationship within the Yearly Meeting is destroyed."

The meeting approved the Clerk's sensitive description of the situation. The Clerk expressed gratitude for the good spirit in which the Young Friends' Clerk accepted the attitude of the college.

Friends Schools: Chuck Croninger expressed a concern from Pacific Oaks College asking whether it is no longer listed as a school under the care of Pacific Yearly Meeting by

action recommended by the Friends School Committee, or taken by officers of Pacific Yearly Meeting. It was pointed out that the Executive Committee minute (See Exec. #1, 1972) was made to forward an accurate list of Friends schools under the care of PYM to the Friends World Committee Directory. It was hoped that the Schools Committee would continue to work with a representative from Pacific Oaks College should this be desirable.

Mention was made that Argenta School was now under the care of Canadian Yearly Meeting and plans for the future of the Farm were uncertain.

Nominating Committee: Jean Young announced the resignation of Margaret Brooks as Recording Clerk of PYM for reasons of health, and recommended that Robert Shutz fill the position.

Rep 2 Meeting approved this recommendation.

Jean and Susan Flores were named to replace Bob Shutz as convenor of the Social Order Committee.

Jean Young reminded those who had been asked to serve in some capacity for the 1972-73 term to let her know their decision.

Peace Committee: Phil Drath announced that the Monday evening plenary session would include a report from Earl Reynolds on his "Phoenix" activities this past year and a peace study seminar planned for next year. PYM would also be presented a number of possible actions to help end the war in Vietnam. These include:

- 1) Approval of the World Peace Tax Fund Act now before Congress.
- 2) The phone tax protest.
- 3) McGovern's candidacy for President (to be related by Phil Drath who was a delegate to the Democratic convention).
- 4) Present draft appeal action planned by AFSC.
- 5) Jack Schultz' concern to rebuild in Vietnam, minuted by La Jolla Meeting. (See Attachment #1, PYM Minutes).
- 6) Relief for North and South Vietnam.
- 7) Support for "Bread Not Bombs" through AFSC.
- 8) Sam Tyson's concern for use of civil disobedience to help change attitudes favorable to war (pilots, naval personnel, for example).

Phil Drath asked that there be Special Interest groups on: 1) AFSC blocking of ships. 2) Relief for South and North Vietnam. 3) The Jack Shultz appeal. 4) Presidential campaign. 5) The World Peace Tax Fund Act.

There was concern expressed that the La Jolla minute on Jack Schultz' rebuilding project be given greater consideration and that suggestions toward its implementation be brought to plenary session. Others felt that an in-depth discussion by an interest group could better bring the concern to PYM for action; that we should be very hesitant to force our help on the Vietnamese people. Jack Shultz asked specifically for the formation of a committee of support "to guide in the planning, selection of Friends to do overseas work, oversight of funds, etc." (See Attachment #1, PYM Minutes). He feels that the Vietnamese are aware of Quakers and what they might be able to do.

The Clerk reminded the Peace Committee that it had to share the two hour Monday night session with the Social Order Committee. Peace Committee's program was planned to be two hours long.

Social Order Committee: Jean Flores reported that three minutes would be presented to the Monday night meeting: 1) Supporting the United Farm Workers (proposition to be on the California ballot in November). 2) Proposition recommending a vote against restoration of the death penalty. The outcome of this could have widespread impact nationally and influence the Supreme Court. 3) Equal Rights amendment to the constitution.

Jean Flores announced a special interest group on "Friends and Their Investments" and asked for approval of a special committee to investigate the possibility of PYM's sponsoring an "Earth Quaker Group" modeled after a Catholic group called "Corporation Soul". Marvin Hubbard, Bob Shutz and Roland Schinzinger were suggested for this committee. It was pointed out that the Social Order Committee could itself name a subcommittee for this purpose.

There was a brief discussion regarding the proper concerns of Social Order Committees on all Meeting levels. It was felt, too, that the committee should have the time it needs to express its concerns to the plenary session. It was pointed out that PYM has difficulty committing itself to California legislation since its representation is far broader than California boundaries.

Expressed was a feeling that one evening for Peace and Social Order Committees' concerns was too short.

The Clerk pointed out that many had asked for more free time to visit one another in an unpressured way.

The meeting closed at 9:45 p.m. with a period of silent worship.

SESSION 2: Sunday, August 13, 1972, 8:30 a.m.

Meeting began with a period of silent worship. Those present who were not at the first session were asked to introduce themselves and sign the attendance sheet. Action minutes of Session 1 were read and approved.

The Clerk called for reports from standing committees.

Education Committee: Ladonna Wallen reported the recommendation of the Education Committee that the Subcommittee to the Schools Committee become a subcommittee of the Education Committee in order to coordinate better the programs of Junior High and High School Friends.

Rep 3 Representative Committee approved this recommendation.

Finance Committee: Isaiah Meyer read a working policy minute that would guide the Finance Committee in its business with North Pacific Yearly Meeting and urged Friends to communicate with the members involved in writing the minute. These were: Isaiah Meyer, Robert McGuinness, Joseph Magruder, John Draper, Mildred Burck, Bob Young and Anne Penery.

Rep 4 Representative Committee approved the following minute:

From data furnished by the Statistical Clerk of Pacific Yearly Meeting, the Treasurer of Pacific Yearly Meeting shall compute the ratio of members of Northwest and Willamette Quarterly Meeting comprising North Pacific Yearly

Meeting with respect to the total number of members of Pacific Yearly Meeting, as of June 30, 1972. Pacific Yearly Meeting Treasurer shall disburse to North Pacific Yearly Meeting this pro rata portion of all Pacific Yearly Meeting general and special fund balances as of December 31, 1972, less any unpaid assessments for the first six months of the 1972-73 fiscal year. Pacific Yearly Meeting Treasurer shall provide copies of these computations to the Clerk, the Treasurer and the Finance Committee of North Pacific Yearly Meeting, and to the Clerk and Finance Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Epistle Committee: Bill Scott named those recommended to serve as Epistle Committee: Margaret Jump, Brent Howell and Bill Scott, with Gretchen Rudnick as alternate should Margaret Jump be unable to serve.

Rep 5 Representative Committee approved this slate.

Correspondence to the Clerk brought the following:

1) A report from Friends World Committee representative Robert Vogel reported that a specific interest group was set up for Monday to which representatives Michael Ingerman, Nancy Bailey and Judy Bruff had been invited. He expressed concern that (1) we find ways of deepening our relationship with FWC and (2) more effective ways of having our representatives back to Pacific Yearly Meeting. There are four FWC meetings a year, making travel expenses high.

3) We must determine who goes to Triennial Meeting in Australia August 18, 1973.

4) We must determine whether or not to send two delegates paying their full fare of \$867 each, or three delegates as delegated by PYM with only \$500 allocated to each for this purpose.

Ed Sanders read a letter from Carl Thatcher (Eugene), a PYM representative to the AFSC Corporation meeting in Philadelphia. He questioned the wisdom of spending money for three representatives to attend this meeting. A discussion followed on alternates to this procedure. Since a major purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, it was suggested that this might be done by proxy. Hope was expressed that AFSC continue to be a Friends' vehicle and not become an A.S.C.; also that PYM representatives to AFSC be active in the three regional AFSC offices (San Francisco, Los Angeles and Northwest). It was suggested that these considerations be discussed at the special afternoon interest session of AFSC and its recommendations be brought back to the next session of Representative Committee.

A discussion developed around the present functioning of Representative Committee and Executive Committee. Executive Committee functions as an interim Yearly Meeting body with the power to commit the Yearly Meeting. Representative Committee's actions are subject to the approval of Yearly Meeting.

Rep 6 Representative Committee approved an ad hoc committee to study these functions, comparing them to practices of other Yearly Meetings, with the purpose of making a report and recommendations to Representative Committee next year. The committee named is: Catherine Bruner, Convenor, Made Seaver, Walt Raitt, Ellie Foster, Bob Young, Ferner Nuhn and Tom Farley. The committee will meet at this Yearly Meeting session and confer during the year as necessary.

The Clerk read a letter from Ferner Nuhn reporting on the "Faith and Life" conference for which he has been named by the American Section of the Friends World Committee to

a panel of Friends. These conferences are an outgrowth of the St. Louis Conference of all Friends which took place in October, 1970. Representative Committee was asked to "encourage exploring the possibility of setting up a small regional conference in the Northwest (Northwest Yearly Meeting) and another in California (California Yearly Meeting) through its FWC representatives.

Representative Committee encouraged the exploring of the possibilities of such conferences in these two areas, such exploration to be done by our Friends World Committee representatives.

The clerk read a minute from San Francisco Meeting asking for the formation of a standing committee in the Yearly Meeting for the concerns of homophile Friends. Representative Committee suggested that this minute which had been sent to PYM Ministry and Oversight Committee be explored at the special interest group on homosexuals. Developments there will determine what further action may be taken by Representative Committee.

Walt Raitt reported for the committee to name new members to the PYM Nominating Committee for a three year term, and the chairman for 1972-73. Suggested were: Gerri House (Orange Grove); John Mackinney (San Fernando), alternate John Ullman (La Jolla and Hayward); chairman, Barbara Perry.

The committee recommended that Representative Committee invite the North Pacific Friends group to name a person to serve on PYM Nominating Committee as liaison between the two groups in matters relating to nominations. This recommendation resulted from not finding a suitable person to serve from Northwest who felt free to accept a nomination.

Rep. 7 Representative Committee approved the above report.

Appreciation was expressed to Jean Young for the good job she did as past chairman.

The Clerk called for comments from: Larry Perry (Arrangements), Frank Burnham (Registrar) and Tom Farley (Communications).

Shirley Tweed read the list of Special Interest Groups scheduled and announced that the Daily Bulletin would be available at lunch time in the dining room and at the information desk.

Holding Corporation: Dick Ernst reported that there will be a meeting of the Holding Corporation to which interested persons may come. A general statement is being prepared to inform Meetings which wish to hold and/or dispose of property of their legal rights and responsibilities in this area.

Jim Balderson read a minute from Young Friends requesting the subject of creative swimming be reopened. The Clerk suggested that those wishing to discuss this further, remain after the close of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 10:50 with a period of silent worship.

SESSION 3: Wednesday, August 16, 1972, 1:30 p.m.

The meeting opened with a period of silent worship.

The Clerk read the agenda of items to be considered by the Representative Committee and called on Friends to report.

Consultative Committee on Organization

Gretchen Tuthill reported on the committee's meeting with Ted Church at which the Consultative Committee recommended that New Mexico Quarterly Meeting be relieved of its responsibility to help with arrangements for PYM 1973.

Rep 8 Representative Committee approved this recommendation.

Arrangements 1973

The Clerk reviewed the procedure for naming the Arrangements Committee: When Nominating Committee has not named an Arrangements Committee the regional groups are designated to do so.

Rep 9 Representative Committee approved having Southern California Quarterly Meeting and Arizona Half-Yearly Meeting name those to serve on the Arrangements Committee for PYM 1973 at Francisco Torres in Santa Barbara.

Arrangements 1974

Some negative feeling was expressed about returning to St. Mary's in 1974 because of the deterioration of some of the campus dorms, withdrawal of the library for group meetings, etc. It was reported that "expectation of both St. Mary's College and PYM have been explored jointly in the past couple of days."

Rep 10 After a brief discussion Representative Committee approved PYM's returning to St. Mary's in 1974 contingent on a conference of officials of the college with the Registrar and Arrangements Chairman of PYM scheduled at the close of PYM.

Bulletin Committee

The Clerk discussed the report presented by the Bulletin Committee at the morning's plenary session. He, among others, questioned the advisability of limiting selection of the new Bulletin editor to the regions comprising PYM. Peggy Spears summarized the procedure for selecting a new editor and Bulletin Committee and indicated that the committee was sensitive and open to the concerns of Representative Committee.

Representative Committee encouraged the Bulletin Committee to select an editor solely on the basis of capability, considering applicants from PYM, North Pacific Yearly Meeting and the south.

Ad Hoc Committee to Study the Function of Representative Committee

In accordance with instructions from Representative Committee to meet at this PYM, Catherine Bruner read a minute recommended by the ad hoc committee. Because of the limitations of time to explore the recommendations in depth, Representative Committee expressed appreciation to the committee and looks forward to a report at Executive Committee 1973.

SESSION 3: Wednesday, August 16, 1972 6:30 p.m.

Ministry and Oversight

Stratton Jaquette read four minutes recommended for approval by Representative Committee.

- 1) An Advice to Friends: Now more aware of the socially inflicted suffering of people who love others of the same sex, we affirm the power and joy of non-exploitive, loving relationships. As a Society and as individuals we oppose arbitrary social, economic or legal abridgement of the right to share this love.

Rep 11 After a lengthy discussion, Representative Committee approved the above minute.

2) Guide to Meetings on Homosexuals: Ministry and Oversight proposed the establishment of an ad hoc subcommittee chaired by a member of Ministry and Oversight to develop a working paper to assist Meetings to understand the needs and problems of homosexuality in the Society.

Rep 12 Representative Committee approved this minute.

3) Visitation: Ministry and Oversight requested the establishment of a standing committee on visitation. This subcommittee would be nominated by Nominating Committee and chaired by a member of Ministry and Oversight.

Rep 13 Representative Committee approved this minute.

4) Advice on Closed Meetings; Friends feel uncomfortable with closed meetings especially of general interest in PYM, although Ministry and Oversight recognizes the need for some committees to meet privately. If a group feels it must have a closed meeting, the need for the closed meeting should, in good order, be explained beforehand.

Representative Committee recommended that Friends take this advice into consideration when setting up meetings.

Peace Committee

The Clerk read two concerns from the Peace Committee:

1) La Jolla Meeting's Concern; The Clerk read a Peace Committee minute signed by Phil Drath, chairman, on La Jolla Meeting's concern to rebuild Vietnam.

Rep 14 After some discussion on the complexity of the minute, Representative Committee approved the following:

Pacific Yearly Meeting shares in La Jolla Meeting's minuted concern for rebuilding Vietnam. Representative Committee approved that a subcommittee under the Peace Committee be formed to explore the possibility of such a Quaker mission to Vietnam.

2) AFSC Endorsement: The Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends meeting in Moraga, California on August 17, 1972, endorses the decision of the American Friends Service Committee to "assist non-violent direct action against the shipment of U.S. arm" in the peace demonstrations known as People's Blockade. The Pacific Yearly Meeting urges support in AFSC's action by member Meetings everywhere.

Rep 15 Representative Committee approved the above minute.

The Clerk called on Lisa Selker to report for the Social Order Committee. She read a list extracted from the PYM statistical report on Social Order activities in which Meetings are now involved, and mentioned concerns for future exploration.

Representative Committee suggested these be published in the Bulletin.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Edwin A. Sanders, Clerk
Van Ernst, Recording Clerk
Representative Committee