

# MINUTES OF THE PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS AND PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING

HELD AT PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA, 8/21-24/47

*Thursday, 8/21. 4:30 in the afternoon.*

After a period of worship the Clerk welcomed the conference on behalf of Palo Alto Meeting.

Brief reports on meeting activities during the past year were given by representatives of the following meetings: Vancouver, B. C., University Meeting (Seattle), College Park Monthly Meeting and College Park Association (San Jose), Berkeley, Palo Alto, Tracy, Pasadena Monthly Meeting (Villa), Orange Grove (Pasadena), Santa Monica, Riverside, Tucson, and Honolulu. Nearly all reports spoke of sending food parcels to war devastated countries and of sewing for the American Friends Service Committee. Several meetings are interested in child care in meeting. To the extent that written reports were presented, they are attached to these minutes.\*

A letter from Jose Vidal of Mexico City Meeting D.F., was read expressing his Meeting's great interest in our deliberations, and his regret at being prevented from attending the conference. Jose Vidal's traveling minute from Mexico City Meeting, addressed to this conference, was also read.

A number of isolated Friends from various localities on the Pacific Coast introduced themselves and addressed the Conference briefly. Several of these Friends expressed hope of seeing a meeting for worship after the manner of Friends come into being in their localities.

The Treasurer gave a preliminary report which was to be brought up to date at a later session.

After a period of worship the conference adjourned at 6:15.

*Thursday, 8/21, 8:20 in the evening.*

The Conference reconvened and following a period of worship these Friends were asked and agreed to give reports as follows: Eubanks Carsner, Friends Committee on National Legislation; Josephine Duvneck, American Friends Service Committee; Robert Dann, Friends World Committee for Consultation; Ellis Jump, World Friends Fellowship.

The following Committee appointments were made:

Nominating Committee: Floyd Schmoe, convener, Benjamin Darling, Geraldine House, William James, Beatrice Shipley.

Epistle Committee, also to be responsible for Returning Minutes: Frances Dietrick, George Hiatt, Edwin Sanders.

Committee to Report on Friends Youth Work: Gerda Isenberg, chairman, Mark Olsen, Andrew Szabo, Nancy Terrell.

It was the sense of the meeting, that there should be no Committee on Resolutions. Friends having concerns which they wished to bring before the Conference were encouraged to help in

preparing minutes, if the Conference decided to take a position on these concerns.

The Reading Clerk read abstracts of epistles received from Friends Meetings throughout the world during the past year. These abstracts are attached to these minutes.\*\*

In the closing worship period several Friends expressed appreciation of the messages heard. Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

*Friday, 8/22, 9:45 in the morning.*

After a period of worship the Recording Clerk read the preceding summary of the previous day's session, which was approved by the Conference. The Clerks were instructed to present such summaries to the Conference daily.

A traveling minute for the Dann family addressed to London and Dublin Yearly Meetings, which had been prepared by the Clerk on the Danns' request last January, was approved.

Representatives from Palo Alto, Tracy, Orange Grove, Riverside, Tucson and Honolulu Meetings reported on their study of John Woolman's Journal and other religious writings. The Clerk read a paragraph from John Woolman's Journal regarding helpful participation in regional business meetings, stressing the particular need for discretion in talking in such meetings, as they are composed of persons who have traveled considerable distances and who are working against a rigid time limit.

John Way introduced the report of the Committee on Intervisitation. Some of his remarks are attached to these minutes.\*\* John Way then called on John and Elsie Dorland, Mary I. Pollard, Ruth Wendt to report on their travels among Friends in this country and in Canada during the past year.

In connection with some of these reports several Friends expressed their concern regarding the situation of the American Indians. The Conference approved the following minute:

"The condition and treatment of the American Indian is a concern of this meeting. We urge immediate steps be taken to better the living conditions of these people. We urge each Meeting of this Association to study the question this year and to plan appropriate action."

The Conference also approved appointment of a delegate to the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs.

Edwin Sanders, Chairman of the Bulletin Committee, gave that Committee's report, which is attached to these minutes.\* In addition, two recommendations were made on behalf of the Committee:

1) That the Friends Bulletin continue on a subscription base of "at least \$1.00," emphasizing the need for those able to contribute more to do so, and to urge meetings to subscribe for their members through budgeting an amount as a meeting to the Bulletin.

\*\*Available to any one, but not printed in connection with these minutes.

\*A summary or extracts from these are printed in a supplement to these minutes.

2) That the Friends Bulletin continue to be edited and published at Pacific Oaks Friends School in Pasadena for another year, with as many issues as finances and material will permit.

After a period of worship the Conference adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

The Conference reconvened and following a period of worship the Bulletin Committee's report was discussed. Various suggestions in regard to improved methods of financing the Bulletin were made, and were referred to the Bulletin and Finance Committees for a report at a later session. The following minute was approved.

The Bulletin has contributed much to the development of unity and mutual understanding of Friends on the Pacific Coast. We appreciate the excellent work of those who have produced the Bulletin this year and urge all Meetings and individuals of the Pacific Coast Association of Friends to give it their active support. We accept the two recommendations of the Bulletin Committee.

A great number of Friends publications from this country, Australia, Canada, England, Mexico and New Zealand, which are received by the Bulletin through exchanges were mentioned and put on exhibit.

A letter from Whittier Monthly Meeting was read stating that Harry Mirchulall, Clerk of Mid-India Yearly Meeting, had left his home at short notice in order to attend the Meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation in Richmond, Indiana next month. Due to these circumstances, Harry Mirchulall was unable to obtain a traveling minute from his own Meeting, and Whittier Meeting recommends him to the care of Friends in this country. Harry Mirchulall then talked briefly about the problems of Friends in India who do not wish to align themselves with any of the large religious communities and need the spiritual support of Friends everywhere.

A traveling minute from Shanghai Meeting dated 7-7-47 was read introducing Dr. Paul Kafka, an attendant, who had been closely connected with the activities of the Friends Ambulance Unit in China. Dr. Kafka brought greetings from Shanghai Friends and expressed his satisfaction at having come to this country after many years of waiting.

Edwin Morgenroth introduced a group of Friends reporting on Friends educational projects on the Pacific Coast. Reports were given on behalf of Friends Center (Seattle), Friends House and Woolman House (Los Angeles), Pacific Ackworth School (Temple City), Pacific Oaks Friends School (Pasadena) and the Tracy Friends Community project for a Secondary School at some later time.

Some of these projects are engaged in more formal education, others derive their educational values from an intercultural, interracial or intergroup experiment in living and working. All of them attempt to express the Friends testimonies of equality, simplicity, non-violence, community, and the belief in the capacity of growth in all men. They are concerned about methods that

will train children and adults to develop that of God in themselves and to help others grow in the same way.

In the discussion of these reports Friends expressed a desire to see the values preserved that have been created by the educational methods of past generations of Friends in homes, schools and Meetings. At the same time there was awareness of the fact that many of these methods are not workable in the completely changed environment in which we are living. It is our task to develop ways of living and training that will enable ourselves and our children to express Friends testimonies in our own world. We trust the educational projects of Friends within this Association will continue to move towards this goal.

After a period of worship, adjourned at 6:10, p.m.

*Saturday, 8/23, morning.*

After a period of worship a summary of the proceedings of Friday's sessions was read, amended and approved.

Gerda Isenberg introduced the report of the Committee on Friends Youth Work. Several young Friends, one of them from Europe, discussed young Friend's activities and concerns. At the suggestion of the Committee the Conference approved appointment of a young Friend as a contact person with the American Young Friends Fellowship, as requested by that group.

Upon instruction of the conference the Clerk drew up the following minute:

We have had the fortunate experience of having Nancy Terrell, Leana Barker and Andrew Szabo with us during the annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Association of Friends. They have contributed much to our meeting and have aroused our interest in activities of the youth of our society.

A report on current activities of the Friends' Committee on National Legislation was given by Eubanks Carsner.

A statement from Orange Grove Meeting in Pasadena on world government was read, together with a suggestion by that meeting that the Conference adopt a similar statement. Margaret Musket, Eubanks Carsner and Rega Engelsberg were appointed as a committee to present a suggested minute to the Conference.

The function and work of the American Friends Fellowship Council were reviewed by Howard Fawcett.

Floyd Schmoie reported on plans for a Pacific Rim Conference. The financial responsibility for such an undertaking will rest mainly with the American Section of the Friends World Committee for Consultation and it appears that they do not see their way clear to set a definite date for such a conference at this time.

After a period of worship the meeting adjourned.

*Saturday, 8/23, in the afternoon.*

The Conference reconvened, worshipped and resumed deliberation of the Pacific Rim Conference concern. Robert and Lyra Dann, who had

just returned from a journey of visitation to Friends in New Zealand and Australia reported that meetings there are few in numbers, widely scattered and that their traditional ties are with British Friends. Robert Simkin discussed problems of the five meetings in western China. Distances are large, roads are poor and travel is expensive. Most of the Friends are persons of moderate means and inflation has hit them hard. Harry Mirchulall talked of the real need of Indian Friends to have close ties with the larger body of Friends, but cautioned us in regard to the need of careful movement and a period of thorough preparation for a Pacific Rim Conference.

Gilbert Bowles, recently returned to this country after spending several months in Japan, reported that at this time no Japanese person could get permission to leave Japan. He described the extremely difficult living conditions of the Japanese people and at the same time the apparent lack of bitterness and instead the evidence of courage and hope. He presented a letter from Friends representatives in Tokyo, Mito and Osaka addressed to the Friends World Committee written on 7-6-47, stating that a committee was being appointed in order to investigate the possibility of reorganizing a Yearly Meeting of Friends in Japan.

In view of these reports, the Conference approved the following minute:

The Pacific Coast Association and the Pacific Yearly Meeting urge the Friends World Committee on Consultation to arrange a Pacific Rim Conference just as soon as conditions permit. We believe intervisitation with the Orient and with Australia is urgently needed and a Pacific Rim Conference can do much to give hope and courage to Friends in this whole Pacific area. We realize that many obstacles make such a conference impossible at present, but we believe that it should be prepared for and planned, so that it can be held at the earliest opportunity."

Gladys S. Seaman presented a traveling minute from Cornwall Monthly Meeting, New York, and addressed the Conference briefly.

Josephine Duveneck read a letter from Homer L. Morris dated 8-4-47 transmitting the report of the American Friends Service Committee for the past year and asking that the Pacific Coast Association of Friends or any other body representing the Meeting in this Association appoint one or two representatives to the American Friends Service Committee. Josephine Duveneck reviewed the report attached to this letter.

Following this report several Friends presented concerns in regard to work in prisons, jails and juvenile detention homes, whereas other Friends expressed the thought that these institutions are as evil as war and should be abolished, not reformed. Bernard Gross presented the concern of the National Mental Health Foundation for the mentally ill. Knowledge of the bad conditions in these hospitals has been largely due to the work of the C.O.'s during the war.

The Conference approved a suggestion that the Clerk invite the Executive Secretaries of the three Pacific Branches of the American Friends

Service Committee to arrange joint meetings of their staffs and Executive Committees at the time and place of the Pacific Coast Association's annual meeting in 1948.

Joseph Conard, chairman of the Organization Committee presented that committee's report. The report was considered paragraph by paragraph and deliberation was resumed after a recess for dinner. Several amendments of the report were agreed upon and finally the report as a whole, as amended, and attached to these minutes, was approved.\*

The business session was then adjourned to give opportunity to hear a travel report from Robert Dann, illustrated by slides. After a period of worship, Meeting adjourned to meet on the following afternoon.

*Sunday, 8/24, 1:30 in the afternoon.*

The Conference met again and following a period of worship, amended and approved the minutes of the preceding day's sessions.

The Conference approved the following minute on prisons.

The Pacific Coast Association and Pacific Yearly Meeting of Friends reminds the Monthly Meetings that the American Friends Service Committee has discontinued its Prison Committee and therefore prison work is more than ever an obligation of local meetings. We urge the Monthly Meetings to assume their responsibility in this sorely needed social service. We further urge all Friends to work for a complete change of attitude toward and treatment of the penal problem.

The Conference approved a suggestion that Pacific Yearly Meeting send a complete set of Pendle Hill pamphlets to Mid-India Yearly Meeting and the Secretary was instructed to act accordingly.

Hannah Erskine gave the final Treasurer's report:

Balance on hand 8-20-47.....	\$ 96.38
Contributions during Conference	78.50
	<hr/>
Balance 8-24-47 .....	\$174.88

The Treasurer was authorized to pay the expenses necessary to this Conference which includes the mimeographing of the Organization Committee's report. It was suggested that the report of the Bulletin Committee to be given next year include some of the overhead expense of publishing the Bulletin. It was recommended that if possible Pacific Yearly Meeting make a contribution to the Friends World Committee for Consultation and to the Pacific Rim Conference. It was recommended that Pacific Yearly Meeting attempt to make some contribution towards sending a young Friend to the Young Friends World Conference in Holland in 1948, and that it cooperate with other Friends groups in this concern, particularly with California and Oregon Yearly Meetings.

A returning minute was approved for Andrew Szabo, Nancy Terrell and Leanna Barker.

Helen Stevenson presented the Secretary's report.

\*See supplement.

The Reading Clerk read a Traveling Minute from Corvallis Meeting for Robert, Lyra and Dorothy Dann showing their itinerary through Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific area and the endorsements of the Clerks of Meetings visited. A Minute was also read from Shanghai Friends Center for Suzanne Adlam, Secretary of Shanghai Friends Center, to travel at the request of the Friends Service Council, London.

The Conference approved this Minute on world government:

We urge that our governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States of America take the steps necessary to strengthen the United Nations into a federal world government with limited powers directly upon individuals rather than only through national governments. We urge our governments to take the leadership in offering to give up elements of national sovereignty that block formation of a world government. We affirm as citizens from Canada, Mexico and the United States of America we are willing to make such sacrifice of privileges and living conditions as are necessary to insure an adequate base for world trade and a more equitable distribution of goods. This Minute will be sent to the appropriate persons after approval has been received from Mexico City Monthly Meeting whose representative has been unable to attend this conference.

The Bulletin Committee was given the responsibility of publishing and distributing the minutes of the proceedings of this session.

A request from Herbert Nicholson was read asking for help in caring for 200 goats that are to be shipped to Okinawa in a joint project of Brethren and Friends. Robert Boyd and Frank Duveneck were appointed as a Committee to work with all concerned groups in establishing a collection center.

A suggestion was made for a contribution to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, but it was the feeling of the Meeting that a Yearly Meeting composed of three different national groups could not support individual national concerns.

Edith Peckham and Lydia Michener were appointed to write to Mid-India Yearly Meeting expressing appreciation for the contribution made to our meeting by Harry Mirchulall.

Hannah and Andrew Erskine are starting on a world tour. Their traveling minute from Berkeley Meeting is to be endorsed by Pacific Yearly Meeting and a copy to be filed in the Yearly meeting records.

A minute naming the Monthly Meetings that form Pacific Yearly Meeting was read and approved and is appended to the Organization Committee's report.\*

The following report of the Nominating Committee received from its chairman, William James, was approved:

Presiding Clerk, Benjamin Darling; Recording Clerk: Otto Frey; Reading Clerk, Lyra Dann; Treasurer, Robert Simkin; Secretary, Virginia Barnett.

Bulletin Committee: Phillip Wells, chairman, Ruth Walker, Mary Hansen, Virginia Heck,  
\*See supplement.

Helen Stevenson, Ellis Jump, Edwin Sanders, Editor.

Epistle Committee: Cora Elkington, Susan Blogg.

Visitation committee: Howard Fawcett, chairman, Charles Sanders, Frederick Elkington, Robert and Lyra Dann, Gilbert Bowles, John Way, Margaret Musckett.

Finance Committee: Two years—Robert Simkin, George Howell; One year—Lydia Michener, Edith Sperry.

Education Committee: Edwin Morgenroth, chairman, Margaret Yarrow, Francis Hall Smith, Ethel Miller, Robert Boyd.

Discipline Committee: Robert Dann, Ruth Schmoe, John Dorland, William James, Eubanks Carsner.

Pacific Rim Conference Committee: Floyd Schmoe, chairman, Vern James, Margaret Simkin, Ed Sanders, Robert Dann.

Indian Affairs Committee: Londa Fletcher, Herbert Jones, Alice Schoenche.

Representatives: World Committee on Consultation—Robert Dann, Gilbert Bowles; American Friends Fellowship Council—Howard Brinton; American Friends Service Committee—Josephine Duveneck, William Taylor; American Young Friends Fellowship—Arthur Thompson; Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs—Ruth Schooler.

The Epistle Committee is to be enlarged at the next session, particularly by adding representatives from Canada and Mexico.

The Bulletin Committee was authorized to issue a statement to the effect that a Pacific Yearly Meeting of Friends was formed at the 16th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Association of Friends held in Palo Alto, California, 8/21-24/47.

Ed Sanders for the Epistle Committee read the proposed epistle which was approved by the Meeting as follows:

To Friends Everywhere,

We greet you this year as a member of the family of Yearly Meetings. Years of anticipation have culminated in a high spirit of unity as we become the Pacific Yearly Meeting. Your communications of greeting and concern, the spirit of restlessness with existing conditions in our Society which our Young Friends have expressed for all of us, and the reports brought by our world-wide visitors have convicted us with the realization that little occurs in the life of the spirit through organizational functioning alone. The sure sign of truth in this new step will be the evidence of new power in the meetings and the lives of our members.

Harry Mirchalall, Clerk of Mid-India Yearly Meeting, has been with us and many of our meetings. His sincerity and simplicity with wise words of counsel added to those of Gilbert Bowles, recently arrived from Japan, of Robert Dann and his family from visiting Australia and New Zealand, and of Suzanne Adlam of Shanghai make us feel strong ties of one community with the Orient and the Pacific Rim. Our concerns for increased inter-visitation, for the education of ourselves with our children, for those problems of minority groups to which we have contributed—these concerns have drawn us close to all of you. Our eagerness to be-

come members of a world family has not blinded us to our individual and collective guilt in the world's evil and of many of you we ask forgiveness and understanding.

Jose Vidal, appointed representative by Mexico City Monthly Meeting to this Yearly Meeting, has written: "We believe that the geographical distance can be overcome when there is no spiritual separation." You, who like our own members, are both near and far geographically, will know our common spiritual need, the world's need—the power of the living faith that God is in all men. In this there is no separation.

August 24, 1947

The Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Vern James, Clerk

The time and place of the next session was set for 8/12-15/48 in Seattle, Washington.

Appreciation was expressed for Vern James' faithful service as Clerk during the past two years.

The following Closing Minute was approved:

In our annual meeting this year we have been especially blessed by visiting Friends from many lands. Our horizon has been extended. We have been brought into closer communion with Friends all over the world.

We have met in great unity. Out of this unity has come the Pacific Yearly Meeting; the fruition of years of hopes and labor. This new organization within the Association offers us another opportunity to increase this vital unity and to work more effectively in the service of God.

During the closing worship period memorial messages were given for William Lawrence of Corvallis and Sceva Laughlin of Salem.

The closing session adjourned near 5:00 p.m.

Otto Frey, Recording Clerk.  
Vern James, Clerk

## SUPPLEMENT

### ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT: OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING: REPORTS FROM MONTHLY MEETING: BULLETIN COMMITTEE REPORT.

#### ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE REPORT

##### Basis of Unity:

Realizing the great strength to be gained by close association with like-minded people; longing to become more useful as instruments of God in the building of His Kingdom on earth; and sharing the deep conviction that the spirit of God finds life in every human heart, we, duly established monthly meetings of Friends, are joined together in the Pacific Yearly Meeting of Friends.

We believe that "Hitherto the Lord has led us," and trusting Him for this guidance in the future we agree to work together in patience, love, and unity.

We are anxious to avoid any burdensome organization, yet we know some plan of procedure is needed to make work together possible. The following form of organization is therefore agreed upon as a basis for action, with the understanding that changes can and will be made in future sessions of the Yearly Meeting as organic life develops.

##### Discipline.

The practice in the various meetings varies widely. Some procedures are better than others. Members of some meetings question the value of practices in other meetings. Consultation and study should lead all meetings to the use of the best practices. As these are recognized and adhered to, a discipline will develop. In the meantime, the Book of London Yearly Meeting, and Howard Brinton's "Guide to Quaker Practice" are suggested guides.

##### Relation to Pacific Coast Association of Friends.

The Pacific Yearly Meeting has developed within the Pacific Coast Association of Friends. The Association continues as an association of all Friends, and friends of Friends in the Pacific area.

By continuing to act within and jointly with the Association, the Pacific Yearly Meeting will have a growing edge. Members of meetings not yet ready to join the Yearly Meeting, fellowship groups not yet ready to become monthly meetings, and members of other Yearly Meetings can continue in fellowship and keep up ties necessary for life and growth of the Yearly Meeting. The officers of the Yearly Meeting and of the Association shall be the same. Any Friend who is a member of the Association is eligible for office, whether a member of the Pacific Yearly Meeting or not.

##### Relation to the Society of Friends.

The Pacific Yearly Meeting will seek to enter into correspondence with Yearly Meetings in the Society of Friends and humbly hopes to be recognized by these Meetings. It will seek affiliation with the various Friends Councils, and will assist in their work as the way opens.

The Yearly Meeting does not belong to a "branch" of the Society, and therefore is not associated with the Five Years Meetings, the Friends General Conference, or

the Conservative body, although welcoming fellowship with all Friends.

##### Constituent Monthly Meetings.

Established Monthly Meetings may join the Yearly Meeting by approving the basis of unity and applying for membership.

Monthly Meetings are expected to keep good records of their proceedings, receive and record members, extend spiritual and if necessary material aid to their members, provide oversight of marriages and burials, treat in a spirit of restoring love those who fail to live in accordance with our principles and testimonies, remove names from membership lists if this is necessary, collect funds required to carry on the work of the Meetings, hold titles to property and administer trust funds. A Monthly Meeting is free to undertake any work and to assume any function consistent with our profession and not specifically referred to some other meeting.

##### Records.

Each Meeting is to keep a record of membership and transfers thereof, births, marriages and deaths, and report them annually before Yearly Meeting to the Secretary of the Yearly Meeting together with such other information times and places of meetings, as shall be requested.

##### Representation.

Each monthly Meeting shall appoint representatives to the Yearly Meeting, and to the representative committee as specified below.

##### Membership in Monthly Meetings.

Monthly Meetings are encouraged to use care in considering applications for membership in the Society. Serious conferences should be held with the applicant to assure full mutual understanding. Applicants should, by consistent attendance over a period of months, seek to gain a sympathetic understanding of our method of worship and our manner of conducting business, and should evidence substantial agreement with friendly testimonies.

##### Individual Dual Membership.

There may be special cases in which membership in more than one Monthly Meeting is desirable. In general however, it is felt that since membership in one Monthly Meeting carries with it membership in the whole Society of Friends, and transfer from one Meeting to another within the Society is relatively simple, the practice of dual membership should not be encouraged.

##### United Meetings.

Some of the Monthly Meetings have ties and obligations to other Yearly Meetings. Actual relationship will vary depending on the other Yearly Meeting involved. As long as this tie has value, it should continue. The Meetings involved will have the status of United Monthly Meetings as found elsewhere in our Society. It is expected

that all members of these meetings will be considered United Members and will assume the privileges and responsibilities of membership in both Yearly Meetings. For statistical purposes, each United Member would count as one-half for each Yearly Meeting. Any members of these Meetings so desiring could choose to retain their membership entirely in the other Yearly Meeting or transfer it entirely to the Pacific Yearly Meeting if this procedure seems advisable to the Monthly Meeting concerned.

#### **New Meetings.**

A new Monthly Meeting may be established upon the request of a group of persons desiring to organize such a Meeting, and upon the subsequent approval of the Pacific Yearly Meeting. A suitable number of Friends should be appointed by the established Monthly or Quarterly Meeting nearest to the proposed Monthly Meeting or by the Pacific Yearly Meeting to be present at the organization, to render assistance or advice if needed, and to present recommendations to the Yearly Meeting for action. Such a committee should continue its oversight for a year after the establishment of the Meeting to strengthen and aid it. New Monthly Meetings may be formed by the growth and development of a Wider Quaker Fellowship or other Worship Group, or by the separation of an existing Monthly Meeting into two Monthly Meetings when this is considered advantageous.

#### **Quarterly Meetings.**

In areas where two or more Monthly Meetings are near to each other geographically, they may associate themselves together in Quarterly or Half Yearly Meetings for carrying out the purposes of the Yearly Meeting in a more intensive way in a limited area. For instance, a Northwest Quarterly Meeting may be formed. In Northern California, the College Park Association may carry out these functions; and in Southern California, the Southern California Friends Fellowship may be a Quarterly Meeting for that area. For the present all Monthly Meetings should report directly to the Yearly Meeting. Quarterly or Half Yearly Meetings will serve their constituent Monthly Meetings as seems most profitable. Duties and functions may be referred to them by the constituent Meetings and/or by the Yearly Meeting.

#### **The Yearly Meeting.**

The Yearly Meeting shall be composed of its constituent Meetings, and each Monthly Meeting shall appoint representatives to attend its sessions. The representative will perform whatever duties the Yearly Meeting, or the Meeting which appoints them, may assign. They are advised to report action taken by the Yearly Meeting to the Monthly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting shall meet annually to hear and act upon the concerns of its members, to review the state of the Society, to consider communications addressed to it, and to receive written reports from its committees and constituent meetings, signed by the proper officers. It shall provide for due consideration of epistles and minutes from Friends of other Yearly Meetings. It shall annually, determine a budget necessary for its expense, and shall suggest to each Monthly Meeting its proportionate share.

The Yearly Meeting should exercise general oversight and care of the constituent meetings in things pertaining to the Society as a whole. It should keep available information concerning its constituent meetings.

#### **Place of Meeting.**

The Pacific Yearly Meetings shall be held annually in rotation, in the Northwest, Northern California, and Southern California, unless otherwise appointed by the Yearly Meeting.

The Yearly Meeting shall have the following officers to aid in carrying out its functions and concerns:

#### **Presiding Clerk.**

The presiding clerk shall be appointed by the Yearly Meeting for a term of one year beginning at the close of the annual meeting. He shall convene the representative committees, and carry out the instruction of the meeting on all matters pertaining to the accomplishment of its purpose. The retiring clerk shall conduct the business sessions of the annual Meeting which ends his term, and shall see that a full and correct record is kept of all proceedings.

#### **Recording Clerk.**

The recording clerk shall be appointed by the Yearly

Meeting for a term of one year. He shall assist the presiding clerk in the conduct of business sessions, and together they shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings, which shall be read to the meeting for correction and approval, and which shall be the official minutes of the session. He shall also serve as alternate clerk.

#### **Reading Clerk.**

A friend with a good reading voice shall be appointed for a term of one year to assist the presiding clerk.

#### **Treasurer.**

A treasurer shall be appointed for a term of one year. He shall receive and hold the funds of the Yearly Meeting and make disbursements as authorized by the Yearly Meeting or the Representative Committee. He will keep complete records of all income and expenditures. An annual audit will be provided by the finance committee.

#### **Secretary.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint a Secretary for a term of one year. He shall act as recorder of the Yearly Meeting and shall be responsible for the assembly of reports from constituent meetings, and shall carry on correspondence with these Meetings during the year. He shall assist the Clerk in carrying out his functions in the interval between Yearly Meetings.

#### **Committees.**

The Yearly Meeting shall have the following committees to aid in carrying out its functions and concerns.

#### **Representative Committee.**

**Method of Appointment.** Each Monthly Meeting shall appoint two members to this committee, one for one year and one for two years, and then one each year thereafter for a two year term. The presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the secretary shall also be members of this committee. The Yearly Meeting may appoint members-at-large in addition to those named by the Monthly Meetings.

**Meetings.** The Representative Committee may fix its own time and place of meeting. Because of distances involved, it is suggested that the committee meet at the time of the annual sessions, that some items of business could be transacted by mail or telephone and that some method of meeting in regional sections might be devised. Meetings during the year shall be called by the clerk upon the request of three members of the committee.

**Duties.** The Representative Committee shall carry out instructions of the Yearly Meeting. It may also act for the Yearly Meeting between the annual sessions in carrying out business involving a new principle. Its actions shall be subject to the approval of the Yearly Meeting at its next session.

The Representative Committee shall keep in touch with the other committees of the Yearly Meeting and help to coordinate their work. The other committees will look to it for direction and approval when confronted by a problem for which they do not have adequate instruction from the Yearly Meeting. It should advise and assist individuals who feel the need of support in maintaining our testimonies and be alert to ways in which the Yearly Meeting can be of assistance to Quarterly and Monthly Meetings and to the developing Quaker Groups in our area.

The Representative Committee shall propose to the Yearly Meeting names for a nominating committee of five persons.

The Representative Committee shall keep full and complete minutes of all its action and shall report in writing all business to the Yearly Meeting.

#### **Nominating Committee.**

The Representative Committee shall propose at the Yearly Meeting names for a nominating committee of five members. The Nominating Committee shall submit nominees to the Yearly Meeting for action to fill all Yearly Meeting appointments. It shall also fill all vacancies occurring during the following year.

#### **Discipline Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint a few Friends to serve as a Committee on Discipline for a term of one year. All Friends and Meetings having concerns, suggestions, or questions relating to the development of a common discipline are urged to present these in writing to this committee, which is instructed to keep sensitive to the developing needs and common understanding among

the Meetings, and to prepare outlines and summaries of our principles and practices, such as would form the basis of a discipline, and to present these to the annual session of Pacific Yearly Meeting for discussion and study.

The resulting recommendations for discipline shall then be referred to the Monthly Meetings for consideration and approval. No part of a discipline nor change in a discipline shall be adopted by the Yearly Meeting until approving minutes have been received from the constituent meetings.

#### **Bulletin Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint a few Friends for a term of one year who will provide for the editing, publishing, and distribution of the Friends Bulletin.

#### **Epistle Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint an Epistle Committee, for one year. This committee shall assemble and digest the epistles from other Yearly Meetings. It will also prepare and submit at the close of the annual gathering an epistle, gathering together the thought and spirit of our Yearly Meeting, to send to Friends throughout the world.

#### **Visitation Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint a visitation committee for a term of one year to stimulate and assist with intervisitation among the Monthly Meetings and isolated Friends.

#### **Finance Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint a Finance Committee, each member to serve two years, half to be appointed each year. The treasurer and secretary shall be ex-officio members of the Finance Committee. Its function shall be to provide an audit of accounts, to prepare and submit to the Yearly Meeting a budget for the Yearly Meeting, and suggest the method of raising this amount. This shall include a suggestion of the proportionate share for each Monthly Meeting.

#### **Education Committee.**

The Yearly Meeting shall appoint an Education Committee for a term of one year. This committee shall serve as a clearing house for information concerning both religious and general education within the Yearly Meeting. It will assemble and prepare reports on the various educational enterprises carried on by the constituent meetings for the Yearly Meeting.

#### **Other Committees.**

The Yearly Meeting and the Representative Committee may appoint such other committees as are needed to carry out the concerns of the Yearly Meeting. These shall report to the Yearly Meeting in writing.

### **MINUTE NAMING OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING**

Vancouver Monthly Meeting, British Columbia.  
 University Monthly Meeting, Seattle, Washington.  
 Berkeley Society of Friends, Berkeley, California.  
 San Francisco Monthly Meeting, San Francisco, Calif.  
 Palo Alto Monthly Meeting, Palo Alto, California.  
 College Park Monthly Meeting, San Jose, California.  
 Tracy Friends Meeting, Tracy, California.  
 Orange Grove Monthly Meeting, Pasadena, California.  
 Friends House Monthly Meeting, Los Angeles, California.  
 Riverside Monthly Meeting, Riverside, California.  
 Mexico City Monthly Meeting, Mexico.  
 Honolulu Monthly Meeting, Hawaii.

### **EXTRACTS FROM MONTHLY MEETING REPORTS**

**Tracy Monthly Meeting.** "During the past year we have gathered at our regular meetings for worship and business. Our Sunday School, the released time weekday religious education school and the junior meeting have attracted an increasing number of children, but we recognize that numbers often give false impressions of value. One happy meeting for worship was upon the occasion of the marriage of Margaret Fawcett and Oscar Montien . . . We have continued to work upon a discipline in which we seek to express the truth we know in clear and simple language . . . We have lately given attention to funeral arrangements which do not require extensive professional services or suggest expensive customs or display. The meeting suggests to its member that the body of a departed friend be cared for immediately and that a meeting for worship upon the occasion of a death then be arranged . . . Blessed events seem to be

crowding upon the families in our meeting so that we felt it necessary to impose unusual limits on our activities . . . Our meeting has given regular attention to the development of the local Homestead Association by means of which 15 families (with room for 6 more) meet regularly to develop their own homesites on an 80 acre area. Along with our cooperative store the Homestead Association is a racial and credal melting pot that offers participation to all who are willing to accept the responsibilities involved."

Robert Boyd, Clerk

#### **Berkeley Society of Friends**

"When our Meeting house was purchased in 1922, the ownership of it was incorporated under "The College Park Association of Friends." About one year ago we started to change that to local ownership. That now has been legally accomplished and we are now "Berkeley Society of Friends." We have 60 on our mailing list several of whom are regular attenders. We are hoping that they will feel the desire to become closer associated with us and eventually join in membership with us . . . We greatly miss the Jump family. Ellis was clerk of our Monthly Meeting and Margaret was very active in Foreign Relief Work. Although Walker and Mary Sandbach were not members, they were a great help to us during their stay in the East Bay . . . We have two different thoughts on "Birth-right membership." Some parents ask that their children be recorded as such, and some ask that they be put down as "Associate members." . . . The Women's International League for Peace has held its meetings in our building and also a Sharman study group has met there. The F.O.R. still occupies one small room . . . One of our foremost concerns has been the problem of housing our children during most of the meeting hour. Some of the time they have been brought in to meeting for about the last 10 minutes and as a rule they do quite well for such little folk. We need two or three rooms so that the group can be divided so that religious instruction can be given according to age."

Anna E. James, clerk

#### **College Park Monthly Meeting**

"During the past year, except for the summer months, the College Park Monthly Meeting has been held regularly in the Meeting House of Morse street in San Jose with morning worship at 11:00 a.m. followed by a pot-luck luncheon and an afternoon session of business, study and discussion. On the evening of Dec. 3 a group of Friends met and organized the College Park Monthly Meeting. . . . Two meetings were devoted to a study of publications on Quaker thought and practice, one led by Otha Thomas and the other by Herbert Jones. Bibliographies from Pendle Hill were distributed among the members as guides to further study. Throughout the year Laura Fitinghoff kept the membership informed on new publications at Pendle Hill and on other activities there of interest to Friends. . . .

Another interesting program was provided by Leu Jai Yie, who told the story of Christian Education in China and something of the educational problems facing that country today. Friends expressed concern and a desire to sponsor Chinese children. At one of the outstanding meetings of the year, Dr. Seville Chapman discussed peacetime implications of atomic energy . . . Desiring to take some action on this problem College Park Friends as a group and as individuals wrote to Congress expressing confidence in Lilienthal and urging atomic energy control. Communications were also sent to Congress on opposition to military conscription . . . A real loss to the College Park Friends was the departure of Mary Frances and Robert James who were given minutes of removal."

Marion B. Werner, Clerk

#### **College Park Association of Friends**

"The 115th and 116th semi-annual meetings of the College Park Association of Friends were held in eleventh month, 1946 and fifth month, 1947 in the Meeting House in San Jose, Calif. The morning hours were devoted to worship followed by short business meetings which were lead by William C. James . . . Letters from Robert and Lyra Danu from New Zealand were read and enjoyed. A telegraphic greeting from Pendle Hill signed by Elizabeth Allen, Laura Fitinghoff, the Brintons, the Truebloods and Clara Townsend was received and appreciated.

. . . The Sacramento Monthly Meeting was officially disbanded. Their funds were turned over to the treasurer of C.P.A.F. and earmarked for the use of a newly organized meeting or for Sacramento, should they reorganize.

Ruth Schooler

**Riverside Monthly Meeting of Friends**

"It is a significantly happy occasion for the Riverside Monthly Meeting of Friends to report to the First Pacific Yearly Meeting. Although for the present we wish also to keep our affiliation with the American Friends Fellowship Council of Philadelphia under whose auspices we were organized in 1939, we have encouraged the formation of the Pacific Yearly Meeting and we now rejoice in its existence . . . Our meetings for worship have been regularly held at 3:00 p.m. on the second and last First-days of each month with a Monthly Meeting for business on the last First-day of each month. After the meeting for worship on the second First-day we have read and discussed portions of Howard Brinton's **Guide to Quaker Practice** . . . Our membership includes thirty adults and twelve children. The meeting lost one beloved member by death. William Penn Holcomb, a charter member and former clerk of the Meeting, died on Tenth Month 25th, 1946 at the age of ninety years . . . The Meeting has been glad to cooperate with Friends in Redlands in encouraging a group, formed there last fall, which holds meetings for worship at 2:30 on the first and third First-days of each month, thus alternating with the meetings in Riverside."

Leslie P. Spelman, Clerk

**BULLETIN COMMITTEE REPORT**

"Your Committee would like to report on the three points on which we were instructed last year by the Pa-

cific Coast Association of Friends. These were as follows: to print as many issues as finances and material permitted; to place the Friends Bulletin on a subscription basis of "at least \$1.00", regardless of the number of issues; and to experiment with the combination of the Friends Bulletin with the interests of the publications "Community Frontiers" and "Community-Education News".

"First, our production. We have published eleven issues since our last meeting. These have come out monthly except for September which was used for compiling the minutes of the annual meeting and organizing the work of publication. These issues now go to a list of 800. All the work of writing, editing recording and book-keeping for subscriptions, addressing, stamping mailing and organizing the volunteer work is unpaid by the Pacific Coast Association of Friends.

"Second, our subscriptions. On the basis of "at least a dollar" we now have 322 subscribers bringing in \$528.25 which averages each subscription at \$1.64. . . .

"Third, our experiment. You will see from the display of our issues for the year that we have divided our material among the main topics of **meetings, community and education** . . . The response to this is indicated in **two ways**: the character and calibre of the material printed in the Bulletin and in the letters written to the Bulletin. These are available for your examination.

"The Bulletin Committee appreciates very much the support and the cooperation of innumerable people who make the publication possible. As the need and use for the Friends Bulletin increase, we are glad to report a growing support and participation."

Edwin A. Sanders, chairman