

LAKE ERIE ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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Movement or Establishment?

Some of you may know that in addition to editing this Friends' Bulletin, I also put together each month the Woman's Peace Movement Bulletin, for which I receive not only communications across the United States, but also from around the world. Every day I receive from six to a dozen letters from women burning with a new awareness of the perilous state of the world, keen to "do something", and hungry to be in touch with others who have also been brought into this new awareness, to know what they are thinking and doing. Last night as I finished reading through non-stop the entire series of letters and local Bulletins received since January 15 from Friends Meetings in the Lake Erie Association, I felt very heavy-hearted. On the one hand, the Bulletins of the larger Meetings all reflect increasing involvement with the new peace movement, and in some cases the Bulletin becomes almost indistinguishable from the new local peace news bulletin which many communities are now issuing. This is fine and heartening in itself -- there would be something wrong if Friends were not lending their experience, insight and energy to this movement. But on the other hand, these same Bulletins and other communications from correspondents in the Meetings report discussions on "the future of Lake Erie" in which tremendous emphasis is given to the distance between Meetings and lack of any sense of having a community of interest with Meetings so "far away", plus concern in being involved with "more work" in order to keep in closer touch.

When I compare the tremendous drive to keep in touch which animates the Women for Peace, who work unbelievably hard, often under great handicaps, raise money to travel to other groups in the United States, and raise money to fly to Geneva to work with women of other countries, with the lack of interest among all but a few Friends in keeping in touch with one another in this area, I can only ask myself, "What's happened to Friends?" When I joined Friends twenty years ago I felt as if I were joining a movement, even though it happened to be a three-hundred-year old movement. Now I am wondering if I joined the Establishment instead. The establishment is interested in conserving and bulwarking what it already has. It is interested in Meeting houses, sound local organization, "doing a few things well." A movement is always out pushing against the horizon, searching often in helter-skelter fashion through society's tool box for the means to build a new order, restless with divine discontent.

I hold no illusions about the strength, endurance or future of the new peace movement. I am keenly aware of the limitations of humanist enthusiasm both in its heights of positive action, and depths of nuclear fear, and also of the inevitable boundaries to intellectual endeavor as such. The peace movement will never create "the life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars." Neither will traditional church organizations do this. It is not enough to have a service organization which can publish fine pamphlets on Speaking Truth to Power. There must be people living in that truth, aflame with a spirit that informs all their social action and all their workaday occupations, be it business, teaching, research, or housework.

I joined the Society when I was 21. That very year (1941) Rufus Jones gave the William Penn Lecture, reminding us that early Quakerism was a youth movement, with all its leaders in their teens or early twenties (George Fox was 23 when he launched the movement). When he spoke of meeting for worship as the laboratory of the human spirit, and spoke of the "breakthroughs" which lay ahead as transformed individuals worked for a transformed society, the possibilities for an

awakened Quakerism seemed limitless. We bicycled and trudged and drove from Meeting to Meeting over a wide area, a large group of young people sharing burning concerns for a deepened inward life and intensified outward action, as war clouds flashed the ominous lightning of World War II. We needed one another intensely in those days. from Meeting to Meeting, because each group had some special strength the rest of us lacked. So strong was the need for a community broader than the local Friends Meeting that when the Bouldings moved to Tennessee, where contacts between scattered meetings were embryonic indeed, I found a way to start the "South-Central Epistle" that non-pastoral Friends in the South might be able to share with one another their strengths in that difficult time and place. Several regional associations and one Yearly Meeting are now to be found in the South. Where there is community purpose, the necessary networks which bind individuals and Meetings together inevitably develop.

Is there a meaningful community of purpose for the Lake Erie Association of Friends? Perhaps not. Perhaps it is enough that we continue to build up our local Meetings, participate in our local peace movements, and find, in the fullness of time, comfortable ways of easing into the established yearly meetings which ring this area. On the other hand, there is just the bare possibility that here is a group of Friends which is being called and doesn't quite hear the Voice. I cannot quite let go of the feeling that there is something on the horizon which we and we alone could build -- our particular combination in the Lake Erie Meetings, our particular mix of local strengths, spiritual insights, social concerns. The world may go on much as before if we don't do this. But how can we know if we don't try?

Elise Boulding

Bulletin accounts: cost of January Bulletin: \$30.90 (all labor volunteered by Lesley Brooks of Ann Arbor Mtg., a gigantic job for 550 copies of a 12 page Bulletin!)

received since January: \$27.00

Families receiving the Bulletin-are reminded that individual contributions of \$1 or more are welcome, since there is no Lake Erie Association budget to cover these costs.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- April 28-May 1: Friends witness for World Order in Washington, D.C.
- May 5: Area Meeting of Delaware, Granville and North Columbus Meetings, Camp Mary Orton, Ohio.
- May 19: Representative Committee of LEA will meet in Granville Ohio at the home of John and Varley Crist beginning at 1 PM.
- June 12-17: The East-West Contacts Subcommittee of the Young Friends Committee of North America is sponsoring a workshop, "Toward Dialogue with China," at the Friends Center in Ann Arbor, Mich.
- June 22-26: Canada Yearly Meeting at Pickering College, Newmarket, Ontario.
- June 22-29: Cape May Conference, Cape May, New Jersey
- July 14-21: Midwest Institute of AFSC at Williams Bay, Wisconsin
- August 9-12: 1962 Gathering of Friends at Quaker Haven, Indiana
- August 24-26: Lake Erie Association Annual Meeting at Wilmington, Ohio

LEA BUSINESS

Report of Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met in March, to consider the 1962-1963 budget. We encountered a substantial hurdle, in that support for the 1961-1962 budget is coming in very slowly. We were unable to gauge whether or not the current budget can be used as a basis for projecting next year's.

In mid-March, less than two hundred dollars had been received by the treasurer, toward the adopted budget of \$935.00 (for details, see the last Newsletter). These contributions have come from eight meetings. We feel that we cannot realistically project a budget until more is known of the response to the current year's financial undertaking. We strongly urge each meeting to assume responsibility toward the raising of funds needed this year.

The Finance Committee
Varley Crist
Willard Mead
Victor Ewald, Chm.

Report of April 14 meeting of Ad Hoc Committee of LEA and Continuing Committee on Greater Unity

The Ad Hoc committee discussed at length the reports submitted by constituent meetings concerning formation of a yearly meeting. These reports are included as an appendix to this Bulletin. It was felt that there had not been sufficient expression of favorable sentiment to warrant planning to become a yearly meeting in August unless there is substantial progress in the thinking of several meetings in the next two months. The clerk will be asked however to submit specific proposals to the Association in August for strengthening the existing organizational structure. It was also proposed that the annual meeting begin one day earlier, to allow more time for Friends to think and work together. In a joint session, the Ad Hoc committee asked the Continuing Committee on Greater Unity whether it felt that LEA's becoming a yearly meeting would have a divisive effect on Friends in the area. The Continuing Committee felt strongly that it would not be divisive.

Reflections on Silence

Francis D. Hole,
Madison, Wisconsin

Silence is so inoffensive that it need repel no one, yet it offers breath-taking depth. The attitude of teachableness in a quiet gathering of seekers is matched by a secure faith in the Spirit. The participants may be seekers but they are not lost. Silence is a great net which encompasses infinity, overleaping limitations of space and time. In group silence we find a laboratory in which God has an opportunity to effect reactions in us; or a garden in which we work with the Gardener to produce a spiritual crop. In group silence we find a cathedral of which we are the stones and mortar. How important that every stone be there each time! Our cathedral is assembled each week, and then dismantled for distribution of materials throughout the community. In group silence we find a fortress against insult and outer coercion. For example, during a heckled outdoor peace rally on a University campus recently, it was the 3-minute group silence which was least assailed by the interrupters. Worship on the basis of silence brings us experiences of inner house-keeping and drudgery. But also we hear the heavenly choir just after someone has finished giving a message in meeting for worship; or when the silence is so prolonged that the group seems transfigured in it; or when the meeting is under pressure from public opposition or uneasiness.

Some Thoughts on the Future of LEA

Robert Blood

Ann Arbor Meeting

After three delightful years as a member of the Continuing Committee on Greater Unity, I would like to record my sense of both the potential contributions and the limitations of the "ecumenical movement" among us. Already achieved has been an increase in intervisitation, the concurrent annual meetings between Lake Erie Association and the two nearby unprogrammed Yearly Meetings (Ohio and Indiana), and the forthcoming Friends Gathering in August. For those who have had the privilege of participating in these programs there has been mutual benefit. For example, LEA members have appreciated the historic perspective, the deliberateness, and the spiritual depth of Ohio YM, and Conservative Friends in turn have appreciated the vigor, the creativity, and the procreativity of LEAFM. Similar mutual appreciations are sure to issue from concurrent sessions with Indiana YM even though the transfer of Cincinnati Meeting from LEAFM has blurred the former distinctions between the two groups. If LEAFM continues to hold concurrent annual meetings with these two Yearly Meetings, these ties of friendship will strengthen. If LEAFM becomes a Yearly Meeting, I hope that several united monthly meetings may link us to both these other Yearly Meetings. For example, I hope Cincinnati and Yellow Springs will become bridges between LEYM and Indiana YM, and that Cleveland and Columbus will be bridges between LEYM and Ohio YM. Perhaps in the long run such united monthly meetings will pave the way to a Great Lakes Yearly Meeting uniting all three groups in a common fellowship.

As I see it, there are also two dangers involved in the unity movement: (1) that external concerns will be allowed to hamper the intrinsic development of LEAFM; and (2) that incompatible groups will be drawn into unworkable unions. We have already seen some members of LEAFM shy away from the proposed change of name to a Yearly Meeting because of their concern for fellowship with Indiana or Ohio Yearly Meeting. I believe that if the Continuing Committee on Greater Unity had never been formed, LEAFM would have moved more smoothly toward the Yearly Meeting organizational form which now seems needed. A similar problem may arise if LEAFM or LEYM considers affiliation with Friends General Conference. Even though we obviously "belong" in that national fellowship, some LEAFM members are liable to shy away for fear of offending Ohio Yearly Meeting (whose prejudice against FGC is still remarkably strong). In other words, constructive action by LEAFM is liable to be paralyzed by the concern for unity with outside groups. My own philosophy is that LEAFM should do now what seems right to it and leave these unity issues to be worked out as way opens.

My second concern lies in the category of distant future developments but it is perhaps not too soon to speak to it. This is to explain why I favor union with Indiana and Ohio but not with Wilmington Yearly Meeting. I have good friends in Wilmington YM and look forward to more fellowship and cooperation with them but not to organic union.

Some of my friends consider this opposition narrow-minded, prejudiced, unloving, unFriendly, and unChristian. I wince at the charge but believe that the differences between a predominantly pastoral Yearly Meeting and exclusively non-pastoral ones are great enough to make continued separate existence preferable to union. Having studied at Yale Divinity School, I can honestly claim that "some of my best friends are pastors!" I respect and appreciate their work and the right of their parishioners to choose their form of worship.

Many Wilmington Friends feel that the form of worship is inconsequential. For me, however, the unprogrammed Meeting for Worship is the genius of Friends, the essence of Quakerism. I fear that a hybrid Yearly Meeting would be un to deal adequately with the contrasting problems created by these two methods of worship, or organization, and of leadership.

As a marriage counselor, I know too well what happens in interfaith marriages -- a tendency to avoid religious issues because they are too divisive. In my judgment, a union between Wilmington Yearly Meeting and our unprogrammed Yearly Meetings would be a mixed marriage subject to the same tendency to avoid discussing points of difference or else to the converse danger of squabbling over these differences. In short, I favor organic union in the fullness of time between Lake Erie Yearly Meeting and any unprogrammed Yearly Meetings with which we develop sufficient compatibility. But we must beware of allowing a romantic belief in unity to lure us into marriages so heterogamous (mixed) that our potential contribution is stifled by inner conflict or by the effort to avoid such conflict.

NEWS FROM LOCAL MEETINGS

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Sunday morning worship in our lovely new Meeting House has not only brought many new faces to our Meeting, but also the joy of having our children join us for the full hour of worship. To the surprise of many adults, the primary age children enjoy this and do not make use of the privilege of leaving early if they wish! (Some nursery age children are cared for in the Sunday School rooms during Meeting.) There are monthly potlucks in the new Fellowship room.

Ann Arbor was host to Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting in February. In March the annual series of Sunday afternoon "meetings for seekers" was held. The Meeting has regretfully released Hurford Crosman early from his duties as clerk so that he and Winifred may prepare for their coming service in Africa.

A number of Friends are active in the very dynamic Ann Arbor Women for Peace group, formed last November and using the Friends Center as its headquarters. A new activity for the Meeting this year is the Wednesday student lunch discussion group. Students meet for a sandwich lunch to hear their fellow-students from abroad and faculty members share their views on international problems. Indian, Russian, Japanese, Israeli and Egyptian students have participated, and a recent panel by faculty involved in the peace corps training program on campus was of great interest. Through these meetings several of the students have become interested in other Meeting activities and some of the girls are planning to live at Friends Center next year.

Sunday schedule: First-day School, children and adults, 10; Worship, 11: Friends Center, 1420 Hill St.

Herbert Lee Nichols, Clerk, 1138 Martin Pl.

East Lansing, Michigan

Several University students have attended Meeting during the past few months, but only a few of them, unfortunately, have repeated their visits. There have been several requests for information about the summer projects of the AFSC, and we are seeking to make such information better known on campus.

Hilda Margaret Taylor, an exchange teacher from Wales, is sojourning with us this year. She has brought many watercolor sketches which she painted in Britain and in Europe. Having shown them and talked about them to many groups of school children during the year, she is anxious that they may be used in some way to raise money for the aid of peace work. A committee of members of the Meeting is planning an exhibit and sale of these pictures.

On April 8, Peter Stettenhein responded to the invitation of a Sunday evening group at the First Congregational Church in Grand Ledge, Michigan, and spoke to them about Quakerism. Many people asked questions, and indicated that they would accept an invitation to attend Meeting.

Sunday schedule: discussion group, 10:15; worship, 11: College House of Peoples' Church. Peter Stettenheim, Clerk, 724 Elm St., E. Lansing.

Kalamazoo, Michigan

A Peace Education Center has been started on the first floor of the Meeting House. This will be a center where various activities can be coordinated to promote better international understanding and world peace; a place where typing, mailing and filing for existing organizations may be done; a storehouse for peace oriented materials, such as pamphlets, reprints, books and audio-visual aids; and a link between the national "Turn Toward Peace" and local efforts. It is non-sectarian and has already been responsible for handling the clerical work in connection with printing in Kalamazoo's newspaper of a letter to President Kennedy, signed by 240 citizens protesting an unrealistic reliance upon fallout shelters and the present civil defense program. Two hundred Pertinent Literature Packets prepared by the International Relations Committee of the Kalamazoo County Council of Churches were assembled and sent out by the Center. The next project was that of sending out some 800 letters publicizing "Next Steps Toward Peace" luncheon series being sponsored by the same committee. A card file of area residents who are interested in some phase of peace education or international relations is being assembled. Office equipment for the Center has been loaned and contributions requested for materials and postage.

Nineteen college students began a discussion group on Nonviolence March 31, which will assemble for several sessions at the Meeting House. Robert Nagler, Becky Bahlman and Adda Dilts led one each of the first sessions, which are dealing with the philosophy and techniques of nonviolence, as recently applied in the Voyage of the Golden Rule, the Sitdowns and Freedom Riders.

The Meeting held a joint potluck with the recently organized Church of the Brethren on Saturday, March 31, at which principles and activities of both groups were briefly presented and discussed.

A High School Seminar on the subject "Can Juveniles Help Prevent Delinquency" was held at the Meeting House April 6-8, with Lee Pettiford in charge.

The last Institutional Service Unit of the year took place April 13 and 14, with college students spending Friday evening in orientation at the Meeting House and all day Saturday working in wards at the Kalamazoo State Hospital. Adda Dilts attended a meeting of the Friends General Conference Advancement Committee held in Chicago April 7-8. A probable Midwest Friends' General Conference Meeting during the summer of 1963 was one important topic of discussion, including a suitable site for such a meeting.

Friends in the Grand Rapids area are in the process of organizing as a Preparative Meeting of the Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting. Eugene Dungan, formerly of Downer's Grove Meeting, is the Clerk. The group meets at Fountain St. Church, Grand Rapids. Its members come from a radius of some thirty five miles around the city.

Sunday schedule: First-day School, worship, 10; adult discussion, 11: 508 Denner. Cynthia Kerman, Clerk, 1113 Warren Pl.

Cleveland, Ohio

The Meeting has sponsored a Cuban family, and 15 Meeting families have been involved in helping them resettle, find housing, employment and schooling for the child in Cleveland. Hurford and Winifred Crosman participated in the March Roundtable, describing Winifred's experiences of last summer and their plans for next year's work in Africa. The April Roundtable was a

presentation on Chinese communism. The teen-agers have been providing baby-sitting for Friends during monthly meetings. The Breakfast Club (the young unmarrieds who meet for breakfast at the Meeting House at 9 AM on Sunday mornings) has just finished painting the kitchen walls. The adult discussion group is using Brinton's Friends for 300 Years under Bill Bliss' leadership. The annual meeting of Cleveland Friends will be held on May 26, with Clarence Pickett giving an address after a potluck supper. Friends will be glad to know that Isabelle Bliss is home from the hospital recuperating comfortably after surgery.

Sunday schedule: First day School, 10-12; adult class, 10; Worship, 11: 10916 Magnolia Dr. Lucy Clark, Clerk, Box 123, Bedford, Ohio.

Columbus, Ohio

The Meeting is active in Turn Toward Peace, and has taken the responsibility of providing the community with tapes from the World Peace Broadcasting Foundation of Des Moines, Iowa, reproducing talks by outstanding speakers on peace. Norman Whitney, AFSC consultant in Peace Education, spoke April 10 at a Turn Toward Peace forum on his 13 week tour of Friends Centers in eleven countries of Europe -- east and west.

Sunday schedule: First-day school, 10; singing, 10:45; Worship, 11: 1954 Indianola Ave. Edgar Shaudys, Clerk, 1423 Mulford Rd.

Kent, Ohio

The little meeting in Kent, Ohio, which was started in 1960 by several Kent State University students, has been meeting regularly every Sunday Morning since its start. After experimentation with the most convenient time, 10 AM has been set as the hour.

Although the meeting has not grown much in the two years since its formation, those who do attend are generally very faithful about going. As the meeting has become more known visitors from meetings in the area have sometimes swelled the usual number of four or five to as many as 17 recently.

Most of the members are students and faculty of the University, but several families from Kent and vicinity have recently started attending. With these families come children, and some sort of Sunday morning activity for them is being planned.

The meeting as a whole has done no intervisitation so far but plans to visit the Salem, Ohio, Monthly Meeting soon. Two of the student members attend the biannual committee meetings of the Young Friends Committee of North America (the most recent held at Earlham College April 6-8).

Meetings are held in the basement of the Wesley House across from the University campus on Main Street. All visitors are very welcome.

Sunday Schedule: Worship, 10: basement of Wesley House, Main St.
Correspondent, Judy Starbuck, Engleman Hall, Kent State U., Kent

Oxford, Ohio

Friends have started informal discussions following our Sunday evening Meetings for Worship, on subjects such as the Inner Light, the Meeting for worship, and John Woolman, following requests for more background information from student attenders. Weekend workcamp recruitment has been handled this Spring by Barbara Diehl, coordinating participation from both Miami Univ. and Western College with growing student interest, so that Cincinnati workcamp Committee has scheduled an additional weekend at our request!

We held two "frugal meals" in the fall, which, in addition to providing a time of good fellowship, brought in around \$40 which we contributed toward southern integration efforts and to help defray expenses of several members who went to Washington, D.C., to make known their concern for no resumption of atomic tests. They took part in the continuous vigil around the White House sponsored by Peace Action Center.

On January 30 we sponsored a 24-hour vigil of meditation in memory of the life and death of Ghandi. This was held in the Meetinghouse and we hope it may become an annual commemoration. Several of our members took part in two local "public testimonials for peace." These were held in March. Several plan to attend the Friends Witness for World Order to be held in Washington this month. After their return we plan an evening with the entire Meeting at which time we hope to survey our response, as individuals and as a Meeting, to continued war preparations by our country. We encouraged local scientists to present in area newspapers their views on fallout shelters. We gave a scholarship to a student from Sierra Leone to attend an AFSC conference on International Relations, held at Wilmington College at Christmas. Several members have spoken to local merchants of their concern for toys of constructive rather than destructive nature.

The workcamp committee continues sponsorship of weekend institutional service units and monthly square dance parties at the State Hospital in Dayton. These have included local adults and high school students as well as college students from three nearby colleges. We find they present us with a unique opportunity for "outreach" and for understanding the problems and treatment of the mentally ill.

The clothing committee has been active in collecting clothing and shipping it to AFSC.

Sunday Schedule: Meeting and Sunday School, 11: Rockford Chapel, Antioch College.
Ruth Keeton, Clerk, 1105 Livermore St., Peggy Champuey, correspondent, RD Box 273, Yellow Springs.

Grove City, Pennsylvania

Friends in western Pennsylvania (Erie, Meadville, Edinboro, New Wilmington and Grove City) have tried to stick to the schedule of Meetings which we worked out last fall, but illness, bad weather or unavoidable conflicts have sometimes interfered. Our group very much misses the Howard McKinney family, who moved in February from Erie to Charleston, W. Va. On Sunday, April 8, several members of the group went to Pittsburgh to attend Pittsburgh Friends Meeting and join Friends from a number of Meetings in Ohio and West Virginia who had gathered there for a weekend conference.

At the present time Friends in the area, and particularly the Garas, are concerned about a situation which has arisen at Grove City College. (The brief description of the situation which follows is taken from the April Reporter. Anyone wishing fuller details may write the Garas, 319 W. Poplar St, Grove City, for a dittoed letter they have prepared explaining the situation.) "Six members of the Grove City (Pa.) College staff resigned to protest the firing of Dr. Larry Gara, professor and head of the college history dept., for what was called "incompetent teaching and incompetent chairmanship of his department" by the college president. Dr. Gara, a Quaker, served two prison terms during World War II in connection with his conscientious objections. Dr. J. Stanley Harker, president of the college, said that the college was aware of Dr. Gara's background as a conscientious objector and "that had absolutely nothing to do with this case." Dr. Gara has asked the American Association of College Professors to investigate his case."

All Friends will be concerned over this situation, which as Lenna Mae points out, has far-reaching implications for Friends in academic positions. We are also concerned for the grave

distress of mind which this must have brought to the Garas, who have already had far more than their share of suffering for conscience's sake. Since they will probably be leaving Grove City, Jens Jensen will be taking over as correspondent.

For information on Meetings, contact Jens Jensen, 758 Graff Ave., Meadville, Pa.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The meeting was host to the March 7 regional meeting. The Student Peace Union held their preparatory meeting before going to Washington to vigil in February at the Meetinghouse. The monthly newsletter reflects the great care which Pittsburgh Meeting gives each month to the answering of a query, particularly the January query on ministry, and the March query on family responsibility.

The Meetinghouse has been the center for the Pittsburgh Women for Peace, and Friends have given leadership to this very active group, which they report is becoming a real force in the community.

Plans are being made for the AFSC program for next year. The financial campaign is underway, and it is hoped that this will be successful enough to enable the office to have a full-time secretary. The program of work camps or a seminar every two weeks continues.

Sunday Schedule: Meeting, Sunday school, 10:30; adult class, 11:30: 1353 Shady Ave.
Sally Dewees, Clerk, 1296 Arrowood Dr.

QUARTERLY AND REGIONAL MEETINGS

Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, Midwinter Conference, Feb. 2-4, held at Ann Arbor, Michigan:

Michigan Friends helped the Ann Arbor Meeting initiate its new Meetinghouse Feb. 2, 3, and 4 in the annual mid-winter conference of The Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting of Friends. Full utilization of the new facility resulted as Friends gathered from all over Michigan to explore the conference theme of "Knowledge for Peace, Research and Action." Inasmuch as the University of Michigan is gaining international recognition for its pioneering in peace research through the Center for Research on Conflict Resolution, the program was built around resource persons who could tell the inside story of one of the most thrilling cooperative intellectual ventures on any campus in the nation.

William Barth, ass't director of the Center, spoke on the history of the peace research movement. There were workshops on the economics of disarmament, arms control, and psychological obstacles to peace. In a final session, Bob Eddy, who has been working with the Turn Toward Peace Movement for AFSC joined with the workshop leaders (Kenneth Boulding, Thomas Lough, and Marc Pilisuk) in a panel, the Marriage of Peace Research and Peace Action. For all present it was a revealing exploration of this historic Friends concern.

Spring Quarterly Meeting at Mill Lake, May 11-13, will have for its theme "Spiritual Growth in the Quarterly Meeting." Saturday AM, 10-12: The Meaning of Spiritual Growth; Saturday PM, 2:30-5, meeting for business; Evening, 7:30-9, The Place of Concerns in Spiritual Growth; Sunday AM, 9-10:30, The Place of Beliefs in Spiritual Growth.

Green Pastures Junior Quarterly Meeting:

We had lengthy discussions on what we could do for peace (led by Mark Chesler, graduate student in the social psychology program at the U. of Mich.). We had several good ideas about how to acquaint our fellow students with this topic, including: circulating petitions in our schools, doing homework assignments on the topic, trying to bring in speakers where relevant in class.

Caroline Kerman

Junior program for May Quarterly Meeting: Saturday 10-11:30, "Freedom to be Different", 1-5 PM, Friends Lake Community, recreations, fellowship and JQM Business Meeting with discussion and evaluation of Ann Arbor, Kalamazoo seminars and Washington vigil. 7-8:30 PM, film Operation Correction. 9, folk dancing. Sun. AM, adult Friend will summarize conference discussions for JQM, lead discussion on how junior Friends can increase their contact with other Friends.

Area Meeting for Delaware, Granville and North Columbus: meets regularly spring and fall, no program announced for May 5 meeting at Camp Mary Orton.

Regional Meeting for Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Morgantown, West Liberty, Meadville and Grove City: Nearly 100 people attended the Regional Meeting held in Pittsburgh April 7-8, and representatives were present from Salem Quarter and Shortcreek Meeting, Ohio. Henry Cadbury spoke on "The Spiritual Basis of Quakerism" at the Saturday afternoon meeting which was held on the Carnegie Tech campus. Saturday evening groups gathered in individual homes for fellowship and discussion. On Sunday Henry Cadbury spoke to the Adult Group on "The Relevance Today of Jesus' Teachings." Art Tawell's notes on the Saturday afternoon address include the following points: "Very minor spiritual energies are obtained from the study of doctrine; the greatest spiritual energies are not obtained from retreat and contemplation either. The greatest spiritual energies are released without our willing it and "by accident" during daily life....I think the whole lecture was a plea to Friends in new Midwest meetings not to act the "overconvinced fool", that is not treat older Quaker experiences as central teachings and deduce our committed activity from them, but to be sure that our committed activity is giving us new spiritual experience."

Young Friends Workshop on China, June 12-17

It is expected that approximately 20 Young Friends will attend the workshop. The food is expected to be no more than \$25 with some scholarship help and travel aid available.

An interest in mainland China, willingness to do preparatory reading, sharing in a concern toward mainland China, and an interest in the work of the Young Friends Committee are criteria for selection of attenders.

Those interested should write either Jean Mitchener, Friends Center, 1416 Hill St., Ann Arbor, Mich., or Pat Cartwright, for application forms, at the same address.

General Conference

Cape May Programs are available to all LEA Friends through their own meetings; it is good to know that Cape May will be able to "have us" in spite of hurricane damage. There will be an unusually large contingent of LEA teenagers at Cape May this year. This will be good for Cape May, and good for LEA! (Teenagers: Don't overlook the fact that you must register separately even if you are staying with your families.)

Copies of FGC's fine annual report are available on request from 1515 Cherry St., Phila. Introductory quotation from report: "The life of a religious society consists in something more than the body of principles it professes and the outer garments of organization which it wears. These

things have their own importance: they embody the society to the world, and protect it from the chance and change of circumstance; but the springs of life lie deeper, and often escape recognition. They are to be found in the vital union of the members of the society with God and with one another, a union which allows the free flowing through the society of the spiritual life which is its strength."

William Charles Braithwaite

Annual Meeting, Friends World Committee; Some Excerpts

The American Section of the World Committee held its annual meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana at the First Friends Church, January 26-27, with an out of-city attendance of approximately 100 persons. The total registration was 137 and a few probably overlooked the registration table. A number came from long distances, including one from California, two from Texas, one each from Oklahoma and North Carolina, and Canada.

Young Friends of North America have a concern to visit among Evangelical Friends in Oregon and elsewhere next summer. The Committee encouraged them in this project and offered to help as way opens.

Concern was expressed for the proper welcome and care of overseas Quaker students in this country. The office was asked to compile a list and then circulate it, so that these visitors may be received by Friends near them. A canvas of such students as we know about is to be made regarding their possible attendance at Friends General Conference next June.

In looking toward the future the question was asked whether the Committee had reached the stage when it might communicate on deeper levels. Could we, for instance, discuss Religious Commitment, the Philosophy of Quaker Education, Simplicity, and other similar themes. Possibly something worthwhile might be published on these subjects. If we are a committee "for consultation" we have need to prepare ourselves to be consulted. One Friend wishes we might list the ideas Friends hold in common. Another suggested that perhaps we need a set of World Committee queries. For instance, "Do we sincerely seek to visit and understand those who live across the boundaries which separate us?" The discussion was constructive but diffuse. Within certain established guide lines the future pattern of the World Committee for Consultation remains fluid.

--Appendix I--

REPORTS FROM LEA MEETINGS TO AD HOC COMMITTEE ON FUNCTION OF LEA
(Shorter ones in full, longer ones condensed)

Cleveland (OHIO) Meeting

Reported that it did not intend to participate in discussion relating to the Ad Hoc Committee's report "now", as it had an Affiliation Committee making a study re Cleveland uniting (particularly in relation to Ohio Yearly Meeting) in progress.

Lucy S. Clark, Clerk

Ed. Note: They are ready to discuss this now at a meeting to be held this month.

Delaware (OHIO) Meeting

The Delaware Friends Meeting has some members who are members of the Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative). These Friends would not like to forfeit their membership there. It was suggested that arrangements concerning dual membership should be clearly set forth so members would not be counted twice in national statistics.

There was a general consensus on (accepting) the first two points recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee. (On the third point) "It was felt that affiliation with Friends General Conference, coupled with efforts to promote greater unity along lines mentioned in the report would be right, but concern was expressed that this should not be done if it would unduly antagonize Ohio Yearly Meeting."

Warren Bailey, Clerk

East Lansing (MICHIGAN) Meeting

Members of this meeting have been unable to agree on a reply to the proposal that the Lake Erie Association become a Yearly Meeting. Several persons feel that the LEA should become a yearly meeting and that the Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting should join it. Certain members feel that the LEA is not yet ready to become a yearly meeting, as evidenced by its lack of organization and spiritual leadership. They are apprehensive that a Lake Erie Yearly Meeting would be dominated by the GPQM. Another view has it that there are already enough yearly meetings and that the LEA should be dissolved as its constituent meetings join existing yearly meetings. If the LEA does become a yearly meeting, however, we agree that GPQM should join it.

Peter Stettenheim, Clerk

Granville (OHIO) Meeting

We had a lengthy business meeting last evening, 3 1/2 hours, of which a considerable portion was devoted to discussion of LEA Ad Hoc Committee report. There were some strong feelings expressed with weightier Friends not certain of the need for a new yearly meeting. The monthly meeting authorized the following minutes to be forwarded to the LEA.

There was very lively discussion of the meeting's reaction to the Ad Hoc Committee's report on the LEA. There was quite a wide diversity of opinion and the meeting does not feel clear to take action favoring creation of a new yearly meeting at this time, but would not desire to block action of those who might favor such a course.

James Ball, Clerk

Pittsburgh, (PA.) Meeting

Pittsburgh Meeting held a panel discussion early this month on the subject of LEAFM's becoming Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, and Pittsburgh's place in such a yearly meeting. The following Sunday, at monthly meeting for business, and in the presence of six visiting Friends from Short Creek Quarterly Meeting, Ohio YM, we came to the following tentative conclusions:

1. We feel the need for ties with a larger body of Friends, and recognize the enrichment and strength which would come from being part of a Quarterly and a Yearly Meeting.
2. We feel that distance from Detroit and Ann Arbor is a factor which would make active Yearly Meeting committee membership difficult for Pittsburgh Friends.
3. We wish to avoid dividing Friends in the area covered by LEA.

Sally Dewees, Clerk

--Appendix II--

Toledo (OHIO) Meeting

The Clerk then presented a minute from the Fall Quarterly Meeting (Green Pastures) of September 24 for our consideration and action. The questions asked in the minute and our decisions follow:

First: Should Lake Erie Association become a Yearly Meeting?

Answer: Yes.

Second: Should Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting become a Quarterly Meeting of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting?

Answer: Yes.

Third: Are Friends of your Meeting prepared to play an active part in the life of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting, giving it the kind of spiritual concern that you have invested in our Quarterly Meeting?

Answer: Definitely yes, and, we hope, more so.

S report from the Ad Hoc Committee of the LEA was read. We approve of the recommendations of this committee's report, namely that the Lake Erie Association become a Yearly Meeting.

Alice A. Nauts, Clerk

West Lafayette (INDIANA) Meeting

At our Monthly Meeting on Sunday evening, Jan. 14, we spent considerable time discussing the materials which LEA has sent us during the last nine months.

Perhaps it should be noted that not only are we a small Meeting but also (a) we are on the western edge of the LEA area, (b) we have not been actively connected with LEA activities, (c) we are in need of a meeting house and the solution of this problem may involve much of our activity and finances in the next few years. Hence our interest in the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee is not as great as that of other Meetings.

1. Probably the LEA should make some change but we wonder if the proposed one is the right one.

2. We are not sure that forming a LEYM would be a unifying step. We could more likely obtain rearrangement of meeting affiliations and changes of yearly meeting composition by the Continuing Committee on Greater Unity if we did not form a Lake Erie Yearly Meeting now.

3. We doubt if a LEYM would meet the needs of our Meeting.

Merrit S. Webster, Clerk

Kalamazoo (MICHIGAN) Meeting

Kalamazoo Meeting in business session on November 20 adopted the following minute relative to the Lake Erie Association:

Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting friends are in accord that:

- 1) Lake Erie Association should become a Yearly Meeting;
- 2) Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting should become a quarterly meeting of LEYM with the expectation that the other meetings in LEA would similarly be formed into quarterly meetings of this body;
- 3) Friends of our Meeting are prepared to give their spiritual concern to LEYM but have some hesitation about organization for organization's sake or duplication of functions. With due care for these concerns as the group is built, they would hope to give what they can in time and financial support toward this venture. The discussion was based on the minute from Green Pastures, as the material from LEA was not received until after the meeting. If further discussions take place on other points (such as greater unity and affiliation with FGC) a communication relative to this will be sent later.

Cynthia Kerman, Clerk

North Columbus (OHIO) Meeting

The North Columbus Friends Meeting would like to see us seek greater unity among all Friends. Friends feel that little has changed in this matter but are concerned.

Ed. note: Discussions of the matter are being reopened this spring.

E. T. Shaudys, Clerk

--Appendix III--

Morgantown, (W. VA) Meeting

While we fully appreciate the reasons given for the Committee's recommendations, we feel that our interests would best be served by a continuation of the loose and less formal organization of the LEA as presently constituted.

We are apprehensive that the formation of a Yearly Meeting would introduce a greatly increased amount of paper work, numerous committees requiring the time and energy of many people, and generally more business activities which would detract from rather than enhance the pursuit of our spiritual and social objectives. This is to say nothing of the increased costs that would inevitably follow.

The Morgantown Meeting has been quite satisfied with its affiliation with the LEA and feels that the latter offers it more as it is now organized than it would as a Yearly Meeting.

Wilfred H. Baker, Clerk

Oberlin (OHIO) Meeting

It is the sense of the Oberlin Meeting that the transformation of the LEA into a Yearly Meeting is desirable; we feel that we could benefit greatly by a strengthened affiliation. We trust our perhaps unique position among Friends Meetings (as a primarily student meeting) and our inability to commit ourselves to the full responsibilities of participation in a Yearly Meeting will be understood and accepted by the committee and by the other members of the LEA.

Edwin Dreby, Student Clerk

Yellow Springs (OHIO) Meeting

The sense of the Meeting may be summarized as follows:

1) It would seem to be a logical next step to form a new Yearly Meeting. Our Meeting, already belonging to one, does not feel the need, but has no objection.

2) Closer relations with Ohio and Indiana Yearly Meetings seem to us to be desirable objectives.

3) We are rather indifferent about Lake Erie joining General Conference. As General Conference members we would, of course, welcome Lake Erie warmly. But the logic and wisdom of this step seems somewhat less impressive than No. 1.

May I add the personal note that I have been much attracted to LEA for its vigorous concerns with current human needs, and its relative lack of zeal for matters of traditional doctrine and formal procedure. I am overjoyed at the forthright peace action and related projects of Green Pastures people. This sort of thing seems to me to hold the promise of a significant rebirth of essential Quakerism as an effective force toward building God's kingdom in the present world scene.

Horace Champney

Wooster (OHIO) Meeting

The Wooster Friends Meeting met together on January 22, 1962, to discuss the proposals of the LEA. These were that the LEA should:

1) Become a Yearly Meeting

2) Work most vigorously to strengthen and extend bonds with Ohio Yearly Meeting and Indiana Yearly Meeting in the interest of greater unity.

3) Affiliate with Friends General Conference.

The members of the Wooster Friends Meeting approved these suggestions. There would be no general changes in our procedures, since the Meeting has adopted the Philadelphia Faith and Practice, and has called upon the Friends General Conference for advice in Religious Education matters. The Meeting is also aware of the problems of a Yearly Meeting. It can be over-organized and too top heavy. This would put too much responsibility on the members of a small meeting of 9 adult members, such as ours, where committees on the higher levels would be burdensome. The financial needs of a YM may become greater over the years, which would be hard on small-member meetings. However, the tone of the committee's suggestions seems to indicate that the YM could be flexible, and the advantages would be superior to any of these disadvantages. A YM would strengthen the contacts between meetings, it could express a unity of concern in social and peace affairs on a larger basis, and it would bind the newer, like-minded meetings in an official organization.

Stephen W. Simon, Clerk