

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

The American Friends Service Committee began in 1917 within the Society of Friends. Originally, it was a movement concerned for the expression and implementation of the Quaker peace testimony, especially with the refugees and victims of World War I. All subsequent work has been a witness to the same basic concern, non-violence. The present 5 program divisions are Community Relations, International Affairs, International service, peace education, and youth services. The practical relevance of love is the basic unity in all AFSC efforts, whether they be directed to saving lives, or changing them, or refusing to be party to their destruction. This requires a point of view on the great issues of the day. The AFSC is not neutral. It works for a world society that is nonviolently ordered and in which men are neither debased or exploited. It does not seek to advance any particular political theory. It believes that nonviolent attitudes and practices would create their own beneficent result within any system. Out of its faith in the unique and finest values of our national way of life, it does undertake to sustain and strengthen these values for the benefit of all. It is concerned with those freedoms which are both the cause and the effect of man's responsible behavior.

Projects: Winter 1966

All day seminar on nonviolence for university students.

A conference on Mainland China, with speakers arranged for by AFSC (co-sponsored with the Institute of World Affairs, the League of Women Voters, and the Amer. Assoc. of Univ. Women)

Spring 1966

March 16th - Afternoon seminar on practical nonviolence
7 PM: "The Case for Pacifism" Dialog series, Hillol Foundation
8:30 PM: Public Lecture (title to be announced) Social Science Auditorium, Mulford Sibley, professor of political science, University of Minn. guest speaker.

Future Projects:

Indian work in Menominee County, Wis. (in cooperation with YMCA)

Youth Opportunities Program, an exchange program for high school students between Chicago and Madison.

Relief work for North and South Viet Nam.

Continuing Proj,: Counseling service for conscientious objectors.

The Madison Area Committee of AFSC presently consists of six people, who are all members of the Society of Friends in Madison. It serves in two ways. It is the Social Concerns Committee of the local Quaker meeting, and as such implements social action. And as an AFSC area committee it supplies the local meeting and the Madison area with resources from the Chicago Regional Office.

For further information:

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AFSC-MAC
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