

First-day afternoon the First-day School Association met. After the regular business and literary programme, Ellwood Trueblood, Walter Johnson and others addressed us.

Walter Johnson said it had been fifty years since he had attended a Friends' meeting, yet he loved the Friends. Let Christ be our leader, walk in close communion with him.

Ellwood Trueblood said that when a boy his father would send him to weed and hoe the vegetables in the garden, he would do it as a duty, but when his father would tell him to go along the border of the old-fashioned garden and weed the flowers, it was a pleasure; so now when his Master bids him speak to the older ones, he does it as a duty, but when talking to the children he is along the border among the flowers, and it is always a pleasure. Seek that which is good; build up an influence around the young; draw them to us; that they may be blessings; keep them pure, upright, and strong, and glad. He cited the tender love of Jesus, how, when pressed on every side, he yet found time to go to Darius' daughter. Talitha cumi was not the maid's name, but the tenderest words of human lips, an expression of love.

Ellwood never calls children sinners. There may be a time when there seems to be a suspension of life, a lazy condition, and then they will hear the language, 'My dear child, arise.'

He wanted us all to be of good cheer, not depressed and sad. Jesus said when about leaving this world, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." When he had passed on beyond, through John he spoke, "He that overcometh shall eat of the tree of life." He promised still farther, "should be clothed in white." We need companionship, so he promises, "He that overcometh shall sit down with Me in My kingdom." He goes still farther and says, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; I will be his God and he shall be My son, and she shall be my daughter."

The business session began Second-day, fourth mo. 25, at ten a.m. All the representatives were present but three.

The following thoughts in discussing the attendance of our meetings were brought forth: It was not thought wise to teach our children that we can just as well worship at home as at meeting; they get the idea that there is no necessity for attending Meeting. In united worship there is an influence which we do not experience elsewhere.

There is too much talk before the young people about our Meetings declining; commence and work the other way. Do not make them feel that they belong to a dead Society. Rather make them think we are a live organization which needs our exertion. We should be awake and zealous in our work. Let our light shine out more. We may attend meeting and simply be as dead branches; it appears we spend our best energies on our temporal affairs.

"Love is the fulfilling of the law," and if we fulfill this it will have answered the other queries. Love is the substance of all religion. Love is the atmosphere of Heaven, the essence of God. Love is the keystone of the Society. All labor bettering our own condition is as truly serving God as reading psalms or preaching.

As to the disposing of our grain to the elevators, when likely to be sold to the distiller, Friends should be very careful; it can be fed to stock and then we are sure that it will be used for a good purpose.

The question was asked, what is Friends' understanding of a free Gospel ministry resting on Divine qualification? It was stated that a theological education is not the requirement, but a spiritual qualification from the Heavenly Father,

In answer to the question of a young Friend, what are our vital testimonies? it was stated that they are those testimonies which we as an organization cannot live without, such as a free