

THE JOURNAL
OF THE
FRIENDS' HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Editorial

Among the activities arranged for the Friends' Historical Society during 1979 were meetings to hear the presidential address by Gerald A. J. Hodgett on the Shackletons of Ballitore, Mary V. Whiteman's talk on various aspects of the Quaker contribution to the life of Saffron Walden during the nineteenth century, and Thomas P. O'Malley's research findings on the Press and the Quakers in the 1650s.

Thomas O'Malley's paper appears in this issue. It deals not only with Friends' own printed output, but also with the derogatory stories about Quakers which were part of the stock-in-trade of the newsbooks of the day.

Kenneth L. Carroll contributes a study of "Quakerism in Connaught", which was the subject of an address at an open meeting of the Friends' Historical Committee in Dublin on 1 June 1979.

This issue includes also the usual features on archives, notes and queries, and recent publications.

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It may be timely to draw the attention of readers to two forthcoming events. The summer meeting of the *Ecclesiastical History Society*, to be held in Bangor from 15 to 18 July 1981, will have as its theme "The Churches and Healing". It will be interesting to see whether any of the papers presented there will touch on the Quaker contribution to this side of Christian life. George Fox's miracles could well come under

reconsideration, or the work for mental health typified by the Retreat and other hospitals. Later that same summer the British Sub-Commission of the *Commission Internationale d'Histoire Ecclésiastique* are organising a colloquium at Durham from 2 to 9 September. It will have six main themes which all could have Quaker interest. They are Attitudes to Death: Order and Freedom in the Life of the Church: Schism and Reunion: Evangelism: Theology and pastoral practice in the history of the Church: Art and Spirituality. It may well be the case that not many readers of this *Journal* will be able to attend either of these meetings but it should be possible for many to get some idea of the work going on in other areas of Christian history through reading some of the papers which will be presented at them. The Bangor meeting will result in another volume in the annual *Studies in Church History* edited by Derek Baker, whilst the Durham colloquium will probably lead to the appearance of a separate book.

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Transactions of the Unitarian Historical Society, vol. 17, no. 2 (July 1980). This issue includes brief notes In Memoriam by Dr H. J. McLachlan, the editor recording the deaths of Roger Thomas (formerly Librarian of Dr Williams's Library, Gordon Square, London, a former president of the Unitarian Historical Society, secretary of the Hibbert Trust, authority on Richard Baxter, and one to whom scholars the world over owe a debt of gratitude) and of Ernest A. Payne (the Baptist historian and former chairman of the British Council of Churches). An obituary notice of Dr Payne appeared in *The Times*, 15 Jan. 1980.