NOTES OF BARCLAY SATTERFIELD’S GREAT GRANDMOTHER, MAY BARCLAY SCHWALM OF PHILA WHO WAS A LONG TIME MEMBER OF DARBY MEETING.

WE HAVE REACHED THE YEAR WHEN THE MEETING HOUSE WAS 100 YEARS OLD AND GROWING OLDER. MY FAVORITE STORY ON THAT SUBJECT, THIS PERHAPS SHOULD BE CALLED “THE ERA OF STABILIZATION: MANY ADJUSTMENTS HAD TO BE MADE TO MEET THE CHANGE FROM A LARGE MEETING TO A SMALL ONE. BUT FRIENDS OF DARBY MEETING NEITHER OVERLOOKED OR GAVE UP THEIR OBLIGATIONS TO THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS NOR TO THEIR ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITIES. (EDYTHE PASCHAL WROTE THAT SENTENCE IN SOME RESEARCH NOTES THAT SHE GAVE ME. IF NOTHING MORE WAS SAID I FEEL THAT STATEMENT SUMS UP DARBY MEETING FOR THE FULL 50 YEARS.

IN 1905 THEY PLANNED AND HELD A 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. THE FIRST DAY EVENING SERVICES WERE CONTINUED. THE SCHOOL (BUTTONWOOD HALL THERE AT THE GRAVEYARD) CONTINUED IN SATISFACTORY FASHION.

IN 1910 BECAUSE OF SMALL ATTENDANCE, THE MONTHLY MEETINGS WERE CHANGED TO FOLLOW THE MEETING OF WORSHIP. THIS PROCEDURE IS IN EXISTENCE TODAY.

IN 1912 THE MID WEEK MEETINGS WERE “LAID DOWN”. A GREAT CHANGE. FOR 230 YEARS THE FRIENDS OF DARBY HAD HELD THESE MID WEEK MEETINGS. MORGAN BUNTING REPRESENTED THE MEETING ON A “ NO LICENSE LEAGUE???” IN DARBY. THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT WAS ENDORSED BY THE MEETING AS WAS ALSO THE HOPE FOR PEACE. IT WAS NOW 1914. IN EACH 50 YEARS OF OUR RECORDS THERE HAS BEEN AT LEAST ONE WAR. IN THIS PERIOD WE HAD TWO.

IN 1917 THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT OUR SCHOOL BE “LAID DOWN”. AT THIS TIME THE MEETING RECEIVED ITS FIRST APPEAL FROM THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE. A SEWING CIRCLE WAS FORMED TO HELP WAR STRICKEN EUROPE. THE MEETING SENT $2024. AND ADOPTED TWO FRENCH ORPHANS. LATER $2200. WAS COLLECTED FOR THE “COUNCIL FOR PREVENTION OF WAR”.

IN 1926 THE SCHOOL BUILDING WAS DEMOLISHED AND THE SCHOOL TRUST FUNDS ALLOCATED AS SCHOLARSHIPS TO AID WORTHY YOUNG PEOPLE WITH THEIR EDUCATION AND DURING THE YEARS MANY HAVE BENEFITED.

SAD TOO WAS THE LAYING DOWN OF THE FIRST DAY SCHOOL.

IN 1929 OUR PROPERTY WAS PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE TRUSTEES OF PHILA YEARLY MEETING AND ALSO OUR VARIOUS TRUST FRIENDS.

IN 1930 AN ADULT CONFERENCE CLASS WAS HELD AT THE MEETING HOUSE.

IN 1931 THE ADVANCEMENT COMM. OF YEARLY MEETING ARRANGED FIRST DAY AFTERNOON MEETINGS. THIS DEVELOPED INTO A FORUM WHICH WAS VERY EFFECTIVE.

IN 1938 FIRST DAY SCHOOL REOPENED.

IN 1945 WE PURCHASED 1205 MAIN ST TO PROTECT OUR BURIAL GROUNDS BUT WE WERE OBLIGED TO SELL IN 1946.

IN 1947 THE JOHN BARTRAM ASSOC PLACED A GRAVESTONE ON THE GRAVE OF BOTANIST – JOHN BARTRAM.

IN 1949 WE CELEBRATED THE 267TH YEAR OF DARBY MONTHLY MEETING.

HAVING REACHED 1950, I WOULD LIKE TO JUST TALK TO YOU ABOUT DARBY MEETING AS I HAVE SEEN IT.

HOWARD BRUITON ? - - - - - -

150 YEARS AGO DARBY MEETING WAS ONLY USING ONE SIDE OF THE DOOR – THE SPIRITUAL SIDE. THE MEMBERS CAME TO MEETING ETC ETC.

YOU WILL REMEMBER IN MY REPORT OF THE CLERKS’ MINUTES IN 1917 THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR HELP AND A SEWING CIRCLE WAS FORMED. AT THE TIME OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR THIS APPEAL WAS REPEATED AT THE CAPE MAY CONFERENCE. CAROLINE BIDDLE LIPPENCOTT ATTENDED THAT CONFERENCE AND CAME TO VISIT DARBY MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CONFERENCE WITH A CONCERN. SHE ASKED US TO FORM A SEWING CIRCLE BECAUSE SHE SAID HER MOTHER HAD FORMED SUCH A CIRCLE AT THE TIME OF WWI. WE DECIDED TO COMPLY WITH HER REQUEST. WHEN WE FORMED THAT SEWING CIRCLE WE BEGAN TO USE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR. THAT OTHER SIDE, THE SOCIAL SIDE MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO DARBY MEETING TODAY.

FOR YEARS WE MET ONE DAY A WEEK DOING FOR OTHERS. WE HAVE SENT MANY HUNDREDS OF ARTICLES INTO PHILA HEADQUARTERS. SOME NEW, SOME OLD BUT CLEANED AND MENDED. OUR KNITTED ARTICLES WERE WONDERFUL (300 BABY SHIRTS) AND WE HAVE MADE QUILTS EVERY SUMMER. ONE SUMMER THERE WERE AS MANY AS 15.

THIS SEWING CIRCLE FINALLY DEVELOPED INTO WHAT IS NOW THE SERVICE COMMITTEE OF DARBY MEETING. ALL THE MEMBERS OF MEETING PARTICIPATE IN OUR ACTIVITIES.

WE NOW KNOW EACH OTHER, WE HAVE HAD COVERED DISH SUPPERS AT DIFFERENT HOMES WITH INFORMAL SPEAKERS AFTER SUPPER. WE HAVE LUNCHEONS HERE AT THE MEETING HOUSE. EVERYDAY WE SEW , WE HAVE A SOCIAL HOUR AT NOON. A GARDEN COMMITTEE MEETS EVERY SATURDAY MORNING, WEATHER PERMITTING, TO TAKE CARE OF OUR BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS. IF YOU DROPPED IN ON US SOME MONDAY MORNING YOU MIGHT FIND US, NOT SEWING BUT WELL EQUIPPED WITH MOPS, DUSHCLOTHS AND SWEEPERS, CLEANING THE MEETING HOUSE. AT PRESENT WE HAVE A COFFEE HOUR EVERY FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH AND ARE STUDYING COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS CONDUCTED BY OUR ABLE MENTOR EDA SURACK AND FRIEND HENRY WARRINGTON.

SO YOU CAN SEE THE SOCIAL SIDE OF OUR DOOR IS WELL USED. BUT YOU WILL ASK WHAT ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL SIDE OF OUR DOOR? ARTICLE IN INTELLIGENCE I WOULD LIKE TO READ IT TO YOU.

THE MEMBERS OF DARBY MEETING WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU VISIT US ANY FIRST DAY MORNING AND WORSHIP WITH US.

MAY THE LORD BLESS US AND HELP US IN OUR EFFORTS AS WE CONTINUE ON (NOT TO DIE) BUT TO GROW OLDER AND OLDER.

NOTES ON BACK OF PAGES: WHICH REMINDS ME OF THE ELDERLY DOCTOR IN A SMALL TOWN. THE DR WAS NOT ABLE TO DO AS MUCH AS HE HAD DONE IN THE PAST AND WAS MUCH DISTURBED. HE WAS TALKING TO A NEIGHBOR ABOUT IT AND THE NEIGHBOR, THINKING TO CONSOLE THE DR SAID “WELL DR YOU MUST KNOW YOU ARE GROWING OLDER.” GOOD HEAVENS MAN, CRIED THE DR OF COURSE I KNOW I AM GROWING OLDER. WHY IF I WASN’T GROWING OLDER I’D BE DEAD”.

MEMBERS CAME TO MEETING, HAD AN HOUR OF WORSHIP, GREETING EACH OTHER PLEASANTLY AND THERE DEPARTED NOT TO MEET AGAIN UNTIL THE NEXT FIRST DAY.

TYPED: PAT SMITH 2/18/15