

CELEBRATION BY INDIANA FRIENDS LAST SEPTEMBER

Quakers Are to Observe the Centennial of the Founding Of the First State Monthly Meeting.

WHITEWATER MEETING ORGANIZED IN 1809

Observation of the Event Will Be Held in Richmond While The Yearly Meeting Is in Progress.

The first established monthly meeting of Friends in Indiana was Whitewater monthly meeting of Richmond, which was organized on September 30, 1809, and the one hundredth anniversary of the event will be appropriately celebrated in Richmond this month during the time that the Indiana yearly meeting is in session. The program will include addresses by several prominent Friends in America, among them being Rufus Jones, of Philadelphia, editor of the American Friend, one of the most widely known Quakers in the United States.

The anniversary exercises will be held in North A street Friends' church. The congregation of this church is identified with what is commonly called the Hicksite branch of Friends, a smaller body and of less influence at this time than the orthodox wing. The separation in the Friends' church many years ago as a result of slight doctrinal differences has been a matter of regret to leaders in both branches and it has been predicted in recent years that the time is not far distant when reunion will be brought about.

When Quakers Came to Indiana.

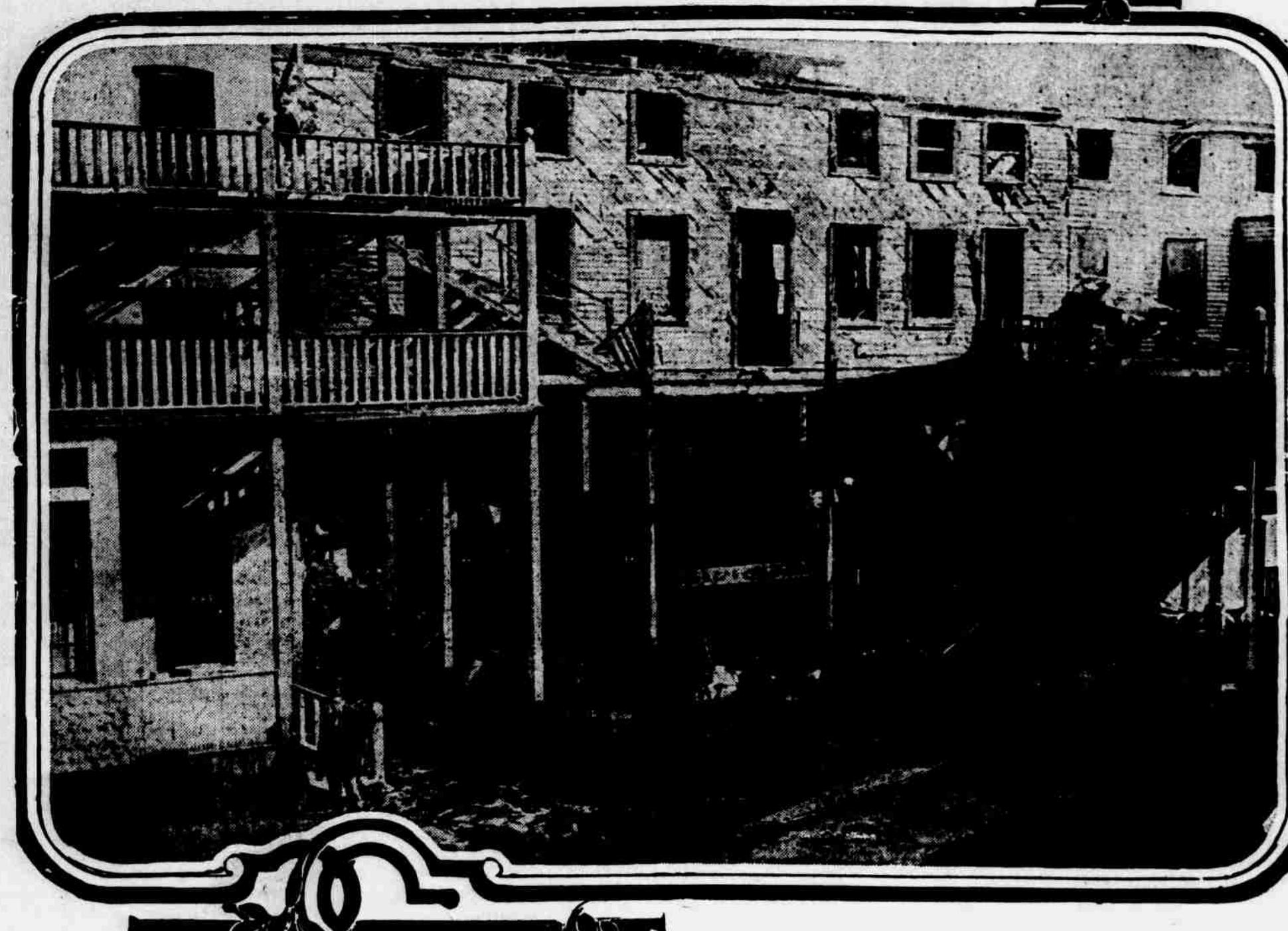
The holding of the anniversary exercises in the Hicksite church is significant, for the program will include speakers of both Hicksite and orthodox bodies. Quakerism in Wayne county preceded the founding of Whitewater monthly meeting a little more than three years. It has been just 102 years ago this month of August that David Hoover and a few other of the real pioneers of eastern Indiana, who had but recently come into the north from South Carolina, all of them Friends, were joined by Jeremiah Cox. As soon as he had built a cabin for his abode he began preparing for an organization of a Friends' "meeting."

In November of that year, 1809, the small number of Quakers in the settlement gathered at the home of Cox and held services. John Simpson, according to recorded history of the event, preached the initial sermon.

In the following summer, 1807, a regularly organized Friends' subordinate meeting was brought about and weekly services held in a cabin on the land of Jeremiah Cox. On September 30, 1809, Miami quarterly meeting established Whitewater monthly meeting and the little congregation organized three years before now became a factor in the affairs of the Friends' society in the middle west. In 1815, nine years after its establishment, it numbered nine hundred members and was composed of the following subordinate meetings: Whitewater, West Grove, Silver Creek, Middle Fork, Elkhorn and Chester.

Society's Growth Has Been Steady. The growth of the society in this section of Indiana from that time has been steady, though in the last fifty years the numbers have not increased with the rapidity that marked its progress the first half of the century. Richmond owes its founding to Friends, and its development in commercial lines has in a great measure been influenced by this denomination. There can be no denial of the fact that Earlham college, the Quaker seat of learning, has had more to do with the advancement of Richmond in an educational way than any other cause. Indiana yearly meeting, now the largest and most powerful body of Friends

TEN ORPHANS PERISH IN BURNING BUILDING



Fire ruins of the St. Malachy orphan asylum at Rockaway, L. I., in which ten little orphans lost their lives.

in the world, owes its origin to Whitewater monthly meeting, for it was in Richmond in 1821 that the organization was brought about.

The present yearly meeting house in East Main street, the largest edifice of this denomination in the country, and where the annual deliberations of the parent body are held, was built in 1878, and the building used prior to that time for fifty years still stands in the north part of Richmond, now being used as the warehouse of a lumber company. The structure is in a good state of preservation and during the anniversary of Whitewater monthly meeting will be visited by the Friends. No building now standing in Richmond had more historical interest and as a result of the approaching centennial anniversary old prints and paintings of the meeting house are in demand.

Painting Depicts Historic Building.

The painting by Marcus Mote, the Quaker artist, who died a dozen years ago, is said to give a most accurate idea of the old building and its surroundings in the early days of the society. Its construction was begun in 1822, but lack of funds prevented its entire completion until 1829, though as early as 1824 it was occupied for meeting purposes. From 1824 to 1878 the annual deliberations of Indiana yearly meetings was held in this structure and during that long period its walls often resounded with the gospel message of many noted Friend ministers from both sides of the Atlantic.

Hannah C. Backhouse, Joseph Gurney, Benjamin Seebohm and Joseph Bevan Braithwaite were among the prominent Quakers from England who spoke there. One of the historic events recorded in the minutes of Whitewater monthly meeting was the attendance at the first day morning meeting of Henry Clay, tenth month, 2d, 1842. At that time Clay was making an overland tour of the middle west by way of the historic National road and he spent two or three days in Richmond.

The machine, socalled, is guaranteed

to run as long as the materials in it withstand the ordinary wear and tear. It is inclosed in a small glass case, put

there to show that no wires make the device go or that no other unseen articles are used to make the perpetual motion device keep its momentum. The glass wheel and the glass blown bulbs with the figure "9" or "0" painted on them turn to the left continuously.

Back of the wheel is a card which is supposed to inform the inquisitive person who is wondering why the wheel turns without any visible means. It reads as follows: "The '0' going up on the right becomes a '9' going down on the left. The '9' being so much more than the '0' overbalances the latter, causing the wheel to turn continuously."

These thoughts were extracted from the mind of a man who yesterday watched what purports to be a perpetual motion device in full operation. The machine is the invention of W. L. Saunders, 1604 Fort Dearborn building and he has had a copyright and patent on everything connected with the device in order to protect his invention from possible rivals. He does not state to what use his invention will be put.

The machine is about 18 inches high and 12 inches at the base. It consists of thirteen glass spokes running from a steel and cork axle, and at the end of the spokes is a blown glass affair with the figure "9" on it from one point of view; from another point of view it has the figure "0" painted on it.

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