Editorial

Arising out of a concern of several Friends two years ago to make possible continuing discussion of religious issues of interest to Quakers, the Quaker Theological Discussion Group came into existence. In a letter sent to a large number of Friends, the general purpose of this new organization was stated as follows:

“The objective is not to formulate a Quaker creed but to explore more fully the meaning and implications of our Quaker faith and religious experience. This should include both an historical and contemporary approach, and should be concerned with both the content and application of our faith.”

The response in the Society of Friends has been encouraging, with well over 100 persons on the mailing list. In the summer of 1958 members of this group were asked to take responsibility for a round table at the Cape May Conference of Friends, and again found a very strong response to questions of religious thought. Believing that one way of meeting such an interest as this is through the pooling of thought on matters of common concern to the Quaker faith, the steering committee of the Discussion Group decided in a meeting held at Kirkridge in the Fall of 1958 to issue a small journal of Quaker religious thought. The first issue was authorized for the Spring of 1959. A second, expected to appear in the Fall of 1959, will carry an article by Maurice Creasey, British Friend, on Quaker understandings of Jesus Christ, and, like the first issue, will include comments by several Friends.

The steering committee of the Quaker Theological Discussion Group includes these Friends: Wilmer A. Cooper, Chairman, Edward A. Manice, Treasurer, Hugh Barbour, Lewis Benson, Thomas S. Brown, Maurice Creasey, T. Carby Jones, J. Calvin Keene, David O. Stanfield, and Charles F. Thomas.