

STATE OF SOCIETY REPORT OF THE WESTPORT MONTHLY MEETING  
1988

As we met in Worship Sharing to think about Westport Meeting in 1988, "growth", was the key word. Attendance doubled and the number of young people almost tripled.

We agreed Westport is a welcoming meeting. It is a balanced meeting with social and political action as well as concerns for community and individuals; with attention to the little ones and also their parents; with eager personal seeking and eldering. Though we are earnest in seeking the spirit and waiting for leadings, we are not lugubrious; laughter often bubbles up at meeting. We are a community, comfortable together, trusting each other.

During the year some of us attended Yearly Meeting, Young Friends Conferences, China Camp, and one Friend participated in the Dnieper River Peace Cruise. Some participated in the Quaker Studies Program planned by Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, and in the Discussion Group reading Matthew Fox's "Original Blessing". To a request for extra funds to help make necessary property repairs, we responded well. Now all young people attend the opening portion of worship before going to their classes.

Having a first day school attracted some families. The activities the young people recalled were taking part in the Christmas Play, making a Succoth booth and an African village, and walking in the woods. We are feeling the need for more help and wiser use of our space.

Growth may lead to change; we believe we can handle it, for we have faced change before. For those who guided us faithfully in the past, we are grateful. Friends realize that in this exciting, growing time we are called to take our parts. Growth can be nourishing.