

ENGLAND

ACTION RESOURCES

... for Quaker peace and service ... for Quaker peace and service

CAFOD, Legard Works, Legard Road,
London N5 1DE.

A POLITICAL SPIRITUALITY

"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done ..." What stands in the way of the Kingdom? Self-righteousness, lethargy, wealth, fear of opposition, lack of trust, prayer which is less than wholehearted—and what other barriers?

In the new book *Praying the Kingdom*, Charles Elliott, a former director of Christian Aid, touches on these questions in his search for a political spirituality. Following meditative exercises to stimulate renewed awareness of the New Testament experiences of those who actually encountered Jesus, he says, read and imagine, feel, hold a conversation, reflect before you pray.

With contemporary stories of faith to expand the meaning of discipleship, myths which 'can bring prayer alive by earthing our fantasies in the rich humus of the experience of others', this is applied, not abstract, theology. Friends might warm to it, especially as a resource for an ecumenical peace group, or as a background for continuing consideration in a Meeting which has discussed the Lima Text published by the World Council of Churches, in its shortened form called *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry*.

Praying the Kingdom is published by Darton, Longman and Todd at £3.50. Add 46p for postage and packing from Friends Book Centre.

told their stories, which reveal the best and the worst in human behaviour in both cultures, and something of the psychology of reparation. Twelve Meetings on the East Coast were involved in the scheme to take the women to America for a year, which started with their reception at Pendle Hill.

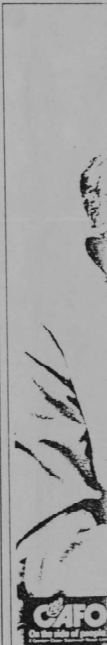
Community of Pacifists

Some Friends lay special emphasis on community in living out the meaning of reconciliation, and several shared Quaker homes have been established.

A Christian community with a history of pacifism going back to the 1920s in Germany is that of the Hutterian Society of Brethren, established in Britain at Darvell Bruderhof, Robertsbridge, East Sussex TN32 5DR. Their bi-monthly magazine *The Plough* will be sent, initially free, to those interested to gain an insight into this community of evangelical pacifists, exceptional in their high degree of care and respect for children and old people, though still highly differentiated in their male and female roles.

Today, Bruderhof volunteers work in some of the same troubled parts of the world as QPS volunteers, and the community in Sussex is particularly concerned with building contacts with prisoners. Their faith is built on that of their founder, Eberhard Arnold. *God's Revolution* is a collection of his reflective writing, and also tells the story of this remarkable experiment in faith: £7.50 from Darvell Bruderhof.

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