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The Yearly Meeting Treasurer reported the reception of \$65.96 from the sale of the Bryantown Hall and its payment over to the Foreign Missions Committee.

The Committee to Investigate the Law and make recommendations as to Military affairs sent out the following telegram and Appeals, viz;

Baltimore, Maryland,

April 6, 1917.

Woodrow Wilson, President,

Washington, D. C.

Representing Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox) with membership in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, we respectfully appeal to the President of the United States to avoid a declaration of war with Germany, if possible; and also to save committing our nation to the militarism inseparable from universal compulsory military service and training.

John H. Parker, Clerk, etc.

A similar telegram was sent to the Members of Congress and also to the Senators for the four states mentioned in the above telegram, worded as the above, only changed so as to apply to the Congressmen and Senators.

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Baltimore, Maryland.

Apr. 9 1917

Member of Committee on Military Affairs, Wash. D.C.

Dear Sir:-

We respectfully appeal to you not to approve any bill providing for compulsory military training or military service. We believe that either of these measures is an infringement upon the freedom of conscience for which our country has always stood, and that compulsory military training will be an injury to the young man who may be compelled to undergo it.

We also believe it will lead to militarism and will tend to undermine these principles of free democracy of which our country has been in the past a conspicuous upholder.

Should you, however, feel it necessary to approve bills requiring compulsory training and service, we respectfully urge you to consider carefully the claims to exemption of conscientious objectors. We believe that such persons have no desire to escape or shirk their duty as citizens, but basing their claims to consideration on the right to freedom of conscience for which our country has always hitherto stood, we ask you so to frame any bill which may be presented to Congress that the conscientious scruples of individuals may be regarded; and if any alternative service should be required that such service should be designated by a Board to be appointed by the President, of which at least the majority be civilians.

Yours very truly,

John H. Parker, Clerk,
Permanent Board of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends (Orthodox.)

Favorable responses were received from four Senators, eight members of the House, and two of the Committee on Military Affairs.