

GEORGE W. DILLON
1-12-1897 to 2-8-1978

At a Monthly Meeting for Business of Friends Meeting of Washington on March 19, 1978, the Meeting records warm appreciation for the life of George W. Dillon, our member for 11 years, who died at the age of 81, on February 8, 1978, in Silver Spring, Maryland. George Dillon's membership was transferred to this Meeting from the Muncie, Indiana, Friends Meeting in 1967. His forebears were among the early American Quakers who left their homes in the Carolinas and traveled westward, thus protesting the evils of slavery. The Dillons settled in the Fairmount-Muncie area of eastern Indiana.

George Dillon earned a civil engineering degree from Purdue University. He had gifted hands and, in his wife's view, literally seemed able to do any job that he turned his hands to. During his long, successful career, only closest friends and family were aware of the honors he received for professional excellence. For above all George was a modest man.

Modesty also marked his community and Quaker activities. With his wife Grace, he was a generous contributor to this Meeting, to Quaker House, to the American Friends Service Committee, and to other Quaker causes. The Dillons were among the faithful retired Friends who gather at the Meeting House each month to stuff the Meeting Newsletter - an important, but too often unrecognized service. George also served on the Finance and Property Committee of our Meeting. Many were his kindnesses to family, friends and neighbors.

During their recent retirement years in Athens, Georgia, George and Grace Dillon did not forget this Meeting and its interests. At the same time, they were kindly, responsible citizens in their new community. To the Talking-Books-for-the-Blind program at the University of Georgia, they gave freely of themselves - perhaps sometimes when George was physically not able to do so. Their own Dillon-initiated project for keeping the landscaped grounds of three elementary schools tidy and beautiful reflected their love for children and the beauties of nature. With his usual humility, however, George refused the public recognition gratefully offered by Public School administrators.

The dear Lord's best interpreters are humble human souls;
The Gospel of a life like his is more than books or scrolls.
From scheme and creed the light goes out,
The saintly fact survives;
The blessed Master none can doubt revealed in holy lives.

These familiar lines from John Greenleaf Whittier can be truly spoken of our friend and member, George Dillon.