

## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of the Working Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 5th April 1967, at 10:30 a.m. in the Office of the Victorian Council of Churches, 37 Swanston Street, Melbourne.

1. OPENING The meeting opened with devotions led by the President.
2. PRESENT Miss Ritchie (Chair), Mesdames Anderson, Coates, Duke, Faichney, Saunders, Stephens, Strack and Ashton.
3. APOLOGIES There were no apologies.
4. WELCOME The President welcomed Mrs G.I. Duke.
5. MINUTES Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.
6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
  - (1) Personnel. Mrs Duke has accepted election to the Working Committee. Mrs Wright will give her answer at the end of April.
  - (2) Fellowship Day 26th July, 1967. The President had obtained a quotation from W.&J.Barr, Printers, for printing the orders of service, for \$30 for 5,000 copies, \$11.40 for each further 1,000 copies. It was agreed to order 9,000 copies from W. & J. Barr.  
There was some discussion as to the design of the front page, with several suggestions about blocks.  
It was decided to appoint a Sub-committee of the President, Secretary, Mrs Coates and Mrs Faichney, to see to the printing.  
The Secretary was asked to write to the States to ask how many copies each would require.
  - (3) National Committee Group Discussions & Recommendations. Mrs Coates emphasised the importance of printing Mrs Wilmshurst's report on the Service and Status of Women in the Churches in Australia, to give material for study throughout Australia. The committee agreed that if finance is available this should be done.  
  
It was agreed to write to State W.I.C.C.'s with the suggestion that they should consider having a Publicity Officer who would keep the A.C.W. before their meetings, and help to make it better known in towns and suburbs.  
  
It was agreed to send the questions used for Group Discussions at the National Committee Meeting in February, with the findings in the Minutes, to the Secretaries W.I.C.C.'s, and ask them to circulate to State groups for discussion.  
  
The suggestion "Allocate more time to the Committee on Co-operation at the National Committee Meeting ..." will be referred to the Planning Committee for the next National Meeting.
  - (4) Promotion Discussion took place, and the Resolutions of the National Committee noted. Mrs Coates undertook to continue contact with Mr Hinton.
  - (5) Travel Fund Members were asked to give some thought to this, it will be discussed at a later meeting.
  - (6) Observers to National Committee Meetings. Owing to pressure of time this was deferred to a later meeting.
  - (7) United Churches The need to keep contact with the United Churches was realized. Mrs Faichney undertook to be the official contact.

7. Correspondence Correspondence, as follows, was received.
- (1) Rev. John Neal Mr Neal answered our queries about former procedure with Minutes; agreed to send a small supply of letterhead; agreed to hold ACW files in the meantime. The Committee noted the paragraph in Mr Neal's previous letter of 28.2.67, "that the Annual Meeting of the Council ratified the constitutional amendments of the A.C.W., referred the National Committee's recommendations about State and local activity to the State Councils and referred to the Executive the recommendation about the desirability of a woman being appointed as a member of the Executive Staff".
  - (2) Rev. Rex Davis In reply to request that Mr Davis would write up the Bible Studies he used at National Committee, he regretted that his notes had been destroyed, and so were not available.
  - (3) Lt. Colonel Cross Fellowship of the Least Coin Distribution of A.C.W. Brochure. Information re printing etc.
  - (4) Rev. H.L. Perkins concerning possible visit of Mrs A. Berntsen. The Committee noted the purpose of Mrs Berntsen's desire to visit Australia, and agreed with the condition "that any income resulting from her visit come through Inter-Church Aid as an additional project for the year". Members expressed willingness to co-operate with Inter-Church Aid in arranging the itinerary and hospitality for Mrs Berntsen, at the same time bearing in mind that it must not conflict with A.C.W. responsibilities for Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Fellowship of the Least Coin etc. Members felt that if and when Mrs Berntsen's itinerary is arranged, consideration should be given to contacting Non-Church bodies, such as Rotary.
  - (5) Deaconess M. Andrews, convener of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee, reporting that she had heard from the Port Moresby Y.W.C.A. that Miss Anna Busina, scholarship holder for 1967, should take up her scholarship in 6 months time; and giving information about Miss Busina and the training she will undergo with the Y.W.C.A.
  - (6) Mrs John Ma (to Mrs H.T. Wells) Volume III of Circle of Prayer is now in publisher's hands and should be ready shortly.
  - (7) Mrs A.W. Burton, thanks for good wishes for Y.W.C.A. World Council Meeting to be held in Melbourne in August.
  - (8) Mrs R.G. Keith, Alice Springs, enquiring about Fellowship of the Least Coin.
  - (9) Mrs V. Davies, Urania, donation to Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.
  - (10) Mrs Royes, Darwin
  - (11) Mrs Moltman, Woomera.
  - (12) Mrs Dennis, Brisbane, requesting information whether in other states there is liaison between Women's Inter-church Councils and State Unit of A.C.C.
  - (13) Mrs E.V. Newman, Secretary, Australian Federation of Methodist Women, (Telephone conversation) regarding preparing of Service for World Community Day 1967.
  - (14) A.C.C. Minutes on Co-operation of Men & Women.

The Secretary reported that she had written, as directed at previous meeting, to Mrs Badger asking for loan of tape of Mrs Shanti's talk, and to Mrs Ralph re possibility of printing text of talk, but had had no reply yet to either letter.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

(1) The following appointments were made:-

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Convener, Fellowship of the Least Coin, | Mrs. J. Strack.  |
| Convener, Study Books, Brochures etc.   | Mrs N. Anderson. |
| Correspondent with United Churches      | Mrs N. Faichney. |
| Assistant Secretary                     | Mrs G.I. Duke.   |
| Publicity Officer                       | Mrs T. Coates.   |

(2) Publicity Fund. Mrs Coates spoke of the need for a publicity fund. The Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women had prepared material but had not been able to distribute this through lack of a Publicity Fund. The Committee expressed interest and encouragement, and asked Mrs Coates to discuss her ideas at the next meeting on Co-operation of Men & Women, asking them to pursue further with the A.C.C. the question of the publication and promotion of Mrs Wilmshurst's report.

9. FINANCE The Treasurer reported that she had received a letter from Mrs Dey, dated April 4th, giving a summary of Balances in various funds which she would now be handing over:-

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Fellowship Day, Community Day & Administration | \$108.73      |
| Fellowship of the Least Coin                   | 38.21         |
| Winifred Kiek Scholarship                      | 516.31        |
| " " " Investment                               | 300.00        |
| Overseas Travel Fund                           | 132.02        |
| National Committee                             | 3.82          |
|  | <u>Total</u>  |
|  | \$1,099.09    |
| Less Investment A.C.C. Association             | <u>300.00</u> |
|  | 799.09        |

On the motion of Mrs Stephens, seconded by Mrs Strack, authority was given to Mrs Stephens to open a Bank account for the A.C.W. Working Committee with the Commonwealth Bank, Brighton Branch, and that any two of the three following be authorised to sign:- President, Treasurer, Secretary.

Auditors, the Victorian Council of Churches to be asked to act as Auditors.  
It was agreed that when she can draw on the account, the Treasurer should give the Secretary \$20 Petty Cash.

10. Date of Next Meeting. As the first Wednesday of the month was not convenient for everyone it was decided that the meetings should be held on the second Friday of each month. The next meeting will be on Friday, 12th May at 10:30 a.m. in the Office of the Victorian Council of Churches.

11. CLOSING The President closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Confirmed .....

Date .....