

Minutes of the Meeting of the W.B.C.C. held in Pilgrims Hall, 264 Pitt St, Sydney, at 10.30 and at Friday 28th November,

Prayers for wisdom and guidance in determining as a Council the right use of Wybalena Monies, led by Head Deaconess Andrews were offered by members for the half hour preceding this meeting.

Opening Welcome The regular monthly Council meeting was commenced at 10.30 and Head Deaconess Andrews welcomed all members able to attend with an especially warm welcome to Sister Helen Werhly and Mrs Joan Linton, recently appointed Observers, Roman Catholic Church; and Mrs Langley and Mac Swain, Observers, Lutheran Home of Australia.

Present were 54 members and 4 Observers.  
Apologies were received and recorded from Mrs. Col. Kingston, Miss L. Allen, and Mrs. Robertson and Labell.

Opening Devotions with an especial Christmas emphasis were led by Head Deaconess Andrews.

WYBALENA VOTING: The Secretary formally moved as follows: "That, in accordance with the unanimous decision

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of the September meeting of this Council, members had indicated, by secret ballot, the project to which they preferred the Wybalena names to be applied." This motion was seconded by Mrs Ralph and unanimously carried.

minutes

Mrs Badger moved, Mrs Stanhope seconded that Mrs Lt. Col Carpenter <sup>(sic being)</sup> and Mrs J. Bragg <sup>(p.c. of E.)</sup> be appointed scrutineers. This was unanimously carried.

statement

At this point Mrs Millar sought permission to present a statement. By resolution of Council it was decided that, as there had been enough detailed discussion on the whole matter, no good purpose would be served by allowing its presentation. (Moved Mrs. Montgomerie, seconded Mrs. Stanhope and carried; Mrs. McAllister and Mrs. Dwyer dissenting). Mrs. Millar asked that her protest be recorded and sought permission to table the statement. This was granted.

OTE:

Members, having received a ballot paper on their arrival at the meeting, were asked to indicate by a cross beside the project of their choice how they wished the Wybalena names used. The vote was then taken.

Minutes:

While notes were being counted the meeting proceeded as per agenda and the minutes of the September meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence:

(was moved to be dealt with as head)

1. A.C.W. - Working Committee Minutes, National Committee Meeting information, A.C.W. News.
  - (1) A revised agenda had been prepared for National Committee Meeting - had comments would be noted.
  - (2) New books of Prayer books is being prepared and details of Mrs. Salvaratnam's American visit.
  - (3) Israel Pool - Profit from Ball Point Pens \$357, with W.C.M. 1970 approval, would be used to pay 1st Class Return fares for delegates from Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide, Perth and one economy return and fare from Tasmania.
  - (4) Winfred Kieck Scholarships - several applications had been received including one from Mrs. Siva Narayana of Tonga for training in administration.

Wybalena  
Other:

At this point in the meeting the scrutineers presented the result of the ballot to the President, who announced voting figures to be as follows:

54 Notes recorded and ballot papers  
initialled.

8 Notes forwarded DUNMORE LANG COLLEGE

46 Notes forwarded Y.W.C.A. Tremayne Hostel  
"Wybalena Wing" extension.

Secretary formally moved: "That in view of the wishes of the majority of the members of the New Women's Inter Church Council being in favour of the Tremayne Hostel project of the Y.W.C.A. and against the Dunmore Lang College, the Council decides that the Wybalena funds be applied towards the Tremayne Hostel project on the understanding that the name "WYBALENA" will be associated with the project in a suitable manner." This motion was seconded by Lt. Col. Coleman, and unanimously carried.

<sup>MRS. BRIGGS</sup>  
~~Secretary~~ then moved:

"That the Trustees be advised of the Council's decision and that the officers be authorized to take the necessary actions to implement the Council's decision." This motion was seconded by Mrs. Ralph, and unanimously carried.

Head Deaconess Andrews then offered prayer, committing the use of the monies to the

GRATITUDE

development and care of the girls who would, through the years, use the accommodations thus provided. (M)

was expressed to the new Women's Inter Church Council for their concern for the Y.W.C.A.'s proposed programme at "Shenayre" by Mrs. Penabaz (a Y.W.C.A. representative to Council)

WORLD REFUGEE PROBLEMS

and the work in this field by the A.C.C. was the subject of a short talk and question time by Miss Claire Needham. (The President had sought Council's permission to speak at this stage of the meeting as she had only a short time to spare before a further commitment. This was enthusiastically granted) Appreciation and thanks were conveyed to Miss Needham on behalf of members present at the conclusion of her time with us.

REMAINING

CORRESPONDENCE:

was then dealt with as head:

1. A.C.W. (continued)

- (5) State Units were asked for possible projects for Fellowship of Least Coin for 1970. Representatives to National Committee Meeting to supply Mrs's suggestions. [Mrs Berce moved, seconded Maj. Smith that

REPORTS

Secretary confer with Mrs. Wylie re suggestions to assist native women in the Secretary.

1. FINANCE:

Mrs. Peckham reported General Fund to be \$81.96

Project Fund \$24.01

F.L.C. \$247.81

Acceptance of statement was moved Treasurer, seconded Mrs Butler, and carried.

Permission to pay the following accounts, etc, was sought:

Central Methodist Mission \$3 donation

use of no 2 Ottee room

National Council of Women - affiliation \$10

W.C.T.U - affiliation \$10.00

World Community Day Monies to A.C.W. when completed.

All F.L.C. monies

Children's Films and T.V. Ottee affiliation

when information to hand

Fares to Melbourne - President/Secretary

A.C.W. National Ottee Meeting

St. Col. Coleman moved, Mrs. Bragg seconded such permission be given. This was carried.

BALENA:

Mrs. Millar reported that the original \$27,000 which had been invested through

Hunt and Hunt had been repaid before the due date and with interest earned had now become \$28,192.44, as follows \$27,000, plus two interest payments of \$540.00 + one payment of \$112.44. Hunt and Hunt had been invested the \$28,000 at 9% for a period of one year. Following discussion Mrs Bragg moved, Mrs Badger seconded that Mrs Miller be asked to secure from Mr Hunt details of the re-investment of the \$28,000. Mrs Miller sought Council's permission to invest the balance of \$192.44 in the Interstate Permanent Building Society at 6% on call. Mrs Bruggs moved, Mrs Cowles seconded that this be given. <sup>was heard</sup>

PROMOTIONS: Report from Mrs. Dowd re attendances, etc, at World Community Day Services: 10 City and suburban services, and 11 Country were held.

Mrs Ralph gave an interesting report of the City Service and plans for the continuance of both the inter church committee and the special day services. The Promotions Committee was happy to tell Council

of Mrs. Lt. Col. Carpenter's acceptance of the  
office of ~~the~~ Secretary to the Committee.  
APPRECIATION And the sincere thanks of this Council  
was recorded by Head Deaconess Andrews  
to Mrs. M. Millar for all her work,  
her dedication and her zeal as  
chairman of the Wybarna Committee.  
This ~~that~~ being was seconded by  
the Secretary and enthusiastically  
supported by Council.  
There being no further business  
the meeting closed with the Benediction.

W. D. Doughty  
Secretary

Mary L. Jones  
PRESIDENT

21/2/70

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REPORT TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING 1970.

Having been asked specifically to prepare this report under the four headings of Activities, Plans, Problems and Issues, we ask indulgence that we have only created two of the headings sought but feel these are really inclusive of the others.

1. ACTIVITIES:

It is a fine thing once a year that we are asked to sit quietly to recall and evaluate its activities. That they have been activities is certain, that they were achievements under God's use of us is our prayer as we glance backward.

We would have wished the year to have been spent in the exciting involvement in the ecumenical togetherness with which it began, but the last few months culminated some four years of heart-searching and sheer hard work as we determined the use of the monies held in trust following the sale of the 'Wybalena' Hostel.

We would sound a note of warning here to any States who may feel bricks and mortar a necessary badge of practical ecumenism. When the need has passed or the cost of maintaining a project becomes too great, then you are left, as an ecumenical group, with the disposition of money. Money is not the root of all evil but, had the Spirit of Christ not bound us together in love, enthusiasms, temperaments and just plain personal preferences could have blinded any of us to the need to fulfil the trust we held on behalf of the women of our State. We can only say - even with the probability of litigation through the Equity Court still to come - God can and does guide us if we allow Him.

BRANCHES DAY in New South Wales has now become traditionally the first meeting of the year and is a source of inspiration as members of the suburban branches and representatives of country branches come together in discussion and fellowship - with the informality of a basket lunch breaking down many barriers. This day is a vital sharing experience, where many local problems can at least be aired if not solved. (To quote from our March Newsletter 'If only we could capture the spirit of unity of that meeting, send samples far and wide and store some for use when we feel that we are not being as effective as we should!')

CITY MEETINGS. It has been particularly hard to encourage the members of city churches to come together, let alone plan meetings for the Special Days. However, during the term of her husband's ministry as guest preacher at Pitt Street Congregational Church, our beloved American friend, Myrna Buschmeyer, convened the original meeting of city church representatives and we are thrilled indeed that

since World Community Day 1968, a small committee has come together to plan Special Day Services. It is not our policy to encourage women from the suburban areas to attend these services but to regard the city as a group of women of varying denominations who need to know and understand each other.

ROMAN CATHOLIC and LUTHERAN participation this year has given us a feeling of joyous completeness. For many years we have had representatives of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and indeed Mrs. C.W. Stolz, now a Life Member, has held many offices over the years. This year, however, the newly united Lutheran Women of Australia have sent along two young and enthusiastic Observers, with a view to full representation.

The value of Special Day Services cannot be underestimated, for it was at a Fellowship Day Service at Lane Cove-Longueville last July that one of our well-known A.B.C. T.V. and Radio personalities, Mary Rossi, went along with a Roman Catholic friend - became tremendously moved by the whole service and discussion; became enthusiastic at its outreach; became excited at the thought of full Roman Catholic participation through their women. Being Mary Rossi and a member of the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenism of the Roman Catholic Church, her interest became action; the Bishop approved; the Commission wrote seeking permission to send Observers to W.I.C.C. We now have Sister Helen Herlihy of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Rose Bay, and Mrs. Joan Curtin (the friend who introduced Mary Rossi to Fellowship Day) as Observers, with a view to their becoming full representatives this year.

Rev. M.A. Thomas from Bangalore, India, that noted Priest of the Matoma Syrian Church, talked with us over coffee one morning on THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDIA TODAY, with particular emphasis on the involvement - and lack of involvement - of Christian women. A suggestion came from this meeting that perhaps regular communication between our Council and some similar body in India would prove very enriching and give us greater understanding of world problems from a woman's viewpoint.

## 2. P L A N S:

Plans? Well, what does God want of us as a Council? We live in a wonderful time and feel a sense of deep gratitude to Him as we experience to some degree at least, the fulfilment of our first-stated aim "... fellowship and co-operation between women of all Branches of the Christian Church." We have travelled far this year to country cities, towns, local suburban areas, Sydney city itself, and the interesting thing we are realising is that, after 38 years of trying to look down from the Council to the pew, our pew members are shouting to us loudly 'Come, join us out here where we are united.' In area after area the pew members themselves, feeling the urgent need for greater fellowship and communion, have come together as inter-church groups and only then have they felt the necessity to link

themselves with other similar groups throughout the State by membership of this Council.

AND SO, at the end of 1969, we pause to give praise and glory to God that church women are finding within themselves a very definite need one for the other, no matter what their denomination, as they seek for greater understanding and avenues of service. Our plans are to be used as and when He needs us.

W.D. DOUGHERTY

Secretary.