

SPECIAL A.C.W. MEETING HELD to meet the

NATIONAL PRESIDENT- Mrs. Dorothy Haensel.

21. 10. 85

DEVOTIONS The president conducted devotions from
a Rita Snowden's book relating to All Saints Day

WELCOME- A cordial welcome was extended to Mrs. Haensel
on behalf of all present.
The meeting was arranged at the request of the
National president in order to explain the
reason why the A.C.W.C. Conference to be held in
Adelaide in 1986 had been cancelled.

Mrs. Haensel clearly explained the difficulties
of finance on behalf of Asian women travelling
to Australia. Attached copy is self explanatory.

Deaconess Andrews Proposed we send our love, thoughts and
prayers to Eunice Kim and others responsible for
this decision.

Mrs. Betty Davis moved a vote of thanks in appreciation
to Mrs. Haensel for the manner in which she had
outlined the reasons for this disappointing
information.

Morning tea was served by the executive prior to the
meeting.

SIGNED

E. Ridge.

DATE

18-11-85

Asian Church Women's Conference, 1986

With great sadness that the National Executive of Australian Church Women has to announce that the Eighth Assembly of the Asian Church Women's Conference will not now be held in Australia next year.

The decision to change the venue was a very difficult one for the Asian Church Women's Conference Executive Officers, and they pray forgiveness for the hurt they know the decision will cause.

We, your National Executive were very upset and disappointed when we received the news. Many people have been planning and working for this event for some considerable time, and we felt that to accept the decision without protest would be to let everyone down, as well as losing a wonderful experience.

The protest was made, pointing out what it would mean to Australia to have the Assembly here. Then, through prayer and discussion we began to understand the feelings of those who had made the decision after much prayer and with great reluctance.

Since the invitation to come to Australia was given and accepted the World money market has changed tremendously. At that time the A\$ and the US\$ were of equal value. Now, a Registration fee of US\$250 is in excess of A\$350. Exchange rates in many Asian countries are similarly effected. To ask the Asian Church Women's Conference to spend US\$100,000 in air fares, from money given as a block grant for their funds by the International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, would not be responsible stewardship. We accept that they feel they are stewards of this money and must use it for the greatest benefit. Women in many countries are desperately short of money and cannot contribute to outside projects, needing the little they have to encourage and support Christianity in their own country. Travel between Asian countries is much cheaper than between Asia and Australia.

To have hosted the Assembly would have been a marvellous experience. It would have built many bridges. Whether we will ever have another opportunity to host an Assembly in Australia I do not know, but I am certain we must continue to work at building those bridges. Prayer is one bridge. Our Asian sisters ask for our prayers and promise their prayers for us. Friday is the day all member countries pray for the Asian Church Women's Conference. Let us particularly on this day each week pray that we will grow together in understanding and love.

Dorothy Haensel,

President, Australian Church
Women