

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Working Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 29th, 1966,  
at 10a.m., in the AGC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, Sydney.

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OPENING: The meeting opened with prayer led by Mrs. D.G. Badger.

PRESENT: Mrs. M.G. Wyllie (chair), Mesdames F. Stafford, J.F. Dey,  
A.G. Ralph, D.G. Badger, A. Dougan, Deaconess M. Andrews,  
Miss T. Skiller, Lt. Colonel H. Cross.

APOLOGIES: Mesdames C.F. Gribble, D.J.A. Verco, L. Evangelinidis, S.M. Barrett.

Leave of absence from ACW for five months had been requested by Mrs. C.F. Gribble. She will be away from Australia for that period. Mrs. Gribble had requested that Mrs. E. Newman be the Methodist representative, in her place, during that time. The meeting expressed agreement with this suggestion.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

a) Links with Denominational Women's Groups

It was reported that letters and Minutes had now been sent to Presidents and Secretaries of Federal Denominational Women's Groups, and to the United Churches; also that a letter had been sent to each National Convener for Ecumenical Affairs, enclosing a copy of the Order of Service for Fellowship Day.

Information has been received from most Denominations concerning dates on which meetings of their Federal Groups will be held.

b) State Unit - South Australia

"Musical at Home" - It was noted that this was to be held on the same date as the Working Committee Meeting. It was reported that a telegram had been sent to the Council advising them concerning the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder.

World Community Day: It was resolved that we write indicating that we need to have the drafts of the Order of Service by mid-July.

c) Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria

A report was received concerning Reception to the Rev. Edwin Robertson, which was well attended, and provided opportunity for questions to be answered as well as listening to an address by Mr. Robertson. Several members of the Women's Inter-Church Council had undertaken to have study groups in their homes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence, as follows, was received:-

- a) Women's Inter-Church Council of Tasmania, enclosing copies of their Annual Report, Minutes of Annual Meeting, their first Newsletter, and information concerning State Denominational Women's Groups.  
Mrs. Dorothy Hartam has been elected Secretary.

At the Annual Meeting it was resolved that this year they try to organise both Fellowship Day and World Community Day. It has been suggested that an Executive Officer be appointed in each of the main areas of the State for the purpose of calling meetings, etc. Exploratory work in this respect is to be undertaken.

CORRESPONDENCE contd:

It was agreed that we write to the Council and express our pleasure concerning development.

Request was made for Mrs. D.G. Badger to visit Tasmania. It was suggested that should Mrs. Badger be visiting Victoria perhaps visits to the two States could be linked. Tasmania's preference in dates is in association with World Community Day.

It was agreed that we write to the Council, telling them that Mrs. Badger has been advised of their request. Also, that we write to the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria, asking if they have in mind making any request along this line.

- b) Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria, advising that Mrs. V.C. Stafford is now President of the Council.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Financial Statement as at June 30th, 1966, was adopted.

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Fellowship of the Least Coin	83.03	Winifred Kiek Scholarship invested through the AGC Association Ltd.	200.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	722.29	Secretary's expenses and travel	42.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship invested	200.00	Stationery	29.55
Asian Church Women's Conference Travel Fund	526.80	Postage	4.99
General receipts	151.16	Asian Church Women's Conference fare - Mrs. D. Badger	807.50
1966 Fellowship Day sales	4.70	Orders of Service for Fellowship Day	190.00
			<hr/>
			1274.04
		Credit balance	413.94
			<hr/>
	<u>\$ 1687.98</u>		<u>\$ 1687.98</u>

LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE:

Draft of a document to be sent to constituent members was submitted to the meeting. This was thoroughly examined and discussed, and revisions made as agreed upon.

It was agreed that this document be sent to Members of the National Committee, Presidents and Secretaries of Federal Denominational Women's Groups, and State Units. Also, that it be requested that the information asked for on the form accompanying the document reach the Working Committee not later than Friday, 5th August.

FELLOWSHIP DAY - 1966 and 1967:

1966: The N.S.W. State Unit reported that preparations are in hand. Also, that it would appear that pre-occupation with the Church and Life Movement may somewhat affect the number of centres at which Fellowship Day will be held this year.

1967: It was resolved that Canberra Church Women be asked to accept responsibility for the preparation of the Order of Service and Questions for Discussion; also, that they be asked to submit this in time for it to be presented to the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967.

REPORTS:a) National Scholarship Committee

It was reported that Miss Sabita Devi Swarup, of Fiji, has accepted the Winifred Kiek Scholarship for 1967. Miss Swarup will arrive in Sydney in July.

Accommodation, as a boarder, has been arranged at the Waverley Methodist Girls' Hostel.

Arrangements have been made for Miss Swarup to take a Business Course with the Metropolitan Business College.

It was agreed that the N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council be asked to set up a State Scholarship Committee. It was proposed that, along with one or two members of the Women's Inter-Church Council, the Rev. Frank Engel (of the Division of Mission), Miss Jean Skuse (Matron of the Waverley Hostel) and Miss Skiller (or her successor) be invited to be members of this Committee.

b) Third Asian Church Women's Conference

Observer: It was reported that the sleeping accommodation at the Christian University in Tokyo is of dormitory nature. The Secretary of the Asian Church Women's Conference contacted Mrs. R. Stewart, at the Australian Embassy, to seek her advice concerning Mrs. Kiek. This resulted in the offer of accommodation for Mrs. Kiek by Mrs. Stewart.

The Rev. Winifred Kiek has now been nominated as official observer for ACW, and Mrs. Kiek has her travel plans well in hand.

Mrs. R. Stewart has been invited by the Asian Church Women's Conference to attend as a free observer.

A letter of appreciation has been sent from the Working Committee to Mrs. R. Stewart for her kind gesture, and expressing the hope that she will be able to personally participate in the Conference.

c) Study Book

It was reported

1. that ladies from St. Stephen's had met at Mrs. Dougan's home, as proposed at the previous meeting;
2. that the Rev. A. Dougan had undertaken to have the drafts of all studies prepared for the July meeting of the Working Committee.

As a result of discussion, it was agreed that a small committee then be formed to consider the studies in relation to their use by women's groups.

A letter was received from Mrs. V.C. Stafford, on behalf of the Missionary Committee of the Victorian Churches of Christ Christian Women's Fellowship. This asked for information about the studies and as to when they will be available,

It is expected that the studies will be available by the end of November.

d) Fellowship of the Least Coin

The Women's Inter-Church Council of Tasmania reported that at their Annual Meeting literature was circulated and discussed. Plans were made to contact the wives of ministers in Launceston to ask that their groups support this project.

It was resolved that where State Units have not yet appointed a State Convener they be asked to do this, in harmony with the request of the National Committee Meeting.

REPORTS Contd.e) Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society

Minutes of meeting held on 5th May were received.

It was reported that a special meeting had been held on March 29th which approved the final draft of the Report for the Committee on Co-operation in Tokyo. That meeting also discussed the South Australian project (a) Mrs. Wilmhurst's suggestions for the distribution of the questionnaires (b) the covering letter (c) the wording of the questionnaires.

At the meeting of May 7th Mrs. E.K. Smart, Principal of St. Hilda's College, spoke on "The Role of Women in Australian Life".

Copies are now available of the paper on "Sex and Family Relationships - material available for study and discussion groups", prepared for the National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women, February, 1965; and of the study outline on "Men and Women". These are available from Mrs. T.H. Coates, Wesley College, Prahran S.1, Vic. If you would like either, please send a stamped (4c) addressed foolscap envelope.

ACW NEWS:

See Minutes -

Page 2 - Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder

Page 3 - 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference -

The Rev. Winifred Kiek to attend as official  
ACW observer

Mrs. R. Stewart (at present resident in Tokyo)  
invited to attend as a free observer

Page 3 - Study Book - approx. date of production

Page 4 - Material available from Committee on Co-operation

Recent elections -

Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria -  
President: Mrs. V.C. Stafford

Women's Inter-Church Council of Tasmania -  
Secretary: Mrs. Dorothy Hartam

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday, 27th July, at 10a.m.

CLOSING:

Warm wishes were expressed to Mrs. D.G. Badger concerning her attendance at the 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference.

The meeting closed with prayer led by Deaconess M. Andrews.

CONFIRMED

Mary M. Andrews

DATE

27<sup>th</sup> July 1966