

A U S T R A L I A N C H U R C H W O M E N

MINUTES OF WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING,

Held at Christian Welfare Centre, Perth, at 10.10 am, on Tuesday 8th June, 1976.

OPENING: Rev. Dorothy Wacker spoke of the South East Asian Women's Conference in the Philippines, where she shared on behalf of A.C.W. with Fran Bailey and Rachael Cocks. Greetings from those attending the conference were extended to A.C.W. members.
This was followed by prayer.

GREETINGS, APOLOGIES, FELLOWSHIP: Members present were greeted : Rev. Dorothy Wacker (Chairman, Jean Banyard (Treasurer), Vera Dean (Secretary), Jean Vincent, Vera Wilson, Isobel Macintyre, Jan Watts, Carmel Downie and Marjorie Scurlock.
Apologies were received from Joy Holland, Peg Eaton and Beryl Warr.

NEWS OF INTEREST TO A.C.W.: Jean Banyard and Vera Wilson attended a stimulating study group to consider "Enough is Enough". Other books recommended for study were "Christian Lifestyle" by Edward Patey and "Confronting the Future"; and the films "Five Minutes to Midnight" and "Indonesian Boomerang". Jean Vincent reported that the films "Last Grave of Dimbaze", "Indonesian Boomerang" and "Glasshouse" were shown at the Christian Welfare Centre. Reports in the newspaper emphasising Communist issues rather than racial issues in Southern Africa, were noted. The film of "Last Grave of Dimbaze" needs to be replaced. It is in poor condition through frequent use. "Green Gold", a history of Donnybrook, W.A., has been written by Jenny Woodroffe's father, Mr. A.C. Frost and was published recently. Reports were given of services of worship held during the week of prayer for Christian Unity.

MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting held on 7th May, 1976, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed, the following correction to be made: "Fran Downes" instead of "Fran Bailey", on page 3, F.L.C. (3).

BUSINESS ARISING:

1. N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council : A greeting was sent to their General Meeting by Rev. Dorothy Wacker from the Working Committee. Thanks for this greeting and the monthly newsletter containing an article from the retiring President, have since been received.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Outgoing :

1. Secretary, Victorian Unit, re C.O.C.E. Comm. Members.
2. Secretary, Tasmanian Unit, thanks for letters, etc.
3. Secretary, S.A. Unit re Radio Programme on F.L.C.
4. Secretary, N.S.W. Unit re Acceptance W/Comm. 1977, plus fares for same.
5. Secretary, N.T. Unit - thanks, etc.
6. Secretary, Canberra Unit - thanks, etc.
7. The Moderator, Korean Church Women United - Greetings, Prayers, etc.
8. Dept. of Christian Education, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, Sydney, re Mrs. Parmar.
9. Mrs. R. Gray - thanks for review on book "Confronting the Future".

Incoming :

1. World Federation of Methodist Women re World Conference, Dublin, August 16-23, 1976. :
It was agreed to write to Mrs. Nash as follows :
Three issues we thought about -
a) How to deal creatively with anti-feeling after I.W.Y.
b) How to enable people at grass roots level to participate in the issues dealt with at world level
c) How to use our affluence in a Christian way.
Ask for names of Australian delegates to the conference so that people can be informed in their States; request a report back for A.C.W. to be included in "Women at Work" or wherever it may be helpful.
Jean Banyard to seek information re conference from Mrs. McCollum.
2. Union of Australian Women re World Peace Council Meeting, Appeal enclosed.
3. Secretary, Tasmanian Unit re costs of Special Days Leaflets.
The secretary to be informed that a percentage of the offering and

Correspondence : Incoming (cont'd) :

money from sale of scribal pens may be kept to offset expenses but if they are in difficulty, to communicate with us again after the Special Day. Greetings to Dawn Rhodes who is standing for Parliament at the next election.

4. Aust. Council for Overseas Aid, enclosing Third World Newsletter :
To be ordered for 1 year.
5. C.O.C.E. enclosing copy of "Education News".
6. Mrs. R. Cocks re A.C.W.C. letters on Manila Seminar.
7. Mrs. Loyall re Asian Church Women's Conference Forum, May, 1977.
8. Shenti Solomon re Women's Forum and Conference, May/June, 1977,
Christian Conference of Asia. Theme for Women's Forum : "Asian Women Confront Challenge and Change".
It was considered necessary to think about the sort of people who may fill the categories listed re participation in the Forum, raise the question in "Women at Work" and write to Shanti Solomon to ask for clarification re delegates.

W.K.S. : Outgoing :

1. Mrs. A. Kerepia - reply re next year's project.
2. Secretary, Queensland Unit re A. Kerepia's award, also A.C.C. Meeting in Brisbane.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

1. It was agreed that the following Financial Statement be received :

Statement of Receipts & Expenditure for the period ended 31st May, 1976:Receipts:

Balance at 30.4.1976: \$14,527.77

Fellowship of Least Coin

Women's Inter-Church Council
of Victoria. 1,500.00

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund

Women's Inter-Church Council
of Victoria 1,400.00
Interest on Bonds 130.00

Administration & General

Bank Interest 32.07

World Community Day

Women's Inter-Church Council 900.00
of Victoria

18,489.84

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund

Purchase of Bond 100.00

Administration & General

Stationery 16.43

Balance at 1.6.76 18,373.41.

18,489.84

\$8,000.00 of this balance is in Commonwealth Bank Investment A/c.

A/cs. for paymentSummary of Balances:

Fellowship of Least Coin	6,472.93
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	5,578.57
Memorial Bursary	454.55
Fellowship Day	1,495.76
World Community Day	2,347.80
Overseas Conferences	816.26
Administration & General	1,207.54
	<u>18,373.41</u>

\$18,373.41

2. World Community Day :

All 1975 money has been received with the exception of the Northern Territory. It was agreed that a cheque for \$1,954.00, payable to the Australian Council of Churches, be sent for World Community Day Projects for World Christian Action. The leaflet we used to be enclosed, and news re the projects to be asked for.

3. It was agreed that the following amounts be paid for petty cash:
Vera Wilson: \$10.00, Jean Vincent: \$30.00, Vera Dean: \$35.00, Marjorie Scurlock: \$5.00. Telephone calls to be paid for through petty cash.

.../3.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Vera Wilson reported as follows:

Correspondence:

Inward :

1. From Fran. Downes re "Small Beginnings".
2. From Mrs. Shanti Solomon re Asian Women's Forum, May, 1977;
Application Forms for F.L.C. grants.
Quarterly News Bulletin.
3. From Doreen Strack.
4. From Kathleen Edwards (P.W.A., Vic., requesting F.L.C. Application forms.
5. From Fred K. Timakata (Presbyterian Church of New Hebrides) re application for F.L.C. grant. It was agreed that Vera write giving name and address of Shanti Solomon.
6. From Rose Gurupathan, working with aboriginal women in the Northern Territory : Application for F.L.C. grant.
The President reported that she had received a letter also from Rose, seeking general information re women and the Church.
7. From Miss Mitchell re cost of Vol.6, Circle of Prayer.

Outward:

1. To Miss Mitchell re selling price of "Circle of Prayer", Vol. 6.
2. To Kathleen Edwards - application forms enclosed.
3. To all State Conveners - F.L.C. Quarterly Bulletin.

Discussion followed concerning :

1. "Small Beginnings" - Vera suggested making copy available to each State Convener and enquire whether they would be interested in purchasing copies. To be followed up at next meeting.
2. Decision on applications to F.L.C. to be made at next meeting.
3. Film available - "This is an Australian" - re Aboriginal Project to which F.L.C. made a contribution of \$500.00 in 1973.
4. Whilst in Manila, Dorothy Wacker visited the Abiertas House of Friendship, a project which was supported by F.L.C. last year, and after the Seminar, the Executive Officers of A.C.W.C. decided to give from the F.L.C. emergency fund, \$1,000.00 to the National Council of Churches for work amongst victims of the flood at that time, and \$750.00 to the Provincial Council for the same purpose.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Jean Vincent reported as follows :

1976 Scholar : There is still no official communication from S.P.C. Training Centre re costs of Sarrah Ah You. and no further word from Sarrah herself.

1977 Scholar: Six applications were finally received. On May 21st the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee met and selected three candidates to be placed on a short list. Revised Short List forms have been sent to these candidates, with the request that they be returned before June 30th so that the final selection of candidates can be made by the Working Committee at the July meeting. New application form and health certificate were used this year. Two letters were written by Vera Dean : see correspondence, W.K.S.

SPECIAL DAYS: Marjorie Scurlock reported :

A meeting was held on Tuesday, 11th May to discuss the service for Community Day. After discussion it was decided that the seminar to be held in Manila towards the end of May, should provide suitable material for the preparation of Community Day Service, and Marjorie Scurlock was instructed to write to Rachael Cocks, the A.C.W. delegate to the A.C.W.C. Regional Seminar to enquire whether she would be willing to prepare the service and to forward it to the Special Days convener early in June. A reply was received from Rachael Cocks, agreeing to produce it as early as possible. A reply is awaited from the A.C.C. concerning a suitable project for the World Community Day offering.

A further letter to be written asking for information by the end of June. It was suggested that information re the project be included on the back of the service sheet.

Suggestions were made re preparation of the Fellowship Day Service for 1977.

"WOMEN AT WORK" : Greeting for next month to be prepared by Jean Vincent.

...../4.

ASSOCIATED BODIES : A.C.C. :

Correspondence : Incoming :

1. Mrs. T. Skiller Mrs. V. Wilson accepted to speak to our Report. Vera Wilson to write to Mrs. E. Mahoney re A.C.C. Annual Meetings in Brisbane. First \$20.00 expenses to be paid to Vera Wilson and any costs involved for Queensland delegates, including Registration Fee of \$10.00.
2. Miss J. Skuse - Address to which to send letter to Korean Church Women.
3. Secretary, Queensland Unit, 2 Observers, Mrs. Haigh not now available, so Mrs. Bowen and Mrs. Dingle chosen.
4. Notice of Nuclear Energy Conference to be held at Lane Cove, June 25th-27th.

News-sheets:

1. Development work - Education to be expanded in relation to member Churches.
2. Visit of Syrian Orthodox Bishop Gregorious, from India.
3. Information on UNCTAD 4.
4. Churches urged to support aims of UNCTAD IV.
5. Churches urged to step up Campaign on Overseas Aid cuts.
6. Churches to examine Nuclear Energy.
7. A.C.C. 28th General Meeting in Brisbane July 9th-13th.
Theme : "Together in Mission".

THE YEAR AHEAD : N.C.M., 1977:

In thinking about the best use of the year ahead and as part of preparation for the N.C.M., Committee members suggested major needs or problems concerning Australia, the Church and Women :

Lack of encounter of church women's groups with other groups, resulting in insularity. The need for realistic training for church leadership - the widening gap between church women and others. The need to uphold people in a work situation who cannot be involved in church organisations. Over-worked young married women who are educated but have little time for work within the church. Lack of communication between A.C.W. and our own Christian groups.

The problem of the mother in a non-church family : is this a reflection on her own response to the church? What is being said to us?

Training of young people. Need for groups which provide for young single people who do not fit into other groups. Christian youth movements which are not linked to churches.

Need for articulation of our faith.

The gap between the poor and the affluent in the churches - the church represents the middle class and the gospel is not being presented to the poorer people. Christian welfare is the only aspect of the church's work which is seen by many.

Changes in thought are needed, firstly looking at the resources of our world and asking questions about the way we spend our money, making some political or social moves to bring about change. Working politically, not on party lines, on social issues. We should commend those things which are for good as well as criticise those which are not.

Awareness of real needs - using strategy and planning so that our time is well used. Being aware of institutionalism within the church - sometimes we are so involved in the structures, which are meant to help us, rather than doing the work of the church. Sharing problems with people, accepting, not judging them.

Child care generally. Concern re drug problem and other social problems.

Being open to the spirit of God working through us, not accepting the whole responsibility ourselves.

N.C.M. : 1977 :

1. Publicity is needed to encourage people from other States to participate.
Suggestions for encouraging attendance : Attractive programmes. Publicity amongst W.A. church women to gather ideas, and needs and to promote interest in what church women can do.

N.C.M. : 1977 : (cont'd) :

Each person on the Working Committee to write to and visit one country centre so that a group of women in that centre will generate interest. If donations are received, to be used for General N.C.M. fund, to enable more than one delegate to attend.

It was decided that a meal would be held at St. Andrews Hall on Tuesday 17th August or Thursday 19th August, at 6.30 and that women within the churches who are not involved in any church organisation, would be invited. Each member of Working Committee to invite 10 people if possible; invitations to be typed. Committee: Jean Vincent and Dorothy Wacker.

2. The Sub-Committee for the N.C.M. to work out publicity for the States, together with Fare Pool. (Isobel Macintyre and Vera Dean)
3. Jean Skuse, Secretary of A.C.C., will be in W.A., speaking at the Fellowship Day being arranged by the State Unit and she will meet with the Working Committee on Thurs. evening 29th July, at 8 pm, at 801 Canning Highway, Applecross.
4. Members to consider a theme and speakers for the conference sessions. Real issues to be dealt with. One suggestion is that a World Community Day Service be held to open the conference, so that all churches in the metropolitan area would be involved in the opening service.

NEXT MEETING : 10.00 A.M. 2ND JULY, 1976.

F.L.C. Projects and W.K.S. will be the first business on the agenda.

CLOSING PRAYERTIME : The meeting closed with prayer at 3.pm.

DATE: _____ CONFIRMED: _____

+++++

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------|
| President: | Rev. Dorothy Wacker, 801 Canning Hwy (P.O.Box 2), Applecross, W.A. 6153. | Ph: 64.5485 |
| Vice-Pres.I: | Mrs. Brigadier I.C. Macintyre, 99 Gregory St., Wembley, W.A. 6014. | 81.1829 |
| Vice-Pres.II: | Mrs. Carmel Downey, 110 Weaponness Road, Wembley Downs, W.A. 6019. | 41.2979 |
| Secretary: | Miss Vera Dean, 33 Booker St., Dianella, W.A. 6062 | 76.5204. |
| Treasurer: | Mrs. Jean Banyard, 210 Brookdale St., Floreat Pk. 6014 | 87.4002. |
| F.L.C. Convenor: | Mrs. Vera Wilson, 7 Reserve St. Wembley, W.A. 6014. | 87.1806 |
| W.K.S. Convenor: | Mrs. Jean Vincent, 231 Pearson St., Woodlands, 6018. | 46.7861 |
| "Women at Work" Editor: | Mrs. Norma Ellis, c/o Kingswood College, Hampden Rd., Nedlands, W.A. 6009. | 86.4863 |
| | Mrs. Jan Watts, 128 Essex St. Wembley, W.A. 6014. | 87.2074 |
| Committee Member: | Mrs. Joy Holland, 13 Cunungra Rd. City Beach 6015. | 85.9886 |
| Committee Member: | Mrs. Ednah Daw, c/o Y.W.C.A., Havelock St., West Perth, W.A. 6005. | 60.3165 (Home) |
| Co-Opt Member, Asst. Secretary: | Mrs. Capt. Beryl Warr, 13A Law St., Embleton, W.A., 6062. | 76.3043. |
| Co-Opt Member, "1st Reserve": | Mrs. Peggy Eaton, 150 Virgil Ave., Mt. Yokine, W.A. 6060 | 76.3203. |
| Co-Opt Member, W.A. Unit: | Mrs. Marjorie Scurlock, 1 Regent St., Mt. Lawley, WA. 6050 | 71.7236 |

+++++

