

INTERIM COMMITTEE OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Interim Committee of Australian
Church Women held on Wednesday, December 4,
1963 at 10 o'clock at 511 Kent Street, Sydney

OPENING: Prayers were led by Mrs. M.G. Wyllie

PRESENT: Mesdames D.J.A. Verco, H.J. Lilley, J.F. Dey, L. Williams,
M.G. Wyllie (chair) and Deaconess M. Andrews and the Rev. H.L.
Perkins.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mesdames S. McPhee and S.M Barrett.

PERSONAL: Mrs. Wyllie welcomed Mrs. Verco to her first meeting of the
committee.

Mrs. F. McKay: The meeting received a letter from Mrs. F. McKay
indicating that owing to medical advice she would have to resign
from the committee. The meeting received the resignation with
very great regret and agreed that we write to Mrs. McKay sending
her our greetings and thanks for all she had contributed to the
work of the committee.

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

BUSINESS ARISING:

(a) Community Day 1964: It was reported that the invitation had
been sent to the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council asking
them to prepare material for the observance of World Community Day
during 1964.

(b) Newsletter: The first NEWSLETTER was tabled and it was
reported that it had been mailed to denominational and inter-church
women's groups and would be mailed to heads of the churches; YWCA's
and distributed through the press service of the ACC.

After discussion it was decided to review the correspondence
received from the various denominational women's groups in order to
revise the address list to ensure ^{in particular} adequate coverage of the Anglican
women's groups.

(c) Liaison Committee: Mrs. Wyllie reported that the ACC Executive
Committee had agreed to set up a Liaison Committee with the WCC's
Department on the Cooperation of Men and Women in Church, Family and
Society but the actual appointment of members will be left until
after the ACC's Annual Meeting in February.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Congregational Women's Fellowship of NSW: Letter received asking
questions concerning the ACC's proportional representation at the
national level on the proposed structure of the ACW. The meeting
agreed that it was important that there be 4 ACC representatives
so as to keep adequate links with the ecumenical promotion work of
the ACC
and to keep a close relationship with the Liaison Committee of the
ACC with the WCC's Department on the Cooperation of Men and Women
in Church, Family and Society.
It was also pointed out that this type of representation from the
ACC on committees related to it is carried out in practice as
independence with relationship is established - e.g. the Australian
Council of Christian Education on which the ACC has four represent-
atives.

FELLOWSHIP DAY 1964: A letter was received from the convener of a sub-
committee of the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council enquiring
as to what arrangements we were making for the observance of a
Fellowship Day during 1964.
Following discussion it was agreed that ^{as} the Day would be close

to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the theme be: "The Good Shepherd". Use will be made of the material prepared for the observance of the Week of Prayer. It was agreed that material such as a worship service and a study be made available for the use of groups on Fellowship Day; also a list of suggestions for the programme of the Day e.g. on Christian Traditions - Orthodoxy. (the use of strip films and speakers from the Orthodox tradition was suggested as a programme idea).

STUDY MATERIAL FOR LOCAL GROUPS:

It was reported that the study - "Christians Alive?" was in the process of production. It was resolved that a letter be sent to Deaconess Ritchie expressing to her and the committee in Melbourne our appreciation for the work they had done in preparing the studies.

Publicity: Agreed 1) that a publicity leaflet be prepared for general distribution including an order form

2) that a press release be sent through the ACC

3) that information be sent through the State

Units to the denominational women's groups - a sample copy to be sent to each State 4) that we seek the cooperation of local inter-church councils through the State Units in the convening of groups to use the study material.

5) circulate the various Deaconess training colleges.

NATIONAL CONSULTATION MARCH 1964:

The meeting had before it a draft agenda prepared by the special committee appointed at the November meeting. Following discussion it was resolved that the agenda be:

(1) Purpose and steps taken to establish Australian Church Women (discussion on both structure and programme).

(2) Where do we go from here in developing ACW

(a) at national level

(b) at state level

(c) at local level

(d) relations between these three (a, b, and c)

(e) finance ?

(3) How to develop our programme -

i. Fellowship Day

ii. Community Day

iii. Local groups

iv. Projects: scholarships; fraternal workers

v. Cooperation of Men and Women

(4) Constitution

Accommodation & Hospitality: Agreed that the meetings be held within the University of Sydney between Deaconess House and Wesley College. Hospitality to be arranged by the committee members.

ACC ANNUAL MEETING:

Mrs. Verco indicated that she would not be able to attend the ACC Annual Meeting in Melbourne during February. Mrs. Dey said she was not certain if she should attend but would advise as soon as possible.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mrs. Verco sought the assistance of the committee members concerning her position in the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council as Promotion Officer and the establishment of local groups of ACW in NSW. The meeting agreed that it was only by personal contact and involving people in doing things as part of the programme of ACW would these groups be formed and developed.

CLOSING: Meeting closed with prayer led by the Rev. H.L. Perkins.

CONFIRMED: Mabel E. W. [signature]

DATE: 19. 2. 64