

## AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Working Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 28th, at 10am, in the ACC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, Sydney.

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OPENING: It has been planned that the early part of the meeting would be of a social nature - to welcome Miss Sabita Swarup, as the Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder for 1966 - also to hear Mrs. Badger's report concerning the 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference.

Unfortunately, Miss Swarup entered St. Vincent's Hospital that morning for an operation for appendicitis. Mrs. Dey undertook to keep in close touch with Sabita, and was asked to convey the warm greetings of the Working Committee, with our hopes for her early recovery.

Mrs. Badger presented both a written and oral report of the 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference. The report was received. It was agreed that a copy of the report should be circulated with Minutes of the meeting, and that an interview be arranged with Mr. Vaughan Hinton to discuss how best information concerning the Conference, and the fact that ACW was represented, can be publicised. Also, there was discussion concerning the possibility of further tapes being made from the tape recording which Mrs. Badger has in which Mrs. Shanti Solomon, who founded the Least Coin Fellowship, described its origins and objectives.

Prayers were led by Deaconess M. Andrews.

PRESENT: Mrs. M.G. Wyllie (chair), Mesdames J.F. Dey, A.G. Ralph, D.J.A. Verco, A. Dougan, S.V. Newman (for Mrs. Gribble), F. Stafford, D.G. Badger, Deaconess M. Andrews, Lt. Colonel H. Cross.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. S.M. Barrett.

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

### ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

It was reported that plans had been finalised for Mrs. D.G. Badger to visit both Melbourne and Tasmania.

Melbourne: Friday, October 21:

Morning: Meeting of Women's Inter-church Council of Victoria.

Afternoon: Afternoon Tea function - W.I.C.C. and Members of the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society.

Tasmania: Monday, Oct. 24: World Community Day Service - Hobart.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: World Community Day Service, Launceston.

The W.I.C.C. of Victoria has undertaken to pay return air fare between Sydney and Melbourne and provide hospitality. The W.I.C.C. of Tasmania will pay return air fare from Melbourne to Tasmania and any travel within the State, and provide hospitality as required.

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence, as follows, was received.

### N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council.

Copy of the Annual Report.

Dates of State Annual Denominational Meetings, and indicating that the Council is endeavouring to follow procedure outlined by the Working Committee concerning links with Denominational Women's Groups.

An enquiry as to whether ACW has a list of suggested study material for women's groups, to help in meeting requests for such to State Units from groups at the local level.

It was agreed that this was a matter which should be given consideration when planning the Agenda for the National Committee

CORRESPONDENCE contd.

Meeting. It was thought that the sharing of Denominational Publications at this meeting, as was proposed at the last National Committee Meeting, may contribute to this.

A letter covering one from Mrs. E.B. Wynn, on behalf of the ladies of St. Mark's Anglican Church, Sylvania, voicing some criticisms of the Fellowship Day Order of Service, together with the reply of the W.I.C.C. The views expressed were considered and discussed, and the Secretary authorised to write to Mrs. Wynn.

Women's United Church Association of Sth. Aust.

A letter indicating (1) that Port MacDonnell intended holding Fellowship Day later than the usual date (2) that it was expected the cheque for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund from the 'Musical at Home' would be for \$200. Copy of a newsletter sent to several country centres prior to Fellowship Day. It was reported that this letter had already been acknowledged.

Australian Church Women - W.A. Unit.

A report concerning the observance of Fellowship Day, which was in the nature of a Retreat, which proved to be very much appreciated. Following an Ecumenical Address there was lively and stimulating discussion.

Ladies' Fellowship - United Church of Woomera.

A letter, enclosing copy of the history of the Ladies' Fellowship, compiled by Mrs. McDougall, who was present at their first meeting in 1951. It was agreed that this be acknowledged, with an expression of appreciation and interest, and that copies be made and circulated with the Minutes, as it was thought that this would be of great interest to other women's groups.

N.S.W. State Committee of the ACC.

A letter from the State Secretary, suggesting closer collaboration between the State Committee and ACW. This letter was appreciated, and it was agreed that we write to the Rev. Clive H. Norton, saying we would appreciate support, and stating that we would ask the W.I.C.C. to keep him fully informed concerning ACW special days and other matters; that Mrs. A.G. Ralph, who is Secretary of the W.I.C.C. is also a member of the Working Committee of ACW.

The State Secretary's letter also suggested the desirability of a representative of ACW being present when the ACC National and associated State staff meet before or after the Annual Meeting in February next year. It was agreed that this is desirable, and that a letter be sent from ACW to the General Secretary of the ACC asking for such representation.

Miss Connie Tan Kwie Hwa.

A letter from Miss Connie Tan. Because of widespread interest in her, as the first Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, her letter is given in full:

"I would like to tell you briefly what I have been doing in the past 8 months, after having left Australia at the beginning of December last year.

I have been working in 3 Children's Homes. The first one is exactly the same as the Burnside Children's Homes in Sydney. The next and the third ones are observation and treatment homes for emotional and disturbed children. The second one is connected with the Free University in Amsterdam and is called Paedological Institute. In July - it was at the end of my orientation period there - Dr. J. de Wit, director of the institution, suggested to me and the Algemeen Diaconaal Bureau at Utrecht to stay and study for another year. Accentuation will be stressed on practical training and subjects, which have not been studied, on child psychology, method of handling emotionally disturbed children, and about supervision to professional houseparents. This suggestion has also been discussed with Prof. O. Notohamidjojo, rector magnificus of the Christian University "Satyawathana" in Salatiga, when he was visiting Amsterdam on his way to Geneva.

The main aim for this extension is that, at the end of my study-period here, a concrete plan will be set up for a Children's Home, which will also be used as a training centre for students of the educational faculty and the faculty of social work perhaps.

After having thought about it and its consequences thoroughly and discussed it with some Indonesian friends, who happened to be here at that time, I decided to stay. So I'll be staying for about 10 months more.

As this scholarship to Holland was arranged with agreement of Australian Church Women, and who have also paid one-third of the fare from Australia to Holland, I am obliged to tell you about this extension, and to thank you very much for this great opportunity of studying overseas.

Again, thank you for the scholarship for studying in Australia last year! It was really a good and useful preparation for the study here. On the other hand is my study here a supplement to my Australian experience. I do hope that at the end of my overseas' study I'll get the opportunity to serve other people in my country. Thank you very much indeed. May God bless you in all your work." (Signed, Tan Kwie Hwa)

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Financial Statement, as at 31st August, 1966, was received.

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Asian Church Women's Conference Travel Fund	654.10	Asian Church Women's Conference - fare for Mrs. Badger	807.50
1966 Fellowship Day - receipts for sales	20.40	Fellowship Day printing	190.00
1966 Fellowship Day Offerings	47.00	General:	
General receipts	151.16	Stationery	29.55
Fellowship of the Least Coin	84.43	Secretarial Expenses	62.00
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	722.29	Postages	14.55
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund for investment	200.00	Duty Stamps	0.12
		Winifred Kiek Scholarship	55.28
		Winifred Kiek Scholarship - Investment ACC	200.00
		Bank balance as at 31.8.66	520.38
	<u>\$ 1879.38</u>		<u>\$ 1879.38</u>

N.B. It was reported that since 31/8/66 further donations had been received for the Travel Fund, which meet in full the outlay for Mrs. Badger's fare to the Asian Church Women's Conference.

Accounts presented by the Treasurer were passed for payment.

It was reported that the Scholarship Committee had discussed aspects of finance having to do with the programme of the present Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder. The Methodist Hostel at Waverley had agreed to board Sabita at half the usual rate; Mrs. Dey is examining the position concerning pocket money. It was agreed that a letter of appreciation should be sent to the Waverley Methodist Mission.

#### REPORTS:

- (a) Study Book: A special Committee Meeting was held on 14th September, at which it was decided that other test groups also be asked to examine the proposed material and report back by 15th November concerning the text and questions, and if thought desirable suggest additional questions.

The special committee had some doubt as to whether the material provided sufficient help for Group Leaders. The pilot groups have been asked to suggest useful references, e.g. recent translations of the Scriptures, text books, devotional records, music for Church Services.

The need to have the studies produced by the end of December had been taken into account.

The report was received.

REPORTS contd.

4.

- (b) National Scholarship Committee: A special meeting of the Scholarship Committee had been held on 13th September. It was reported that Miss Sabita Swarup appeared to be very happily placed at the Methodist Girls' Hostel, and also seemed to have fitted well into studies at the Metropolitan Business College. Mrs. Ralph presented reports from the Business College which showed that Sabita is doing very satisfactorily with her studies.

Contact is being made with Canberra Church Women concerning the possibility of a brief visit to the A.C.T.

Sabita's sudden illness brought before the Working Committee the fact that Hospital expenses will need to be met. This led to discussion as to whether for future Scholarship holders we should consider making arrangements for them to join Hospital and Medical Benefit Funds during the time they are in Australia.

It was resolved that this be considered at the next National Committee Meeting.

It was also reported that the ACC had requested ACW to help with week-end hospitality for an Indonesian nurse at present in Sydney on an ACC Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee had referred this to the N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council, which had formed a small committee to plan this.

- (c) Fellowship of the Least Coin: Mrs. Doy (Treasurer) reported that quotes had been received from the printer for labels and Information Folders. These had been submitted to the office bearers at a meeting on 13th September. It had been agreed to accept the quotes, but it was felt that the desire of women participating in the Fellowship of the Least Coin would be for the outlay for printing, to as full a degree as possible, to be met by donations rather than from contributions to the Fellowship of the Least Coin. It was recommended that Labels be supplied free of charge, but that at the local level those desiring an Information Folder be asked to donate 2 cents.

The meeting confirmed the action of the office bearers, and accepted the recommendation concerning finance.

Mrs. S.M. Barrett, the National Convener, will include this information to State Conveners when sending a sample of the new literature and requesting information concerning quantities of the new literature desired.

The ACC has agreed to advance to ACW until the end of this year the amount needed to pay for the printing of the Information Folders.

- (d) World Community Day: Orders have been received from all State Units for copies of the Order of Service.

LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE:

It was reported that the office bearers had met between meetings to consider what steps should be taken in setting up a Planning Committee in Melbourne in preparation for the probable transfer of the location of the Working Committee to Melbourne for 1967 - 1968.

The report of the office bearers was received and discussed.

It was resolved:

1. That the Working Committee invite the following to form a Planning Committee, to function in Melbourne between now and the next National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women. The purpose of the Planning Committee will be to look into the future, and bring forward enquiries concerning matters of procedure, etc., to the present Working Committee and/or to the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967. As to how many times this Planning Committee will need to meet will depend upon what the members feel the need to be.

Mrs. N. Anderson

Mr. V.K. Brown

Mrs. T.H. Coates

Rev. D.A. Dargaville - State Secty. of the Victorian Council of Churches

Deaconess C. Ritchie

LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE contd.

Mrs. Colonel Saunders - Secretary W.I.C.C.  
 Mrs. V.C. Stafford - President W.I.C.C.  
 Y.W.C.A. - one representative to be appointed by that body.

2. That Mr. V.K. Brown be asked to convene the first meeting of the Planning Committee, which meeting shall then elect a Chairman and Secretary of the Planning Committee.
3. That the Secretary of the present Working Committee communicate with the proposed members of the Planning Committee inviting participation, and referring them to documents concerning Australian Church Women already in their possession such as the Constitution of ACW, Minutes of the 1966 National Committee Meeting, Minutes of Working Committee Meetings, and inviting whatever enquiries the Planning Committee desires to make.
4. That Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings be forwarded to the Working Committee.
5. That the Planning Committee will cease to exist with the election of the office bearers and other members of the Working Committee at the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967.

It is recognised that the final decision concerning the proposed transfer will rest with the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING 1967:

Dates: Feb. 8,9,10, commencing with Lunch on Wednesday, Feb. 8, and concluding with the afternoon session of Friday, Feb.10.

Venue: Deaconess House, Newtown, Sydney.

It was resolved that the following steps be taken:

1. State Units, Federal denominational women's groups, and Y.W.C.A. be asked for the names of their representatives.
2. An invitation to send an observer be extended to the Women's World Day of Prayer, Federal Women's Groups of Churches not involved in ACW, Women's Groups of the United Churches, N.S.W. State denominational women's groups.
3. That State Units and Federal Denominational Women's Groups be asked if they wish to make suggestions of subjects to be included on the Agenda.
4. That State Units, Denominational Women's Groups (federal) and the Women's Groups of United Churches be asked to submit a brief report for inclusion in the Working Documents.
5. That the office bearers meet to work out the outline of the Agenda and submit this at the next meeting.

ACW NEWS:

Report of 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference  
 Visit of Mrs. D.G. Badger (to report on Conference) to Melbourne and Tasmania.

INFORMATION FOLDER - AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN:

Circumstances have contributed to delay in the production of this folder. There was some discussion as to how this should be produced, and it was agreed that an interview be sought with Mr. V. Hinton to discuss this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26th Oct. at 10am.

CLOSING: The meeting closed with prayer led by Mrs. Wyllie.

CONFIRMED

DATE

*Mabel E. Wyllie*  
 26. 10. 66