

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Working Committee held on Tuesday, September 28th, 1965  
at 2pm in th ACC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, Sydney

- OPENING: The meeting opened with prayer led by Mrs. A.A. Adam
- PRESENT: Deaconess M. Andrews (chair), Mesdames A.A. Adam, F. Stafford, H.J. Lilley, L. Evangelinidis, A. Dougan, J.F. Dey, D.J.A. Verco, Miss T. Skiller Lt. Col. H. Cross.
- APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mesdames M.G. Wyllie, C.F. Gribble, F.O. Hulme-Moir, A.G. Ralph.
- MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

State Unit - Western Australia: A letter was received from Mrs. M. Eaton Honorary Secretary, stating that, whilst they have needed to proceed with caution in presenting the aims and purpose of Australian Church Women, this has been taking place and interest has been growing throughout Women's Groups in Western Australia. World Community Day is being promoted by a direct approach to every Women's Group whose church is affiliated with the Western Australia Council of Churches.

It was agreed that we write to Mrs Eaton, expressing our pleasure concerning what the contents of her letter represents, and stating that when they are able to let us have a copy of their constitution for ratification we will be glad to receive this.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence, as outlined below, was received:

- a) Mrs Edwin Robertson; agreeing to request that she address meetings. Mrs Robertson asked concerning subjects on which it might be desired she address Women's Meetings, and for a tentative programme.

Miss Skiller reported that the ACC is at present working on the itinerary for the Rev. Edwin Robertson.

It was resolved -

- 1) That Miss Skiller confer, on behalf of ACW, with Mr. Vaughan Hinton, thus enabling our proposals to Mrs. Robertson to work in with her Husband's visits to various States.
  - 2) That an acknowledgment be sent to Mrs. Robertson, thanking her for acceptance of our invitation to address Women's Meetings, advising her that we are at present working in co-operation with the ACC concerning itinerary, and that as soon as possible we will write her more fully concerning proposed programme and subjects which we think could prove helpful.
- b) Church and Life Movement: Letters from Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria, and The Salvation Army (Eastern Australia), and Canberra Church Women indicating intention to support this Movement.
- c) Church Colleges - Women Scholarship Holders: Reply from Women's Inter-Church Council of Queensland to request, on behalf of ACC Scholarship Committee. This information to be forwarded to the Scholarship Committee, along with information from other States, when this is received.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Financial statement, as given below, was received.

<u>Receipts.</u>	<u>Expenses.</u>
Winifred Kiek Scholarship - donations 321. 4. 6. for investment 100. 0. 0.	
Fellowship of the Least Coin 89. 9. 3.	
Asian Church Women's Conference - donation for travel 2. 0. 0.	Credit balance 512.13. 9.
£512.13. 9.	£512.13. 9.

Following discussion concerning the £100 received sometime ago from the Rev. Winifred Kiek to be invested for the Scholarship Fund, it was resolved that this amount be invested in debenture stock through the ACC Association, Ltd.

FELLOWSHIP DAY. 1965.

Reports were received from Victoria and Canberra.

- a) Victoria: The Convener, Mrs. M. Stafford, reported that Fellowship Day was observed at 50 centres, but when writing information was not to hand from all centres. In 21 groups the total attendance was 1,271. The study was not widely used, most groups preferring an address. Some groups found the study difficult - others were appreciative; some intend using the study at some future meeting. Attendances were not up to the usual standard, bad weather and sickness being the main causes of this.
- b) Canberra: Comments were included in letters from both the President and Secretary. Fellowship Day was held at one centre. The number who attended the Service was about 100, and this dropped to about 60 for the study groups. It was thought the Order of Service and study questions were an improvement on some previous ones - that whilst one or two questions might have been more specific, it was all very good, and the meeting very worthwhile.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY:

- a) Orders of Service: It was reported that orders received to date totalled approx. 3,500, orders having been received from each State.
- b) A letter was received from the Chaplain, on behalf of Archbishop George Appleton, stating that the further suggestion he had in mind concerning the conduct of the Service was that it would be helpful to use several different voices for the various parts of the service, thus providing freshness and interest.
- c) Mrs. Verco reported that some centres in N.S.W. had requested further help in questions for discussion. She had prepared some proposed questions and distributed these. It is recognised that there is not much time now before World Community Day, but it was agreed that other States might appreciate seeing these questions, so a copy will be sent to each State Secretary.
- d) Canberra Church Women reported that they favour a mixed meeting (preferably a Sunday evening), but felt it was too late to organise such a meeting for this year, so will plan for a women's meeting. They hope to start early next year with preparations for mixed meetings.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN:

A new supply of labels will be needed for distribution on World Community Day. It was resolved that this be left in the hands of Miss Skiller, reproducing

the present design.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP:

A letter was received from the Rev. Frank Byatt (Ecumenical Scholarship Committee), expressing appreciation of the regularizing of procedure concerning the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, and welcoming the approach of ACW to the Pacific Conference of Churches concerning a nomination for 1966.

Mr. Byatt also sent a set of circulars and application forms having to do with scholarships, as supplies by the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Mr. Byatt asked as to whether we would like him to post a set of these papers to the Pacific Conference of Churches.

We also quote, as follows, from Mr. Byatt's letter - "Our experience with Asian girls suggests that, in their interests, they should not come singly. If there are two, they can discuss their experiences and meet their frustrations without having also to combat loneliness. I am wondering, if we underwrite the cost of two girls in the event of ACW being unable to meet more than one, how Mr. Perkins would regard the suggestion. I will take it up with him."

Following discussion, it was resolved that we write to the Rev. Frank Byatt, stating -

- 1) We would be glad if he would send a set of the information and application forms to Mr. Toma of Pacific Conference of Churches.
- 2) The Working Committee does not favour two scholarships holders coming together, as in such cases it is considered there is a tendency for them to associate together rather than enter more fully into the life of Australian society.
- 3) It is considered that those who come to Australia on the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, whilst being of the "younger women" age group, yet should be people with a good degree of maturity in character.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING. 1966:

- a) Letters were received from the Congregational Women's Fellowship of Australia, the Women's Federal Conference of Churches of Christ, and the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria, nominating representatives to the National Committee for 1966.
- b) Enquiry was received from Canberra as to whether there is any ruling concerning who representatives should be. Agreed that reply be sent to the effect that this is entirely in their hands, it being taken for granted they would probably think in terms of their two representatives not being from the same denomination.
- c) Letter was received from the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria, stating bookings have been made at St. Hilda's College for Wednesday to Friday, 19th to 21st January (inclusive). Victorian representatives will also live in.
- d) Letter was received from the Convener of the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society, indicating that the Committee on Co-operation will be very glad to join with the National Committee for a session, and including certain other suggestions.

It was resolved

- 1) That the Executive of the Working Committee prepare a proposed Agenda of the National Committee Meeting for presentation at the October meeting.
- 2) That the present Working Committee recommend to the National Committee Meeting that the Working Committee for 1966 be based in Melbourne.

NEXT MEETING: To be held on Tuesday, 26th October, at 2pm.

CLOSING: The meeting closed with prayer led by Deaconess Andrews

CONFIRMED *Mabel G. Miller*  
DATE *26-10-65*