

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Working Committee meeting held on Tuesday, June 22, 1965 at 2pm in the ACC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, Sydney.

OPENING: The meeting opened with prayer led by Lt-Colonel H. Cross.

PRESENT: Mrs M.G. Wyllie (chair); Mesdames A. Dougan, J.F. Dey, D.J.A. Verco, C.F. Gribble, F. Stafford, A.A. Adam, A.G. Ralph, Deaconess M. Andrews, Miss T. Skiller and Lt Col. Cross.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mesdames M. Barrett & H.J. Lilley.

The Secretary was asked to convey the sympathy of the meeting to Mrs. Barrett, who was absent because of a family bereavement. Also, to express to Mrs. Lilley (who is convalescent following surgery) our warm and prayerful interest.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed.

ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- a) Winifred Kiek Scholarship: It was reported that Brigadier H. Osborn, had acknowledge appreciatively our letter to him. He also stated that because of certain problems which have arisen, there seems little prospect of the Korean nurse of whom he spoke now coming to Australia.
- b) World Community Day: It was reported that a letter had been received from Mrs. N. Wilkinson indicating that Archbishop G. Appleton is at present away from Australia. He is not expected back until the end of June. Mrs. Wilkinson has written to the Archbishop and will make early contact with him on his return concerning material for World Community Day. Our earlier request of the Archbishop mentioned that we would like the material by the end of June.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A) National Committee Meeting, 1966. A letter was received from Mrs. Joan Coates. This enquired concerning dates, as accommodation would need to be booked. Discussion covered the following points:-

1. The ACC Annual Meeting will be held in Melbourne, January 24 - 28.
2. The National Committee Meeting of A.C.W. would need to precede this. Any consideration concerning dates following the ACC Meeting appeared to not be suitable, as Monday, January 31, will be Australia Day.
3. Dates would not need to clash with the ACC Annual Meeting, as it would be expected a number attending the National Committee would also attend the ACC Annual Meeting.

It was resolved that proposed dates for the National Committee be Saturday, January 22 to Monday, January 24, and that these dates be submitted to State Units and Federal Denominational women's organizations inviting an expression of opinion.

Broad proposals are:

Saturday, January 22

Assemble for Morning Tea

Three Sessions - Morning, afternoon and evening.

Sunday, January 23

Two sessions - afternoon and evening

Monday, January 24

One session - morning.

Whilst we haven't detailed information at present, it is expected the ACC Annual Meeting will be open on Monday afternoon January 24.

b) Articles from "Together". The Rev. J.R. Neal passed on a letter just received from the Rev. Dr. C.J. Wright, chairman of the Commission on Christian Marriage & Family Life. This submitted articles from "Together" which may be edited and printed separately for use in women's groups. The reaction of the Working Committee to these articles was requested.

It was agreed that copies of these articles be made and distributed to each member of the Working Committee for her study, and that this subject be placed on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

c) Canberra Church Women: A draft copy of the proposed Constitution was received. It was agreed that consideration of this be given at the next meeting.

d) Seminar on Employment Opportunities for Women: Information concerning this, to be held at the University of NSW on Friday, August 13, had been received. It was agreed that this be passed on to the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council.

FELLOWSHIP DAY:

a) Letters were received from the Women's United Church Association of South Australia and Canberra Church Women requesting supplies of material; also from the Women's Inter-Church Council of Queensland ordering material. The letter from South Australia also expressed their willingness to co-operate as liberally as possible in the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

b) Mrs. Verco was invited to give a progress report concerning NSW. Fellowship Day will be held in 6 suburban centres and a number of country centres. Miss Skiller reported that orders for material are coming in quite well.

Mrs. Verco spoke of the need, in connection with Promotion, for material to be available at an early date, and asked as to whether the Working Committee could be responsible for putting in motion the getting of material for 1966 Fellowship Day.

This led to some discussion as to the kind of material this should be. It was agreed that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Some points of view put forward for consideration in the meantime were:

1. The advisability of study material for this occasion being a subject nearer home, seeing recent studies (including the subject for this year's World Community Day) have taken, and will take, our thoughts beyond our own land.
2. This could be either a Devotional Study, or related to some social problem within our own society.
3. If the same time of the year is chosen for 1966 this will be in the midst of the Church & Life Movement study programme.

c) It was agreed that we ask State Units to send us a report following this year's Fellowship Day, this to include:

- . the number of centres at which Fellowship Day was observed.
- . the total number who attended these meetings
- . reactions to the study.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP:

a) Miss T. Skiller gave a progress report concerning Miss Connie Tan's programme. It was reported that Miss Tan had been very well received, and her character and personality had made a very favourable impression wherever she had been; also that her academic qualifications and capacity had been highly spoken of. Mrs. J.F. Dey, with whom Miss Connie Tan has stayed, spoke concerning her. It would seem that though the term "social worker" is the used term in Indonesia, Miss Tan is more an educationist than a social worker as we understand the term in Australia. However the programme

which includes a great deal of practical experience is what Miss Tan feels will be most useful to her. Mention was made of her request for time for Library Research.

It was noted that Mrs. Dey and Miss Skiller are arranging for some medical advice (not any present illness) and for attention to glasses and teeth.

b) Miss Skiller reported that she had written to the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria concerning the programme for Miss Tan whilst in that State, and presented the contents of her letter.

c) Appreciation was expressed to Miss Skiller for the very considerable thought and time she has given and is giving to the detail of this scholarship; also to Mr. and Mrs. Dey for having opened their home to Miss Connie Tan and for their interest and care. It was also noted, with appreciation, that the Rev. and Mrs. S. M. Barrett had extended hospitality to the Scholarship Holder during a period when she was doing field work with the Miss Betty Vaughan of the Child Welfare Department.

d) Proposed Policy concerning the Scholarship: Miss Skiller gave an interim report. The members of the Committee were asked to continue their deliberations and report to the next meeting.

e) Ecumenical Scholarship Committee: A request was received from the Rev. F. F. Byatt, secretary of the Ecumenical Scholarship Committee, that a list be prepared in each State of women's colleges and Deaconess Houses, with the names and addresses of the Principals, where a woman scholarship holder could be placed. Attention to the need for this has arisen through the presence in Australia of the ACW Scholarship Holder, although it is stated there is also the possibility that this may arise through request from the World Council of Churches and the East Asia Christian Conference.

It was agreed that we ask the State Units to prepare these lists.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The relationship of the President of the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council to the Working Committee was submitted. This will be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

To be held on Tuesday, July 27 at 2pm.

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

CONFIRMED: _____

DATE: _____