

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 in C.M.M. Board Room, Franklin Street, Adelaide at 10 a.m. on 2nd September, 1974

OPENING: Mrs. Smith welcomed members to the meeting, and particularly Mrs. Dawn Rhodes, Secretary of the Tasmanian Unit who is holidaying in Adelaide.

PRESENT: Mesdames Joy Smith, Nell Kain, Joan Bache, Alder Hall, Eryvn Whitehead, Sue Rowston, Dawn Rhodes, Gwenda Murchland and Deaconess Norah Norris.

APOLOGIES: Mesdames Beryl Golding and Kath Howie.

DEVOTIONS: Devotions were led by Nell Kain who read an excerpt from the Tasmanian Catholic Review on the theme "who is my neighbour". This placed special emphasis on the home as our closest neighbourhood and our personal obligation to be neighbours. Prayers for women all over the world concluded our meditation.

REPORTS: Mrs. Rhodes reported that Hobart is forming a branch of A.C.W. Fellowship Day services had been held in several places and Hobart expressed appreciation of the Order of Service ("best ever".) Relationship with the State Council of Churches was being looked at.

Mrs. Smith reported on the Sydney Conference on "Women's liberation and the Church". Some 120 women from N.S.W., Queensland, Victoria and S.A. had attended and it was felt that it had been a stimulating weekend.

An invitation to attend the N.S.W. W.I.C.C. meeting was much appreciated by Mrs. Smith and Deaconess Norris. Mrs. Smith had visited Canberra during the week and had spent a morning with some members of the Executive of Canberra Church Women. It was felt that opportunities for members of the Working Committee to meet with States from time to time helped immensely in keeping in touch with the work being done in various States and fostered greater understanding of the aims of A.C.W.

Mrs. Smith and Deaconess Norris had met Rev. F. Engel while in Sydney and had discussed the relationship of A.C.W. with A.C.C. Victoria is to be asked to nominate two representatives to the Commission on Christian Education and these nominations will be accepted by the Executive. Mr. Engel also advised that A.C.W. could nominate representatives to any other Commissions of the A.C.C. at General Meetings.

Mrs. Kain reported having attended the U.N.A. meeting to plan for "International Women's Year". She felt there was a good deal of interest in this event as there was a large representation of all women's groups in South Australia. The theme will be "Peace, Development and Communication". Hope was expressed that men would also become involved in the planning for 1975 and it was hoped that emphasis would be placed on the family in the city and especially rural areas. Mrs. Kain was elected as Catholic representative to the committee appointed to deal with detailed planning and she agreed to also represent A.C.W. on this committee.

MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting of 29.7.74 were confirmed and signed after the following alteration had been made - on page 3, under F.L.C. -that Circle of Prayer No. 5 is available and had sent copies "of the leaflet and" labels to each State.

BUSINESS
ARISING
FROM
MINUTES:

The following replies were received regarding the N.C.M. Finance Resolution on the Travel Pool -

A.C.T. Against. "Move that fares of one delegate from each State Unit to attend N.C.M. be shared equally.
N.S.W. Agreed, provided open for consideration and assessment at next NCM
Vic. Agreed
S.A. Agreed, but to consider proportional contributions for future NCM's
W.A. Agreed
Tas. Agreed
Qld. Agreed.

It is therefore resolved that State Units agree to share equally in the cost of travel of two State Unit delegates to the next N.C.M.

It should be noted that this resolution only concerns the next NCM. It will therefore be automatically reconsidered at the next NCM.

CORRESPONDENCE (CONT.):

From Mrs. R. Cocks re ACWC travel
 To " " "
 To Mr. A.M. Gibson " "
 From Mrs. M. Ralph report on meeting of Com. on Faith and Order
 " Miss T. Skiller re I.C.Y.E.
 " Mrs. J. Keen re reception to meet new Exec. Director
 " Miss J. Christie re W.C. Day Orders of Service
 To " do.
 From Mrs. K. Dodds re Christians One
 " Sec. Vic. Unit re " " , publicity brochure, NCM
 finance resolution, YWCA invitation
 " A.C.C. Newsletters re closing of trade offices in
 South Africa
 Sydney Conference on Women's
 Liberation and the Church
 New Women Priests in USA
 Study on Racism urged
 Protest to Russian Ambassador
 Aid to Bangladesh
 Question to Aust. companies on
 their role in Sth. Africa

REPORTS: Fellowship of the Least Coin

Convenor reported that Victoria had ordered 300 copies of Circle of Prayer. There has been a widening of interest in F.L.C. in recent months with news of new groups and individuals seeking information.

United Groups

Fellowship Day services have been held at various centres.

W.K. Scholarship

Convenor reported that the 1975 Scholarship has been offered to Mrs. Mary Weme of Kenya. Her acceptance of the scholarship still has not been received. Mrs. Weme is 38 years old and has 3 children aged 12, 11 and 9. From her personal application, Mrs. Weme appears to be a very warm and wise person. Her application came with very high recommendations from the N.C.C. in Kenya. She was chosen as Kenya's candidate for the Scholarship from numerous applications submitted to the N.C.C. Mrs. Weme is particularly keen to receive training in women's group leadership. A course available at the Y.W.C.A. in South Australia seems to be particularly suitable to her needs. She also seeks training in craft skills and this is readily available also.

News is still awaited of the results of Rae Song's English test.

Scribal Pens

Convenor reported that supplies of Scribal Pens are now exhausted. Future orders to be placed direct with the Company by State Units.

FURTHER BUSINESS:

Dates for 1975 National Committee Meeting - 19th-22nd August, 1975 at Lincoln College.

NEXT MEETING:

30th September at 10.00 a.m. sharp.

CLOSING:

The meeting was closed with the benediction.

Confirmed _____

Date _____

- President: Mrs. A.C. Smith, 360 Marion Road, Plympton, 5038
- Vice-Pres: Mrs. W.F. Kain, 51 Winchester St., St Peters, 5069
Deaconess N. Norris, C/- Presbyterian Church Office, 33 Pirie St., Adelaide
- Treasurer: Mrs. E. A. Bache, 10 Gurrs Road, Kensington Park, 5068
- Secretary: Mrs. J. B. Murchland, 33 Wilson Tce., Glenelg East, 5045
- Committee: Mrs. Capt. W. Golding, 48 Fairford St., Unley, 5061
- Members: Mrs. K. D. Hall, 30 Lawson Ave., Morphettville, 5043
Mrs. T. R. Howie, 9 Buchan Ave., Beaumont, 5066
Mrs. D. J. Rowston, 8 Andrew Ave., Millswood, 5034
Mrs. J. Whitehead, 45 Brougham Place, North Adelaide, 5006