

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Meeting of Australian Church Women (Interim Committee) held on Wednesday, July 8, at 10 a.m. in the ACC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, SYDNEY.

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

OPENING: The Convener, Mrs. Wyllie, opened the meeting with prayer.

APOLOGY: Mrs. McPhee, Mrs. Barrell, Rev. H. L. Perkins.

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

BUSINESS ARISING: (1) Fellowship of the Least Coin. It was reported that the leaflet and label had been completed and had been circulated to the State Women's Inter-Church Councils; United Churches and State Councils and Committees of the ACC. It was agreed that these should also go to the Federal Denominational Womens organisations.

(2) World Community Day - reported that the ACT had ordered 200 copies of the material and the Victorian Women's I.C.C. 120 for publicity. A discussion took place concerning the preparation of a statement on the significance of World Community Day stressing that it is part of Australian Church Women and the first time it had been planned on an Australia-wide basis.

It was agreed that Mrs. Verco with the assistance of Mr. Hinton produce two statements - for the use of the press and on World Community Day.

During the discussion Mrs. Verco reported on the developments in NSW for the observance at country and metropolitan centres. In particular she reported that it was planned to have the Day at Dulwich Hill and the local Committee had indicated that there were a number of Greek Orthodox Churches in the area. It was suggested that Mrs. Verco investigate the matter of simultaneous translator with Mrs. Doratis to encourage the Greek women to attend the service and further suggested that they may also be able to share in the study by having a special group for them.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIPS: It was reported that preliminary discussions had been held with Mr. Hinton and that it looked as if we could co-operate with ICA in a project. Agreed that Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. H. J. Lilley form a sub-committee to look into the background of people already in Australia under similar scholarships and facilities available. Sub-committee to report back to Interim Committee for further consultation with Rev. C. R. Sprackett and Mr. W. V. Hinton.

TASMANIA: Rev. J. R. Neal reported on his recent visit to Tasmania and indicated that the formation of a TWICC was still at the preliminary stage.

NEWSLETTER: Resolved that we seek Mr. Hinton's assistance in the publication of our next Newsletter.

PUBLICATION: A discussion took place concerning further publications and it was agreed that if possible we should have the study material available for use by groups before printing.

The meeting agreed to think about suitable topics for further study books and suggestions of people we could approach to write the study.

OTHER LITERATURE: The problems faced by parents of teenage children were raised and many expressed the view that existing material was not quite what the parents were looking for. It was therefore agreed that this be referred to the A.C.C.s Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society. The Rev. J. R. Neal being present during this discussion and being the Secretary of the Committee be asked to bring this matter forward.

SERVICE AND STATUS

OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH: Agreed that material received from the South Australian Methodist Womens Federation be circulated to the members of the Interim Committee. The Committee to discuss ways and means of encouraging such a study in women's groups in the Churches, a questionnaire could be used as the basis. It is hoped that through this study women of the Churches will be alerted to this question.

SURVEY BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE COOPERATION

OF MEN & WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY: It was reported that the Committee in Melbourne at its first meeting had agreed to undertake a survey of the training of professional women in the Church - e.g. Christian Education Deaconesses, Religious Orders, etc.

CONSTITUTION: A draft constitution was before the meeting and following discussion and amendments made it was agreed that the second draft be circulated to the Committee members.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Resolved that Col. Hazel Cross, Secretary of the Salvation Army Home League be invited to be a member of the Interim Committee.

Federal Conference of the Churches of Christ: Resolved that we write to Mr. Harold Cross, Secretary of the Committee on Christian Unity asking that A.C.W. be included in the discussions of Federal Conference.

Womens Fellowship Day: Mrs. Verco will be in Brisbane during Federal Conference in Brisbane during September.

CLOSING: Rev. J. R. Neal closed the meeting with prayer.

Confirmed:

Michael G. Wyle

Date:

12/5/64