

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 at Christian Welfare Centre, Perth, at 10.30 am, on Friday, 2nd July, 1976.

OPENING: Rev. Dorothy Wacker opened the meeting with prayer.

GREETINGS, APOLOGIES, FELLOWSHIP: Members present were greeted: Rev. Dorothy Wacker (Chairman), Vera Dean (Secretary), Jean Banyard (Treasurer), Jan Watts, Vera Wilson, Jean Vincent, Beryl Warr, Isobel Macintyre, Carmel Downie, Marjorie Scurlock, Peg Eaton.

MINUTES: Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June, having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN: Vera Wilson reported as follows :

Correspondence:      Inward:

1. From Mrs. McKenzie (N.T. Unit) - cheque for F.L.C.
2. From Miss Gurupatham (Darwin) re application for F.L.C. Grant.
3. From Mrs. Meadows (Qld. Unit) re application forms for F.L.C. Grant.
4. From Mrs. Dennis - application for F.L.C. Grant.
5. From Mrs. Murchland (S.A. Unit) enclosing application for F.L.C. Grant.
6. From Mrs. Strack (Vic. Unit) extra copies of "Small Beginnings".
7. From Victorian State Unit : re 3 applications for F.L.C. Grants.

Outward:

1. To Rev. Fred Timakata replying to request for application forms for F.L.C. Grant.
2. Miss Gurupatham re application for F.L.C. Grant.
3. To Mrs. Solomon acknowledging quarterly Bulletin and re F.L.C. Grants.
4. To Mrs. Ackland (Vic. Unit) enclosing application forms for F.L.C. Grant.
5. To F.L.C. Conveners - a copy of "Small Beginnings".

A letter was also received from Mrs. Shanti Solomon re applications from Australia. In response to this letter, there was a long discussion, both about applications received and as to whether applications should be made from Australia.

The following decisions were made here and in a consultation that followed:

1. That we should think through what the requests for Aboriginal help are saying to us as A.C.W. (as a Working Committee and as State Units) - both re involvement with the Aborigines and the attitudes of white Australians.
2. That at the next N.C.M. special attention should be given to A.C.W. involvement in meeting Aboriginal needs in Australia and the possibility of active involvement apart from using the present F.L.C. and W.K.S. projects. (To be considered when arrangements are being made for N.C.M. speakers.)
3. A letter to be written to Shanti Solomon asking that in August the A.C.W.C. Working Committee discuss how they feel about Australia's participation in receiving F.L.C. Grants, and that they forward to us any comments - the letter to include our comments that we have had a feeling of prayerful support in receiving money in the past; we have thought of it not so much as money but as people around the world caring.
4. That State Units be asked to make their response to Shanti Solomon's comments, as follows : "So far, Australia has put in requests every year. If the affluent countries restrain from getting grants from the F.L.C., then the money can be shared with more needy countries of the world. We do not have to submit a project every year. If we can help others to meet their needs."
5. That, out of the 6 applications received, we should forward one - from Rose Gurupatham, re an Aboriginal Women's Centre in Darwin, a pioneering programme, requesting \$5,000.00. The others received were as follows:-
  - (a) Aborigines' Friends Association : \$1,500.00
  - (b) The Little King's Movement : 1,000.00
  - (c) I.T.I.M. re assisting people in : 2,000.00  
industry, counselling, etc.
  - (d) Ecumenical Migration Centre : 1,900.00  
re Resource Material Library,  
Migrant Welfare.

F.L.C. (cont'd) :

- (e) Institute of Cultural Affairs : \$2,000.00  
re Preschool equipment, etc. at Oombulgurri.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP: Jean Vincent reported as follows :

Correspondence received :

- 8.6.1976 - From Salvation Army regretting they were unable to nominate a suitable 1977 applicant.  
13.6.76 - From Sarrah Ah You describing her course at S.P.C.T.C. She is still enjoying her work and has recently had an enjoyable experience of field work out in the villages. She has completed and passed examinations in Home Nursing and First Aid. In addition, she has been doing some interesting practical work in carpentry and concrete work, such as making sets of chairs, food safes, water sealer toilets and drum ovens. Last month she was appointed to read the Bible lesson at the World Day of Prayer meeting at Wesley Church in Suva, and was interested to hear an Englishman pray specifically for Australia

June, 1976: Three completed short-list applications.

Re Sarrah Ah You - letter to be written re books and the amount required in regard to costs incurred in field work. The college to be contacted again re Sarrah.

Re Anne Kerepia - Two letters have been received :

- 1) from the Acting General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A., Papua-New Guinea, advising that the scholarship should be applied elsewhere;
- 2) from Headquarters of Y.W.C.A. in Geneva, advising that the scholarship should be kept for Anne, and that Anne's fare to Fiji would be paid by Y.W.C.A.

In the light of the letter from Y.W.C.A., Geneva, Jean Vincent to write to:

- 1) Y.W.C.A. Geneva, asking them to advise Anne that the Scholarship will be kept for her.
- 2) Anne Kerepia, to advise her of the letter from Y.W.C.A. Headquarters, Geneva,
- 3) Y.W.C.A., T.P.N.G.

Applications for 1976 Scholarship:

- 1) Miss Jennifer Yeo Suan Phoon (26 years) Bachelor of Divinity Degree, Presbyterian Church, Singapore. To train in Taiwan for one year - Theology and re Campus Evangelism.
- 2) Miss Supaporn Kongphrom, (26 years), Bachelor of Arts in Education, Presbyterian Church, Thailand. To study in Australia - English as a second language.
- 3) Sundari Budi Utama (26 years) Social Work Degree, Jarkarta, Indonesia. To train in Australia in Social Work.

It was decided that candidates 1) and 2) be accepted.

A letter to be written to candidate 3) commending her for her vision re the Church and social work, advising of difficulties in providing the training or experience she seeks, offering to act as contacts for further questions, but regretting that the scholarship is not available for her.

Jean Vincent to make necessary contacts re training for Supaporn Kongphrom so that information can be included in first reply if possible. (e.g. W.A. Institute of Technology, Principal of Presbyterian Ladies' College, etc)

SPECIAL DAYS: Marjorie Scurlock reported as follows:

The Order of Service for Community Day had been received from Mrs. Rachael Cocks, who expressed the wish that mention should be made of the assistance she received from the Rev. John May in the preparation of the service. The order of service master copy will be sent to the States conveners within the next week or so, with arrangements to be finalised by the Committee.

Three suggestions re the World Community Day Offering project had been forwarded by the A.C.C. It was agreed that the offering project be The Transmigration Programme in Indonesia i.e., re leadership training and provision of resources for people being "re-settled". The Committee to be responsible for publicity.

A.C.W.C.: Letter received from Shanti Solomon included reference to Women's Forum to be held in Manila, 1977. The hope expressed : that women of each member country of the Christian Conference of Asia would see that at least one woman is selected from each member church as a delegate to the C.C.A.

A.C.W.C. (cont'd):

Assembly which the Forum precedes and that at least six Australian women would be delegates. To be followed up.

A.C.C. :

Vera Wilson to represent A.C.W. at meetings in Brisbane in July.  
Prayerful support was promised to Vera.

"WOMEN AT WORK":

Publicity for N.C.M. will start in the current issue and through a special edition of "Women at Work".

ADMINISTRATION:

Correspondence:

F.L.C. Outgoing - Secretary, Tasmanian Unit re expenses of Special Day Services.

General: Outgoing -

1. Union of Australian Women re Booklet on Mexico and Berlin Assemblies on Action for World Peace.
2. Mrs. J. Johnston, W.A. Women's World Day of Prayer re F.L.C.
3. Mrs. M. Nash, Area President, World Fed. of Methodist Women re Dublin Assembly.
4. Secretary, Victorian Unit, re error in Minutes, Special Days programmes, and request for F.L.C. application forms.

Incoming -

1. Miss Oo Chung Lee, Chairman - Korea Church Women United - thanks for expression of concern and request for continued prayer.
2. Mrs. E. Ridge, Hon. Secretary, Australian Fed. of Methodist Women. Newsletter enclosed and copy of Worship Study "A call and a Choice".
3. Australian Council for Overseas Aid re Third World News.
4. Secretary, A.C.W., South Australian Unit, re Mrs. D. Manning appointment as Unit Representative, S.A. Council of Christian Education, plus F.L.C. Application.
5. Rev. N. Cocks, Secretary, Tas. Council of Churches re letter from Mrs. M. Holmes concerning "Week of Prayer for World Peace", plus copy of proposed programme.
6. Secretary, Vic. Unit A.C.W. re W.K. Offering, Special Days Convenor, and enclosing copy of Annual Report.

A.C.C. : Minutes of Executive Meeting.  
In Unity.

Information: Special Fund for South African Relief and Legal Aid.  
Australia asked to protest to Argentina re Refugees.  
Urgent cable received by the A.C.C. from the South African Council on the Soweto Crisis, plus recommendations to Churches.

N.B. : The Secretary would like names and addresses of current office-bearers in State Units, for publication in "Women at Work".

N.C.M. : Discussion followed re N.C.M. plans. A letter to be written to each State Unit by Vera Dean, Isabel Macintyre and Dorothy Wacker in consultation. Financial arrangements to be clarified. W.A. "mood-setting" and commitment to be fostered through FORUM OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN to be held at St. Andrew's Hall on 17th August at 6.30 pm., each Working Committee member providing the names of ten church women not involved in A.C.W. member organisations.

FINANCE:

1. It was agreed that the following Financial Statement be received.

Statement of Receipts & Expenditure for month ended 30th June, 1976:

Receipts:

Balance at 1.6.76 \$18,373.41

Fellowship of Least Coin:

Northern Territory Unit  
of A.C.W. 76.76

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund:

Bank Interest 55.87

Expenditure:

Fellowship of Least Coin:

Petty Cash 10.00

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund:

Petty Cash 30.00

Fellowship Day:

Petty Cash 2.50

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