

minutes of the meeting held in the Board Room, Bible House, on Friday 28th November

The President, Mrs E. H. Vines, was in the chair and 22 members present.

After a short devotional period led by the President apologies were received from Mesdames Pearson, Barratt, Palmer, Farr, Sytherleigh and ^(Vandenberg) Vandenberg.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and, after correction, signed.

The secretary reported that the President of the Victorian Women's Inter Church Council would be visiting Sydney early in December and it had been arranged that she should lunch with the President and Secretary.

A letter was received from Mrs McGillivray of Gosford in answer to an enquiry as to whether a women's inter-church organization exists in that town. It appears there is no such organization but a joint women's meeting was held in October and addressed by Miss Roberts, Headmistress of the Church of England Girls' Grammar School, Newcastle, on the work of the Australian Council of the World Council of Churches. The secretary was instructed to make further inquiries about this.

The Secretary was also to write to the secretary of the Committee organising the visit of Billy Graham in April 1959 and ask if it is desired that the Council should be represented on that committee.

With reference to the discussion on poker machines at the last meeting it was decided that nothing could be done at this time but that the whole problem of gambling should be discussed next year. Miss McDiarmid moved that Rev. W. Hobbin be asked to speak on the subject at the March meeting. A number of press cuttings were handed in by members from Sydney Morning Herald, the Listener, etc.

The financial statement showing a credit balance of £10.8.11 was presented by Miss McDiarmid; authority was given for the payment of the account for the new letter head paper.

The ordinary business was then interrupted in order that members could be addressed by Rev. David Idrwell, N.S.W. State Secretary of Inter Church Aid Commission.

The refugee problem is continuing. Every month 1500 refugees from Communist countries enter Germany carrying all their possessions in a single bundle. They are given the bare necessities of life but, having no labour

permits, they are not allowed to work.

The Australian Government has done much to help, but there are many cases which no government could ~~assist~~ ^{help} and there the churches endeavour to help. For example the Norwegian churches have given homes for 23000 blind persons, 42000 epileptics have been taken by France cared for and trained.

The pitiable case of refugees in Hong Kong was also described. Throughout the world there are some 50 million refugees.

The Inter-Church Aid Australian committee hopes to raise £50000 this year, £42000 is in hand but there is still £8000 more to be raised.

Colonel Dean, a member of the Inter Church Aid, added a few more details.

The speakers were thanked by the Secretary for a very informative and moving account of the work and needs of Inter Church Aid.

Continuing the ordinary business of the meeting Mrs Knight reported that the Hostel was running smoothly, finances were in a very satisfactory state. The overdraft has been reduced to £2200 and it is hoped to have some painting done in the bedrooms during the vacation.

The secretary was asked to write to Mrs Barnett to express hope that she would soon be quite well after her illness, also to Mrs Denis Ryan to express sympathy for the loss of her husband.

As there was no further business the meeting closed with the benediction.

A. H. Vines
24/2/59

N.S.W. WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL

Financial Statement to 28th November, 1958.

| <u>RECEIPTS.</u> | £ s. d. | <u>EXPENDITURE.</u> | £ s. d. |
|---|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| By <u>Credit Balance</u> , 31st October, 1958, | 5 1 11 | To Affiliation Fee World Council of Churches | 1 1 . |
| " <u>Affiliation Fees 1958/59-</u> | | | |
| Lutheran Women's Guild | 1 1 . | | |
| Presbyterian Women's Assn. | 1 1 . | | |
| " 1/3 Share of cost printing Annual Reports-Wybalena Hostel Committee | 4 6 . | " <u>Credit Balance</u> | 10 8 11 |
| | <u>£11 9 11</u> | | <u>£11 9 11</u> |

24/11/58

A. H. Vines