

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

MINUTES

of

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1967

DEACONESS HOUSE,
CARILLON AVENUE,
NEWTOWN, N.S.W.

FEBRUARY 8 - 10

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of National Committee Meeting held at Deaconess House,
Carillon Avenue, Newtown, N.S.W., February 8 - 10, 1967.

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PRESENT:

Office Bearers:

President	Mrs. M.G. Wyllie
Vice President	Head Deaconess M. Andrews
Vice President	Mrs. D.J.A. Verco
Secretary	Lt. Colonel H. Cross
Treasurer	Mrs. J.F. Dey

State Representation:

Queensland	Mrs. R.S. Dingle	Methodist
N.S.W.	Mrs. D.G. Badger Mrs. A.G. Ralph	Congregationalist Presbyterian
Victoria	Mrs. Colonel Saunders Mrs. V.C. Stafford	Salvation Army Churches of Christ
Sth. Australia	Mrs. S. Haynes Mrs. R.D. Kay	Congregationalist Congregationalist
Tasmania	Mrs. G.A. Wood	Presbyterian
A. C. T.	Mrs. A.E. Minty Mrs. A.G. Ogston	Methodist Church of England

Denominational Representation:

Church of England	Head Deaconess M. Andrews
Methodist	Mrs. C.F. Gribble
Presbyterian	Mrs. A. Dougan
Congregational	Mrs. H.T. Wells
Churches of Christ	Mrs. O.J. Bloore
Salvation Army	Lt. Colonel H. Cross

Special interest Group:

Y.W.C.A.	Mrs. S. McPhee	alternate for Mrs. A.W. Burton
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Representatives from:

ACC Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women
in Church, Family and Society

Mrs. T.H. Coates	Methodist
Deaconess C. Ritchie	Presbyterian

ACC Executive Committee

Mrs. H. Stephens	Church of England
Mrs. D.J.A. Verco	alternate for Mrs. D. Strack - Churches of Christ
Mrs. M.G. Wyllie	Methodist

Observers:

Federal

Lutheran	Mrs. A. Schubert
Women's World Day of Prayer	Mrs. R.S. Dingle

N.S.W. State Denominational Women's Groups

Church of England	Miss D. Mitchell	A.B.M. Women's Auxiliary
	Mrs. B. Montgomerie	Mothers' Union
	Mrs. G. Lane	Mothers' Union
	Deaconess M. Andrews	Girls' Friendly Society
Methodist	Mrs. S.G. Cowled	
Presbyterian	Mrs. C. Butler	
Congregational	Mrs. H.S. Mason	
Salvation Army	Mrs. Colonel G. Dalziel	
Armenian Apostolic	Mrs. H. Mackertich	
	Mrs. Grenville	

United Church in North Australia - Darwin

Mrs. B. Searle

Committee on Co-operation - South Australia

Mrs. R.E. Wilmshurst Methodist

ACC Staff (consultants)

Rev. J.R. Neal
Mr. V.K. Brown

Guest:

Miss Sabita Swarup -
1966 Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder.

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APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from

Mrs. S.M. Barrett	National Convener of the Fellowship of the Least Coin
Mrs. A.W. Burton	Y.W.C.A.
Mrs. D. Strack	ACC Executive appointant
Rev. Winifred Kiek	ACW Observer to 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference
Mrs. V. Willis	Baptist Women's Federation
Mrs. G.H. Briggs	Society of Friends

AGENDA:

WEDNESDAY, February 8

12.30pm	Lunch
2.00	Opening Prayers - the President, Mrs. M.G. Wyllie
	Session 1: Welcomes and Greetings
	Minutes
	Procedural arrangements
	Report from Working Committee
	Financial Report
	Report from Planning Committee relating to Location of the Working Committee
3.30	Afternoon Tea
4.15	Session 2:
6.00	Dinner
7.00	Session 3: Reports from State Units
	Reports from Federal Denominational Women's Groups
	Reports from Women's Fellowships of United Churches
	Speakers:
	Mrs. S. McPhee - Y.W.C.A.
	Mrs. H.T. Wells - World Community Day in Hartford, U.S.A.
	Mrs. S. Haynes
8.45	Evening Prayers.
9.00	Supper
9.15	Steering Committee Meeting

THURSDAY, February 9

8.00am	Breakfast	
8.45	Bible Study	- Rev. Rex Davis
9.45	Session 4:	The Winifred Kiek Scholarship Speaker: Miss Sabita Swarup, 1966 Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder Special Days
10.45	Morning Tea	
11.00	Session 5:	Location of the Working Committee
12.30pm	Lunch	
2.00	Session 6:	Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society
3.30	Afternoon Tea	
4.00	Session 7:	Speaker: Miss Elsie Needham - subject, "Refugees" Third Asian Church Women's Conference Fellowship of the Least Coin
6.00	Dinner	
7.30	Session 8:	<u>OPEN SESSION</u> Subject - Communication Speaker - Rev. Rex Meyer Deaconess M. Andrews
9.30	Evening Prayers.	
9.45	Supper	

FRIDAY, February 10

8.00am	Breakfast	
8.45	Observance of the Women's World Day of Prayer -	
		Leader - Mrs. R.S. Dingle
9.45	Session 9:	9.45 - 10.30 Group Discussions 10.30 - 10.45 United - presentation of Findings
10.45	Morning Tea	
11.00	Session 10:	11.00 - 11.45 Promotion 11.45 Other Business
12.30pm	Lunch	
2.00	Session 11:	Election of Officers Election of Working Committee Appointments to related Committees Amendment to the Constitution Recommendations to ACC Annual Meeting Any other Business.
3.30	Closing Prayers.	Mr. V.K. Brown
4.00	Afternoon Tea.	

OPENING: Opening Prayers were led by the President, Mrs. M.G. Wyllie.

WELCOMES: Mrs. Wyllie thanked Deaconess M. Andrews, the Principal of Deaconess House, for making it possible for the National Committee Meeting to be held at Deaconess House, and for her warm hospitality which enabled all to feel so very welcome.

Delegates and Observers were welcomed to the Meeting, and they were introduced to each other through a roll call. A special welcome was extended to Mr. V.K. Brown, General Secretary elect of the Australian Council of Churches, and to Miss Sabita Swarup, the 1966 Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder, who was attending the meeting just prior to her return to Fiji.

GREETINGS:

Greetings were received from the Federal Executive of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia, the Mothers' Union Diocese of Sydney, Mrs. S.M. Barrett, the Rev. Winifred Kiek, Queensland State Unit.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed, with the addition of the word 'India' on page 7.

PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Mrs. Wyllie chaired the meeting, with the exception of the following sessions:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Session 3 | Chairman - Mrs. A.G. Ogston |
| 6 | under the direction of the Convener of the
Committee on Co-operation, Mrs. T.H. Coates; |
| 7 | Chairman - Mr. V.K. Brown
Mrs. D.J.A. Verco |

The Agenda, in the Working Documents, was adopted by the meeting, with the following alteration:-

That the Report of the Planning Committee relating to the Location of the Working Committee was brought forward from Session 5 to Session 2.

On the recommendation of the Working Committee a Steering Committee was appointed. Those appointed were Mesdames T.H. Coates, R.S. Dingle, A.G. Ralph, F. Saunders, H.T. Wells, the President and Secretary.

The Steering Committee met on Wednesday night, and a report was presented to the Meeting on Thursday morning.

REPORT FROM WORKING COMMITTEE:

The report as produced in the working documents was presented by Mrs. Wyllie (Report attached).

The Secretary spoke to the following points:-

12. Promotion, especially relating to the delay in the production of the ACW Information Folder (now available). It was explained that the basic material for this had been passed to the ACC office in June 1966, with a request that it be edited and produced. There had been a series of delays in production because of pressure of other work on the Secretary for Public Relations and his absences from the office on Overseas and other conferences.
13. Location of the Working Committee. An outline of the background was given, and steps which had been taken following the resolution of the 1966 National Committee Meeting that a small committee be appointed to 'work out the implications involved in, and the possibility of, transferring the Working Committee to another Capital City in 1967.'

The President spoke to the following points:-

6. Representation on Committees within the Australian Council of Churches - Ecumenical Scholarship Committee.
It was pointed out that the Report found in the Working Committee Report was the only information to the National Committee Meeting of the work of this Committee.
7. Study Book. Appreciation was expressed concerning the preparation of this book by the Rev. A.A. Dougan and Mrs. Dougan, for the co-operation of three test groups in 'trying out' the material, and for the help of the ACC Staff in production.
15. Administration. The record in the working documents was amplified, especially relating to the work of the Secretary and Treasurer.
16. Appreciation. Attention was drawn to those whose names were listed, and further explanation given as called for. There was special comment concerning the Congregational Women's Fellowship of Nauru who sent a donation of \$400 for the work of ACW, being money received at their Easter offering.

It was resolved that Motions of Appreciation to Miss Thelma Skillier and Lt. Colonel H. Cross be prepared by Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. J.F. Dey.

Mrs. Wyllie pointed out that several points in the Report of the Working Committee would be discussed in the business of the meeting - hence did not call for comment at that stage.

Discussion and/or questions were invited. Points which emerged in discussion were:

- a) It would be helpful if State Denominational Women's Groups could receive copies of follow-up reports, such as the Asian Church Women's Conference.

Following an explanation by the President that ACW works at the Federal level and sends reports to Federal Denominational Women's Groups, it was suggested that ACW make available to State Units sufficient copies of such reports for them to circulate to State Women's Denominational Committees.

- b) The problem of keeping channels of communication open between ACW National Committee and local Church Women's Groups.

The suggestion was made that this would be greatly helped by office bearers of Women's State Denominational Groups, especially the President and/or Secretary, being members of State Women's Inter-church Councils.

- c) It would be of great value to have copies made of the tape recording of Mrs. Shanti Solomon. (Fellowship of the Least Coin)

- d) ACW could be greatly helped by the appointment of a woman to the Executive Staff of the Australian Council of Churches.

- e) Some disappointment was expressed on behalf of the Congregational Women's Fellowship of Australia concerning delay in the availability of the Study Book, which they had hoped to receive prior to the close of 1966.

- f) Deaconess C. Ritchie, one of ACW's representatives on the Ecumenical Scholarship Committee of the ACC, added to the information given in the Working Committee Report. It was stated that it is the work of the Scholarship Committee to receive applications from those desiring scholarships, travel grants, or help in overseas studies. The Committee makes an assessment of applications and sends recommendations to the office of the World Council of Churches at Geneva dealing with scholarships, with whom decisions rest.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Financial Statement was presented by the Treasurer, Mrs. J.F. Dey, with explanatory comments. (Statement attached)

The Statement was received.

It was resolved that \$8.22 interest in the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund Investment be transferred to the current account for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

It was resolved that \$100.00 be transferred from the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund current account to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund Investment.

It was resolved that \$853.55, balance in hand at 31.12.66 for Fellowship of the Least Coin, be remitted to Geneva.

It was resolved that the balance in the Asian Church Women's Travel Fund, \$112.02, be transferred to a new account to be known as ACW Overseas Travel Fund.

The Financial Report was adopted.

Appreciation was expressed to the Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE.

Mr. V.K. Brown, who had been chairman of the Planning Committee, presented the report.

He stated that three meetings had been held. Enquiries had been directed to the Working Committee and these had been answered. These referred particularly to the composition of the Working Committee and finance. He stated that the correspondence was available for perusal. In summing up the discussions of the Planning Committee, Mr. Brown stated -

1. There was the possibility of a good Working Committee functioning in Melbourne.
2. There would need to be a good Secretary and Treasurer and an inspiring President.
3. Attention would need to be given to the cost of administration.

The report was received.

REPORTS FROM STATE UNITS:

A representative from each State Unit spoke briefly to the Report which appeared in the Working Documents. Speakers, who were introduced by Mrs. A.G. Ogston, were - Queensland, Mrs. R.S. Dingle; N.S.W., Mrs. A.G. Ralph; Victoria, Mrs. Colonel Saunders; Sth. Australia, Mrs. S. Haynes; Tasmania, Mrs. G.A. Wood; A.C.T., Mrs. A.E. Minty.

As State Units had been asked to report especially concerning items which related to the work of ACW, viz. Special Days, Projects and Promotion, comments were related to business which was dealt with later in the meeting.

Discussion was invited.

Arising out of the report from Victoria, there was discussion concerning the number and variety of Inter-church groups which exist, some of which were in existence prior to the Church and Life Movement and others which have come into being through this Movement. The meeting felt this inter-church activity to be very desirable, but was anxious to find the best way in which women's inter-church groups could operate along with these other groups. It was the opinion of the meeting that it would be helpful to ask the ACC to give consideration to this, which exists in all parts of Australia. As the position seemed to be strongly existent in Victoria, it was suggested that Mrs. T.H. Coates prepare something in writing to place before the meeting.

would do this most effectively by giving our strong support to the Foundation on Alcoholism and similar bodies.

REPORTS FROM FEDERAL DENOMINATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS:

A representative from each Federal Denominational Women's Group spoke briefly to the report which appeared in the Working Documents. Speakers were - Church of England, Deaconess M. Andrews; Methodist, Mrs. C.F. Gribble; Presbyterian, Mrs. A.G. Ralph; Congregational, Mrs. H.T. Wells; Churches of Christ, Mrs. O.J. Bloore; Salvation Army, Lt. Colonel H. Cross.

As in the case of State Units, Federal Denominational Women's Groups had been asked to report concerning items which related to the work of ACW, so most comments referred to business dealt with later in the meeting.

There was a display of literature from Denominational Women's Groups, as proposed at the 1966 National Committee Meeting.

REPORTS FROM UNITED CHURCHES.

Mrs. J.F. Dey reported on the development of links with the Women's

Mrs J F Dey reported on the development of links with the Women's

Fellowships of United Churches in Northern Australia and Papua/New Guinea during 1966, as recorded in the Report of the Working Committee, point 3.

Mrs. B. Searle spoke to the report of the Women's Fellowship at Darwin, which has recently become a group of ACW. Mrs. Searle stated there is much interest concerning ACW, and the Fellowship of the Least Coin has been warmly received. It is hoped that in 1967 Fellowship Day will be observed by a combined service of their Fellowship and that of the Women's Fellowship of the United Church at Nightcliff, and that for World Community Day other denominations be asked to join with the United Churches.

The Open Session, held later in the meeting, was attended by Mrs. Major A. Walz, who has recently returned to Australia from Papua/New Guinea. She had been asked to attend on behalf of the Women's Inter-church Group at Port Moresby and bring their greetings.

REPORT FROM THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION:

Mrs. S. McPhee spoke concerning the Ecumenical Work of the Y.W.C.A. The following has been taken from her report:-

"In 1962 the World Y.M. and Y.W. sponsored a Consultation on the 'Ecumenical Policy and Practice for Lay Movements of the Church' in Geneva, with the staff of W.C.C. and W.S.S.F. participating. This was a tremendously worthwhile conference with 60 participants from 25 countries, Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic. Dr. Visser't Hooft, in his address on 'Lay Christian Movements in the New Ecumenical Climate' said, 'The Christian lay movements have had a long experience in ecumenical work, and they offer ecumenical experiences in a simple and natural way that the churches find it difficult in doing'. Another point emphasised was that 'the Y.M. and Y.W. cannot claim to be ecumenical simply because they have members from different churches. They can only be ecumenical if members have some relationship to one another as Christians, from different confessions, but within one fellowship'.

~~This is a point we might head in our ACW thinking and planning. What do every woman no matter what her race, colour or creed. Its voting members~~
are those who can subscribe to its purpose; others are associate members.

This purpose will be worded in various ways in different countries. In Australia it is:-

'To unite women and girls through faith in Jesus Christ in a world-wide fellowship; to develop responsible Christian citizens with a concern for all people'.

But the total purpose is written into the Constitution of the World's Y.W.C.A. I quote only two parts in its ecumenical and Christian purpose:-

In the preamble, it says - 'believing that unity among Christians is the will of God, and desiring as a lay movement to make a contribution to that unity', etc. followed by the functions, one of which says, 'To bring women and girls of different Christian traditions into world-wide fellowship through which they may grow as Christians, participating in the life and worship of their church and expressing their faith by word and deed'.

This Association, founded on prayer and service, is seen at its best working in those places where these two emphasis exist and in that order. The Programme varies from country to country according to need, and being a 'movement' is constantly changing its programme to meet new needs, e.g. Vocational training in Lebanon and Greece, Literacy in certain African States, Nutrition programme in India, Leadership training for Papuan girls in Port Moresby, etc. The work is carried out by paid staff and a large body of volunteers.

The international concern of the Y.W.C.A. is called 'World Fellowship' and is carried out by what is known as 'Mutual Service' - the sharing of resources of money and personnel, e.g. Korea. All national movements are

linked with the World's Y.W.C.A. in Geneva, and any new association must be for the indigenous people of that country, e.g. Nigeria or Port Moresby. This has led to a very happy integration of racial groups within the Y.W.C.A.

At the World level there is the closest co-operation and exchange of personnel between the Y.M./Y.W. and the W.C.C., especially in the field of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees - also with W.S.C.F. and the World Council for Christian education. In Australia we have welcomed the formation of ACW, and have appreciated being part of the team. When ours is an interdenominational movement, there are no difficulties to overcome in working with the combined denominational groups as we have in ACW. We would like to feel that we are part of 'the long arm of the church' doing the Church's work through this movement which brings us into contact with a great number of girls and women untouched by the organised church, and into many frontier positions."

Mrs. McPhee gave Notice of

The World Council of Y.W.C.A., which will be held in Melbourne,
August 19 - September 1, 1967.

Visit of teams to various States, September 4 - 9,
and urged the co-operation of ACW.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY IN HARTFORD, U.S.A.

Mrs. H.T. Wells, who had been present at this day in 1966, was asked to speak concerning this. Mrs. Wells spoke briefly concerning Church Women United (U.S.A.), including (1) that they organise annually Women's World Day of Prayer, Fellowship Day and World Community Day (2) that they have a full-time observer at all meetings of the United Nations. Preparations for each special day commence 6 months before the date of the event. The following is taken from Mrs. Wells' report concerning World Community Day at Hartford; literature was available for inspection.

"The venue was South Congregational Church, Hartford, the capital of Connecticut; the observance of this day (the 23rd occasion on which it was celebrated) took from 10am until 3pm. The Worship Service on the theme, 'Laity: Rights, Resources, Responsibilities', was written by Sister Mary Luke, the only American woman appointed as an auditor at the Second Vatican Council, and this form of worship was printed and distributed all over the nation by Church Women United.

Following the service was a Forum, at which several women spoke briefly on the topic of the day, from the standpoint of American Church Women's part in helping others (both at home and overseas) to achieve the freedoms listed in the U.N. Charter. After this, we broke into discussion groups of about 25 or so, and each one considered the U.S. Foreign Aid Programme and the part of Christian women in this, in Africa, S.E. Asia (Phillipines especially) and Brazil. In each group there was a 'resource person' and a discussion leader, and according to conversations at lunch time, the work done in these varied considerably. Name tags were in the form of the countries to be included in discussion, and that was the discussion group to which we went.

At lunch time I was welcomed and asked to take greetings back to ACW from those present at the Hartford meeting. In my acknowledgment of the welcome, I conveyed greetings from ACW and spoke of our indebtedness to Church Women United for introducing Fellowship Day and World Community Day to us.

The afternoon programme contained an address on U.N., plus closing worship, during which the offering for special programme was received. One of these special projects was the building of a centre for the training of women in the highlands of New Guinea - C.W.U. will build the centre; the Australian Trusteeship Administration will staff and equip it; and C.W.U. will provide scholarships to bring women to the centre.

It was a privilege to share in World Community Day in a city in this, the country of its origin. Much printed material was distributed to all who registered.

The luncheon was far and away beyond Australian standards in this respect - all the catering and serving was done by the hostess church, and everyone

paid for the meal. Special place-mats and table napkins, all appropriate to the day, were used. "

BIBLE STUDY:

This was led by the Rev. Rex Davis. It was based on Jeremiah 21 v.8 and Psalm 137. This included a descriptive presentation of the historical setting of the Babylonish captivity of the Jews and the situation of those who remained at Jerusalem. From these events, and the actions of Jeremiah and King Zedekiah main thoughts presented were that in circumstances there can be a choice of

- 1) accommodating ourselves to a situation
- 2) taking a revolutionary attitude.

Jeremiah in his attitude and witness in Jerusalem was seen to be an astute politician, with wisdom in both kinds of situation.

The Biblical record was made 'alive' in the setting of today.

It was suggested that in some ways the two attitudes are irreconcilable, yet in adopting one it is often needful for there to be some of the other.

Discussion followed.

STEERING COMMITTEE.

The Steering Committee met following supper on Wednesday evening, and the report of the meeting, as follows, was presented before proceeding with the business of Session 4.

a) Fellowship Day material.

It was recommended that draft of the Order of Service and Study Questions, as prepared by Canberra Church Women, be circulated to members of the meeting, and that a small sub-committee be formed to study this material and report to the meeting.

On the recommendation of the Steering Committee, it was resolved that the Chairman of the group be Mrs. G.A. Wood, other members being Mesdames R.S. Dingle, V.C. Stafford, D.J.A. Varco, S. Haynes, and Mrs. A.E. Minty of Canberra as consultant.

b) Elections.

It was recommended that a Nominations Committee not be used, but that a form be placed on the Notice Board on which nominations could be made for office bearers and members of the Working Committee; particulars required to be - Name of Nominee; by whom nominated; by whom nomination was seconded; denomination of Nominee. It was proposed that nominations should close at 8.30am on Friday. The recommendation was accepted.

c) It was recommended that the Motions of Appreciation being prepared by Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. Dey come to the meeting on Friday in the period 'Other Business'. The recommendation was accepted.

d) It was recommended

1. that Mrs. T.H. Coates be asked to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches concerning consideration being given to the relationship of existing Inter-church groups to each other.
2. that Mrs. Coates and Deaconess C. Ritchie be asked to prepare a recommendation to the Annual Meeting of the ACC concerning the desirability of an executive member of the ACC Staff being a women.

These recommendations were accepted.

e) It was recommended that Group Discussions (session 10) be along the line of an assessment concerning how far the aims of ACW are being fulfilled; that three groups operate and questions be prepared;

that Chairmen of the groups be Mesdames S. Haynes and G.A. Wood and Deaconess C. Ritchie. The recommendation was accepted.

THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP:

Deaconess M. Andrews spoke to the report of the National Scholarship Committee (report attached) and expressed pleasure concerning the presence of the 1966 Scholarship Holder, Miss Sabita Swarup. Appreciation was expressed to those who had helped financially, and in matters of accommodation, entertainment, and the business side of the 1966 scholarship.

It was reported that word had been received just on the eve of the National Committee Meeting that Miss Busima, of the Y.W.C.A. in Port Moresby, has a condition requiring medical treatment and observation which makes it not possible for her to leave Papua for a period of 6 months. Request has been made by the Y.W.C.A. at Port Moresby that consideration be given to postponement of the awarding of this particular scholarship for a period of six months, or that Miss Busima be the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder for 1968.

Discussion followed.

It was resolved that the National Scholarship Committee investigate during the coming year the possibility of setting State targets for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

It was resolved that the National Scholarship Committee investigate the possibility of taking out Health and Accident Insurance for Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holders.

It was agreed that it be left with the National Scholarship Committee to work out detail concerning the Scholarship Holder for 1967.

Mrs. H.T. Wells reported having met Miss Connie Tan, the 1965 Winifred Kiek Scholarship Holder, in Holland, and of her warm expressions of appreciation of the benefits received through the period spent in Australia, and concerning the very kind hospitality which had been extended to her.

Deaconess Andrews then introduced
MISS SABITA SWARUP, who spoke to the meeting.

Miss Swarup spoke of her pleasure at being present at the meeting.

The awarding of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship to her had fulfilled a strong desire to come to Australia to do a Business Course. She spoke of the Course she had taken at the Metropolitan Business College, and that she would, as part of the course, be doing book-keeping by correspondence, so that she even after her return to Fiji would for a period still be benefitting from the scholarship.

Miss Swarup gave information concerning the Christian Church in Fiji. She also spoke of the secretarial work she would be taking up at the Ba Hospital. Previously the Hospital has depended on an appointment from Australia to fill this particular post, so she feels it to be an honour to be the first local person to be chosen for this position.

Thanks were expressed by Miss Swarup for being the guest of ACW for the National Committee Meeting. She hopes she will be able to make use of ideas received in her Christian service in Fiji.

Her thanks were expressed especially to the Matron of the Methodist Girls' Hostel, to the War Memorial Hospital, to Mrs. Dey and her family, and to Mrs. Ralph.

Mrs. S.G. Cowled expressed the thanks of the meeting to Miss Swarup for the information given and her delightful presentation; she expressed our great pleasure in having had her company and extended good wishes for the future.

SPECIAL DAYS:

This subject was introduced by Mrs. V.C. Stafford, of the W.I.C.C. of Victoria. Mrs. Stafford had been asked to speak of the method used by the Council in organising Fellowship Day and World Community Day. Points included in information given were:-

- 1) There are two sub-committees within the Council, one organises Fellowship Day and the other World Community Day. The Convener of the World Community Day Committee is also State Convener for the Fellowship of the Least Coin.
- 2) Some months prior to the date of the Special Day the Convener of the committee for that day sends out information to all Groups concerning date, topic and project, and requests orders for literature.
- 3) Early on members of the Council are asked to try and organise Special Days in areas where they are not being held, attention especially being given to where there are geographical gaps.
- 4) Meetings, places, times and project are advertised in 'The Age' and Group Secretaries are encouraged to advertise in local papers. Likewise denominational representatives are asked to place advertisements in denominational papers.
- 5) Special Days are talked of in Council meetings prior to the events. In August a Reports Day is held. At this meeting reports of Fellowship Day are received, and this also provides an opportunity for encouraging the observance of World Community Day.

Discussion was invited.

Comments included in reports from State Units and Denominational Women's Groups, and comments made by representatives in speaking to reports, had been noted by the meeting and been the subject of some discussion in session 3. This was linked to discussion which took place under the heading of Special Days.

The following resolution was carried -

"It is suggested that the prepared material for the Worship Service be approx. 30mins."

There was discussion concerning the use of an address or the use of discussion groups. It was agreed that the prepared Order of Service should provide for both, but that the choice should be made at the local level as to which of the two should be used. It was generally agreed that it should be only one or the other. There was strong feeling that for World Community Day there should be extra space given in the meeting to Group Discussions; also adequate time for the receiving of offerings for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. The meeting also favoured the inclusion of men wherever it was possible for this to be arranged, having in mind the possibility of evening services.

It was noted that the suggestion had been made that in future production of Orders of Service a more attractive format be used.

Concerning a suggestion that further material might be provided in connection with discussion groups, it was generally agreed that printing costs would prohibit this in connection with the production of the Order of Service; it was thought that the only way this could be considered would be through the providing of supplementary material. This was exploratory discussion only.

Fellowship Day 1967:

Later in the meeting Mrs. D.J.A. Verco reported for the sub-committee which had studied this material. With minor alterations, which Mrs. Verco presented to the meeting, it was recommended that the Order of Service and Questions prepared by Canberra Church Women, with the title, "Let the Church be the Church in Daily Living", be used. Mrs. Verco reported that the minor alterations proposed were acceptable to the Canberra representatives.

It was resolved that this material be accepted for Fellowship Day 1967, and that the thanks of the meeting be expressed to Canberra Church Women and the sub-committee.

The established project for Fellowship Day is the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

World Community Day 1967:

It was agreed that a sub-committee be formed to bring a recommendation to the meeting for this day, having to do with theme, who would be asked to prepare the Order of Service and Questions for group discussions, and project. It was agreed that the members of this Committee be Mrs. R.E. Wilmshurst (Convener), Mesdames V.C. Stafford, D.J.A. Verco, G.A. Wood.

Later in the meeting Mrs. Wilmshurst brought the report of the sub-committee. Three suggestions were placed before the meeting.

Following discussion, it was resolved -

- 1) that the subject for World Community Day 1967 be "World Community through the United Nations".
- 2) that the Australasian Federation of Methodist Women be asked to prepare the Order of Service and Questions for Group Discussions.
- 3) that the project be - Vietnam, to assist Inter-Church Aid Team Work already in operation.

The thanks of the meeting were expressed to the sub-committee.

LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Wyllie introduced this subject by reference to the record in the report of the Working Committee, point 13, where it was stated that there had been fairly general agreement in the opinions of State Units and Federal Denominational Women's Groups, where enquiry forms had been returned, viz:

- 1) that it would be in the interests of ACW for the location of the Working Committee to move every two years.
- 2) that Melbourne would be the suitable location for 1967 and 1968.
- 3) that a Planning Committee to prepare for this change-over should be set up in Melbourne.

Also, the meeting was referred back to the Report of the Planning Committee which had been presented in session 2.

Following discussion, it was resolved that for the years 1967 and 1968 the Working Committee be located in Melbourne.

The meeting desired it placed on record that the National Committee regarded this as a big departure, taking the Working Committee as it does from the centre of ACC administration.

Concerning nominations for the Working Committee, it was pointed out by Mrs. Wyllie that whilst it was known that several ladies had agreed to nomination (some present at the meeting and others not present), the position appeared to be that the full strength of the Working Committee would be better assured if it were possible to nominate some whose consent had not been obtained. It was recognised that this was not usual procedure, but that we were facing a situation not previously experienced.

It was resolved that on this occasion, because of the particular situation, the generally accepted rule requiring the prior consent of the nominee be waived.

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY:

Mr. Val Brown occupied the chair, and introduced Mrs. J. Coates as Convener of this Committee.

A welcome was extended to Mrs. R.E. Wilmshurst as Convener of the South Australian Working Group. Mrs. Wilmshurst read her report on "The Service and Status of Women in the Churches of Australia", which was already in the hands of the members of the National Committee. Her attendance at the National Committee Meeting had been made possible by the Cato Charitable Fund. Appreciation was expressed for this.

In reply, Mrs. Wilmshurst said that there had been a tremendous amount of work done over the past 18 months. Heads of Churches had nominated representatives, and the Questionnaire prepared by this Committee was sent to 68 churches in Australia, from which 40 replies had been received.

Headings of the report covered 1) Women in Voluntary Organisations; 2) Ordination of Women; 3) Full or part-time service of women in the Church; 4) Women on governing bodies; 5) the Co-operation of Men and Women. Points related to social change were also included.

Sincere thanks were expressed to Mrs. Wilmshurst and her Working Committee for the work done and time given over a period of 18 months; also to the one who had undertaken the duplicating of the report so that copies were available for each person present.

Discussion followed as to how the report could be used to the best advantage. It was proposed that the ACC be asked to promote the production of the report.

It was resolved that the report be received with appreciation; that it be referred back to the Committee on Co-operation for action, and that the Committee on Co-operation confer, as deemed helpful, with the Working Committee of ACW concerning use of the report.

It was resolved that ACW recommend that this report be brought to the Annual Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches.

Mrs. Coates reported that the ACC Commission on Christian Marriage and Family Life and the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society had now merged, and that this gave strength in considering questions on Sex and Morality. Attention was drawn to books relevant to the Committee's work, which were tabled. Mrs. Coates drew the attention of the Committee to the following:-

1. See Report on a Conference held in Melbourne on the Status of Women, entitled, "Women at work".
2. The Report of the British Council of Churches on "Sex and Morality".
3. The Marriage Guidance Seminar, attended by Dr. David Mace and Mrs. Mace, held in Melbourne and Sydney during January.
4. The possibility of the production of study leaflets, e.g. Dr. Carrington is prepared to write a leaflet on "Young People and Morals".
5. That papers on "Religion and Morality" had been given at the ACC Theological Conference being held at the same time as the ACW National Committee Meeting. Copies of these addresses should be available.

The Department on the Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society of the World Council of Churches.

Mrs. M.G. Wyllie reported as follows:-

"As a member of the Working Committee of this Department, I am happy to report on its work through the last year.

On December 31st, 1966, Dr. Madeleine Barot moved from being Executive Secretary of the Department to another senior post in the W.C.C. She is

now working with the Division of Inter-Church Aid in the field of development.

On January 1st, 1967, the Rev. Matti Jomensuu from Finland took over from Dr. Barot. The fact that the responsibility of the Department will be assumed by a man during the next few years should be taken as a sign that the Department does not exist solely to benefit women, but to promote co-operation between men and women.

All the Departments of the W.C.C. were called upon last year to help to prepare the 'Church and Society' Conference, especially in the preparation of material published before the Conference. One of these preparatory documents, brought out by the Department on Co-operation, was a booklet written by Madame Francine Dumas entitled 'Man and Woman - Similarity and Difference'. It deals with the meaning of marriage, the relationship between husbands and wives, parents and children, and that between the family unit and the community. This book can be obtained from the W.C.C., Geneva.

Another outstanding feature of the year was the deepening of the official relations between the W.C.C. and different Roman Catholic groups.

Last June a meeting was held in Switzerland for the women leaders of the large international movements for women, related to the R.C. Church, or to the member Churches of the W.C.C.

There will be a further meeting of this nature in June, 1967, at which we hope that there will be representatives from Australian Church Women. In preparation for this 1967 meeting several groups of Church Women in Australia will answer a Questionnaire prepared by Dr. Barot.

In a report issued by Hans Thimme and Freda Gwilliam, Co-chairmen, after a Working Committee in August, 1966, they set out the concern of the Department, as here quoted:-

'Moreover, the manifold concerns that are within the compass of our Department and upon which we have been and are engaged, are vital to the on-going witness of the Church in the world. They include the range of issues that confront the family and its members, such as:-

1. Responsible parenthood
2. Marriage in a divided Church
3. Family education and counselling
4. Leadership training in Christian family life
5. Monogamy and polygamy
6. Sexual ethics;

Issues that challenge men and women in society, such as:-

7. Men and women at work
8. The re-orientation of women to work in relation to the overall demands of economic development on the labour force
9. Education and training of women for common participation with men in technical and professional work and in citizenship responsibilities;

The urgent problems of involving women increasingly and more responsibly in the work of the Church through:

10. the Ministry
11. teaching and social service (non-clergy professional church workers)
12. fuller participation in church government and organisation.

Throughout all this runs the need for essential study of the theological bases for thought and action, in their implications for the changing relationships between men and women.'

We expect that the Rev. Matti Jomensuu will pay a brief visit to Melbourne and Sydney at Easter time this year. "

Later in the meeting Mrs. Wyllie reported that it had been found that both Mrs. A. Dougan and Deaconess M. Andrews expect to be in Europe at the time of the June Conference. The members of the meeting agreed that they would like Mrs. Wyllie to make representation to the Department on Co-operation at Geneva that Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. Dougan be permitted to attend this Conference.

THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES - REFUGEE AND WORLD SERVICE:

Mrs. D.J.A. Verco introduced Miss Elsie Needham, Associate Director, Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service of the ACC, who addressed the meeting on the subject of "Refugees".

Miss Needham outlined the Australian Refugee and World Service Programme for 1967, for which \$55,000 had been underwritten.

She spoke concerning White Russian Refugees from Communist China, who had been settled in Australia in large numbers; also of Greek refugees, and of some from Armenia, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Through material presented, members of the meeting were able to appreciate something of the initial problems of refugees - lack of English, sometimes large families, and sometimes age; that a period often then followed which was rather uneventful, to be followed by a really difficult time when the pressure of getting adjusted was really on. In this social workers help with acute problems.

Miss Needham spoke of how these people are helped financially until they get settled - by Government help through application to the U.N. High Commissioner, and through the World Council of Churches and the Australian Council of Churches.

The speaker placed emphasis on the great need for more to be done for Refugee Youth, and for Refugee Women, quoting from Mrs. Paul Anderson's report concerning how difficult it is for Eastern women to adjust to Western conditions. It was stated that the Churches are doing an important job in bringing people to Australia, but we need to do more.

Miss Needham spoke with warm appreciation of the gesture of ACW in making the project for the 1966 World Community Day, Inter-Church Aid - to help migrant women in Australia. She gave three illustrations of the kind of people who would be helped thereby - cases where there is need for immediate financial help.

Ways in which we can help were suggested -

1. Give to Inter-Church Aid.
2. Get to know a Refugee person.
3. Help the older women through knitting and similar activities.
4. Find someone (a family maybe) in an area willing to help, particularly in time of emergency, and advise the State or National Inter-Church Aid Secretary.

Discussion followed.

Mrs. Verco expressed the thanks of the meeting to Miss Needham.

THIRD ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:

Mrs. D.G. Badger was introduced by Mrs. Verco.

Mrs. Badger acknowledged, with much appreciation, the honour which had been hers in representing ACW at the 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference, and spoke of the impact of this upon her personally - that the sharing in such an experience had made her a different person in many ways.

Reference was made to the report which was contained in the Working Documents. Mrs. Badger had recently received the Findings of the Discussion Group of which she had been a part, on the subject, 'Lay Women in Society'. These she shared with the meeting.

Two tape recordings made at the Conference were played. One was from

American Church Women, and the second by Mrs. Shanti Solomon, an Indian, who founded the Fellowship of the Least Coin. This commenced with a Greeting to Australia, then followed the history of the founding of the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Discussion followed concerning the making of further tapes from that of Mrs. Shanti Solomon.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN:

This subject, already introduced by the tape recording of Mrs. Shanti Solomon, was developed by Mrs. Verco.

The work of Mrs. S.M. Barrett as National Convener was acknowledged, with much appreciation. Mrs. Barrett had given a very inspiring lead in promoting the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and had also been responsible for the preparation of the new Information Folder and Label. Mr. S.A. Gill, Commercial Artist, had co-operated with Mrs. Barrett in designs for this new material; this was also gratefully acknowledged.

Reports from State Units and Denominational Women's Groups indicated a very healthy interest in this project.

As Mrs. Barrett had tendered her resignation as National Convener, because of the earlier than expected retirement of her husband, the Rev. S.M. Barrett, involving residence out of Sydney, the subject of the appointment of another National Convener came under discussion.

It was resolved that the new Working Committee deal with the matter of the appointment of a new National Convener for the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and that this person be a Victorian.

There was discussion concerning future administration costs of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and concerning the earlier decision of the Working Committee that the new Labels would be free, but that women receiving a copy of the new Information Folder be asked to donate 2 cents. It was felt by some that promotion would be easier if there were no charge for the Information Folders, and in some cases that younger State Units are still struggling in establishment and growth; other representatives favoured the cost being met outside the actual Least Coin money.

The background of the decision to charge State Units for Information Folders was given to the meeting. This was because of a strong sense of stewardship on the part of the Working Committee concerning the Fellowship of the Least Coin money. It had been felt that the new literature was needed - it was rather costly - the Working Committee felt themselves to be custodians of the Fellowship of the Least Coin money and were not in a position to know exactly what the reaction of people would be to a fairly large sum of money being expended on printing. Thus the decision had been arrived at after much thought, and with an honest endeavour to enter into the possible feelings of others in this matter. It was pointed out that it was estimated the outlay provided material for some few years; also that in earlier years since the introduction of the Fellowship of the Least Coin there had been the distribution of very large quantities of free Information Folders.

It was resolved that the newer State Units of Tasmania and Western Australia be given free 300 copies of the Information Folder on the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

It was resolved that future costs of administration of the Fellowship of the Least Coin and future costs of printing be a charge on the Fellowship of the Least Coin Fund.

OPEN SESSION:

A number of visitors from the city and suburban districts were present at this session, as well as two overseas guests. The latter, who were given a special welcome by the president, were Miss Corrie Tilaar of Indonesia (an Inter-Church Aid Scholarship holder) and Miss Sabita Swarup of Fiji, the Winifred Kiek scholar. Also present, representing the Inter-church group in Port Moresby, was Mrs. Walz who brought greetings from that group to the meeting.

The Rev. Rex Meyer, an Anglican chaplain in psychiatric hospitals, gave a stimulating and instructive address on "Some problems of Communication". He defined the latter as "the conveying of thoughts and feelings to others, and receiving them from others". Each person present was given duplicated notes of the address, and included amongst these was a diagram which made clear something of the communication process.

Mr. Meyer confined his remarks to communication by means of spoken language, and to "non-spoken methods only as they reinforce the spoken word". All through his address the speaker made use of audience participation (comments and questions) and visual aide (diagrams), so that all were aware of the value of these means of reinforcement. Together we examined lists of barriers to communication, some physical and some psychological. At times discussion was quick and lively, and it became evident that communication is often hindered, or even made impossible, because of such barriers which need not exist.

The session will long be remembered, as the teaching and learning took place in a relaxed and very happy atmosphere.

Mrs. Wyllie expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Rev. Rex Meyer.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

The Women's World Day of Prayer was observed by use of the prepared Order of Service, with the theme, "Of His Kingdom there shall be no end."

The service was held in the Chapel at Deaconess House, and was led by Mrs. R.S.C. Dingle, Federal Liaison Officer of the Women's World Day of Prayer. Mrs. Dingle was assisted in the leadership of the service by Mrs. R.E. Wilmshurst, and observers present at the National Committee Meeting from the various denominations took part.

A greeting and prayerful good wishes were received from Mrs. C.W. Stolz, N.S.W. President of the Women's World Day of Prayer.

GROUP DISCUSSIONS:

The subject was STOCK-TAKING - How far have we gone in pursuing our aims and what are the next steps?

Let us look again at our aims as set out in the Constitution of ACW.

The Reports we have heard indicate that we have made some progress in the first aim, and in the fourth and fifth. We are not sure of our impact in the second and third.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 (a) What have we done in State Units or in denominational groups to promote co-operation of men and women in the Church, family and Society?
- (b) What can we do?
- 2 (a) What have we done to help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church?
- (b) What can we do?

Three groups operated, and the Findings as follow were presented to the full meeting.

- Q.1 (a) i. Mrs. Wilmshurst's report on the Service and Status of Women in the Churches in Australia surveys the whole field.
- ii. Evidence within State Units -
1966 World Community Day in South Australia was jointly sponsored by W.U.C.A. and State Council of Churches. It took the form of a united evening meeting with a panel of men and women discussing the questions prepared.

In many areas there are continuing inter-church groups as a result of the Church and Life Movement especially with regard to Christian service in the Community. These have been supported by ACW.

iii. Evidence within Denominations -

The Congregational Women's Fellowship Federal Conference 1966 invited men to the second half of their day conference. Mr. Val Brown was the speaker, and this was followed by discussion on co-operation of men and women in the mission of the church. As a result a committee has been set up to carry out research into this field.

The last Methodist Federal Conference agreed to the ordination of women.

Within Churches of Christ and Congregational Churches mixed groups have studied "Saints Alive" and "Church Worship" (prepared by ACW).

In many areas there are local groups studying and planning together.

- (b) i. In the church - encourage women to take a greater part in church councils by asking present level and future level aims; in the family - enquiry into family patterns and behaviour - study for Fellowship Day or study book; in society - ACW take up the need for women to serve with men in society, e.g. church school boards, hospital boards, local government.
- ii. Urge ACW groups and individuals to co-operate with men in the Church at every opportunity, and support any inter-church groups within their area, or initiate them. Encourage study groups together.
- iii. Allocate more time to the Committee on Co-operation at the National Committee Meeting. Recognise that work done at the top level needs to get through to the local level and the individual.
- iv. Use publicity. Have publicity officers on all inter-church Councils.

Q.2 (a) With Fellowship Day and World Community Day we are training women, e.g.

- In Upper North Shore area of Sydney as a direct result of women coming together on these days, they have come to know and understand each other, and have sought together to serve a very great need for regular hospital visitation to all patients in all hospitals and convalescent homes in the area (approx. 20).
 - In Strathfield the recently formed branch of the Inter-church Council is working among the White Russians.
 - The W.I.C.C. of Victoria is assisting with White Russians in Healesville, where there is great enthusiasm.
 - There has been real evidence of our two projects, Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Winifred Kiek Scholarship, giving local church women a wider vision of their involvement in the mission of God's whole Church in the world. This has taken place in many areas, especially in isolated areas.
- (b) i. We should look outwards, and encourage an awareness of community problems and community services, e.g. Mental Health, Marriage Guidance, Foundation for Alcoholism; we should use the resources of the community, and not feel we have all the answers.
 - ii. Encourage women to train in public speaking, business procedure, etc. towards a better contribution to the life and mission of the church. Direct women to courses available through Y.W.C.A. and W.E.A. - circularise State Units.
 - iii. Encourage women to offer hospitality to overseas students, new Australians, Aborigines, through agencies such as A.C.C.O.S. and Overseas Christian Fellowship.

Thanks were expressed to the Discussion Leaders, Mesdames S. Haynes and G.A. Wood and Deaconess C. Ritchie, and to the recorders, Mesdames A. Dougan, T.H. Coates and D.J.A. Verco.

PROMOTION:

The President introduced this subject, and suggested that the promotion of ACW could be helped along the following lines:-

- a) By the dissemination of information concerning what ACW stands for,
- b) By the appointment of a Promotion Officer in each State Unit.
- c) By an alertness as to how we can co-operate with other groups within the ACC.
- d) By the use of reports such as that of (1) Mrs. Wilmshurst (2) the Committee on Co-operation.

Reference was made to a recommendation of the January meeting of the Working Committee that the 1967 Working Committee largely handle the distribution of publicity itself.

It was resolved that Colonel Cross arrange for the distribution of the recently produced brochure concerning ACW, in consultation with State Units and Federal Denominational Women's Groups.

It was resolved that Mr. V. Hinton be asked to provide space in 'In Unity' (either some space in each issue, or the bulk of one issue a year) to give information about the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society, and Australian Church Women.

It was resolved that Mr. V. Hinton be asked to include a report of the National Committee Meeting in 'In Unity'.

Mrs. R.E. Wilmshurst agreed to write a report of the meeting for the Working Committee.

It was agreed that some of the material in the Findings from the Group Discussions should be sent to Mr. Hinton for publishing in 'In Unity'.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Travel Fund.

Mrs. G.A. Wood (Tasmania) asked if consideration could be given to the introduction of a Travel Pool for inter-state visitors to the National Committee Meeting, so that more distant States could have adequate representation.

It was resolved that the Working Committee be asked to look into the possibility of establishing a Travel Pool for inter-state visitors to the National Committee Meeting.

Location of the Winifred Kiek National Scholarship Committee.

This was introduced by the President, the main point for consideration being as to whether this should continue to be located in Sydney or be set up in Melbourne.

It was resolved that the Winifred Kiek National Scholarship Committee should remain in Sydney with its present membership.

Observers to the National Committee Meeting.

It was resolved that the Working Committee be asked to invite Roman Catholic and other observers to the next National Committee Meeting.

In discussion preceding this resolution, mention had been made of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

ACC - Inter-church Aid.

A letter from the Rev. H. Perkins was placed before the meeting. A request had been received by Mr. Perkins from the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Junk Bay Medical Relief Council, Hong Kong, that Mrs. Annie Skau Berntsen, Matron of the Haven of Hope Sanatorium, visit Australia during 1967, to express appreciation for help already received from Australia, and to tell of work being done at the Sanatorium.

Mr. Perkins stated that should this eventuate it would be expected that State Inter-church Aid Secretaries would be active therein, but the main purpose of the letter was to ascertain whether Women's State Inter-church Councils would be willing to co-operate with State Inter-church Aid Secretaries in arranging meetings and in providing accommodation. It would be expected that any offerings from such meetings would go to Hong Kong through Inter-church Aid.

It was felt that as a National Committee there was little we could do.

It was resolved that this should be a matter for negotiation between the Secretary for Inter-church Aid in each State and the State W.I.C.C.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Miss D. Mitchell and Mr. V.K. Brown were appointed scrutineers.

The President ruled that the name of the unsuccessful presidential candidate would be submitted for the election of the vice-presidents.

OFFICERS:

Officers elected for 1967 were:

President:	Deaconess C. Ritchie
Vice-Presidents:	Mrs. T.H. Coates Mrs. Colonel Saunders
Secretary:	Mrs. B. Ashton, subject to her consent - agreement had been given to nomination for Working Committee.
Treasurer:	Mrs. H. Stephens

WORKING COMMITTEE:

The following were elected to form, with the officers, the Working Committee for 1967:

Mrs. N. Anderson
Mrs. N. Faichney
Mrs. D. Strack
Mrs. D. Wardlaw, subject to her consent.
Mrs. C.J. Wright, subject to her consent.

It was stated that the voting results of the three remaining candidates would be retained, so that in the event of any of those elected without consent declining, the required ten can be appointed to the Working Committee.

It was resolved that the President and Secretary of the 1966 Working Committee be appointed consultants for the 1967 Working Committee.

Mrs. Wyllie welcomed the new Working Committee and spoke of the benefits that the experience had been to the retiring Working Committee.

Deaconess Ritchie responded and thanked the retiring Working Committee for all that it had done.

ACC ANNUAL MEETING:

Deaconess M. Andrews was appointed consultant to this meeting.

RELATED ACC COMMITTEES:

It was resolved that the Working Committee place on the Agenda for its first meeting the appointment of representatives to the Ecumenical Scholarship Committee and the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION:

X The amendments as set out in the Working Documents were passed with a slight alteration to par. 6 referring to the Working Committee.
It was resolved that this should read -

"The National Committee shall appoint a Working Committee of ten, who shall be resident in one State, and shall include the office bearers. The location of the Working Committee shall be determined by the National Committee. The office bearers shall act on behalf of the Working Committee between meetings".

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ACC ANNUAL MEETING:

It was resolved that the following recommendations be placed before the Annual Meeting of the ACC.

1. That the Constitution of Australian Church Women be amended according to the accompanying draft.
2. It was brought to the notice of the National Committee of Australian Church Women that, particularly since the Church and Life Movement, there are places where at the local level Women's Inter-church Councils exist side by side with the Inter-church Councils of men and women, or other ecumenical groups.

Whilst the members were delighted with this growth in local inter-church activity, they were concerned to find the most effective liaison between such groups, and ask the Australian Council of Churches to consider this also.

3. Members of the National Committee ask that at the State level co-operation should be strengthened between State Units of Australian Church Women and State Councils or Committees of the Australian Council of Churches.
4. The National Committee of Australian Church Women would like to see a woman as an executive member of the ACC Staff, and requests the ACC to consider this as a matter of future policy.
5. Members of the National Committee ask the Australian Council of Churches to provide space in 'In Unity' (either some space in each issue, or the bulk of one issue a year) to give information about the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society, and Australian Church Women. (see page 19)
6. Members of the National Committee ask the Australian Council of Churches to promote the production of material coming from the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society.

APPRECIATION:

The members of the 1967 National Committee wish to put on record their sincere appreciation of Mrs. M.G. Wyllie in her position as Chairman of Australian Church Women since its formation.

Her sympathetic, wise and enthusiastic leadership has inspired all who have worked with her, and Australian Church Women owes her a deep debt of gratitude.

We would also record our grateful thanks to Colonel Cross who, for the past two years, has rendered outstanding service in the office of Secretary. She has at all times brought to this office her many gifts of mind and spirit and has worked untiringly so that the aims of ACW might be more nearly realised.

At the close of the year in which Miss Thelma Skiller, Administrative Secretary of the ACC, left Sydney to take up work with the British Council of Churches Inter-Church Aid Department, we would record our deep appreciation of her loyal support and self-sacrificial service in all facets of the work of ACW, particularly in relationship to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship for which she took full responsibility during the first year of its operation.

Mrs. Wyllie responded on behalf of those to whom this appreciation was expressed.

THANKS:

Miss D. Mitchell, on behalf of all, thanked Deaconess Andrews for her hospitality and kindnesses to the members of the National Committee.

CLOSING:

Closing Worship was led by Mr. V.K. Brown.

CONFIRMED _____

DATE _____

N.B. The ACC Annual Meeting held February 13 - 16 ratified the Amendment to the Constitution (see pages 20/21). The Constitution as amended and accepted by the National Committee and ratified by the ACC Annual Meeting is attached.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME: Australian Church Women

2. The AIM of Australian Church Women is

To unite Australian Church women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; to promote co-operation of men and women in the Church, family and society; to help Christian women to take a more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church; to provide opportunities for Christian women of different churches to worship, study and serve together and to encourage fellowship and service across national boundaries.

The programme of Australian Church Women shall be planned to serve this aim.

3. RELATIONSHIPS:

- a) Through the Australian Council of Churches, Australian Church Women shall be linked with the World Council of Churches and the regional conferences of churches in Asia, Africa and the Pacific.
- b) Australian Church Women shall function in relationship with the Australian Council of Churches' Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family & Society, within the Division of Church and Community of the Australian Council of Churches.

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE:

The National Committee shall consist of representatives who shall be appointed annually:

- i. one representative of the Federal women's organisation of each church, appointed by whatever means is appropriate to the particular church.
- ii. two representatives of each and every State Women's inter-church organisation recognised by Australian Church Women as its State Unit.
- iii. one representative of the Federal organisation of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee.
- iv. two representatives appointed by the Australian Council of Churches' Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society.
- v. four representatives appointed by the Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Churches.
- vi. the office bearers (see 5).

The National Committee shall meet at least annually at a time and place to be determined in consultation with the Australian Council of Churches' Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society. Fifty percent of representatives under 4 i. and ii. shall constitute a quorum. Alternatives may be appointed for all representatives to the National Committee.

5. OFFICE BEARERS:

The office bearers shall be (1) a President; (2) two Vice-Presidents; (3) a Secretary; (4) a Treasurer. They shall be elected annually by the National Committee provided always that the President shall not hold the office for more than two consecutive years.

6. WORKING COMMITTEE:

The National Committee shall appoint a Working Committee of ten, who shall be resident in one State, and shall include the office bearers. The location of the Working Committee shall be determined by the National Committee. The office bearers shall act on behalf of the Working Committee between meetings.

7. STATE AND LOCAL ORGANISATION:

- i. Each State Unit shall co-operate with the Council of Churches associated with the Australian Council of Churches in the State.
- ii. Committees in local areas which carry out the purpose of Australian Church Women shall be affiliated with the State Unit.

8. PROGRAMME OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN:

The National Committee of Australian Church Women shall prepare a statement of its programme each year.

9. FINANCE:

- i. Collections taken at special days and services included in the Australian Church Women's programme (after local expenses have been met) shall be divided, as determined each year by the National Committee in consultation with its State Units, between
 - (i) the administration of the affiliated State women's inter-church council organisation;
 - (ii) administration of the National Committee of Australian Church Women and
 - (iii) national projects sponsored by the National Committee in co-operation with State Units.
- ii. The funds of the Fellowship of the Least Coin shall be paid annually by the State Units to the National Committee for remittance to the Department on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family & Society in the World Council of Churches.
- iii.
 - a) Accounts shall be kept as determined by the National Committee in consultation with the Honorary Treasurer of the Australian Council of Churches.
 - b) Bank accounts shall be operated by the President, Secretary and Treasurer and such others as may be appointed, the signatures of any two of whom shall be sufficient discharge.
 - c) Statements of accounts shall be presented to the meetings of the Working Committee, and audited annual statements to the National Committee and to the Australian Council of Churches.
 - d) The financial year shall end on December 31.

10. AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION:

The Constitution shall be amended by a vote of a two-thirds majority of members of the National Committee present. Notice of motion to amend the Constitution shall be given to the Working Committee by an organisation having representation on the National Committee. All constituent bodies shall be notified in writing of the proposed amendment not less than three months before the meeting of the National Committee. Amendments shall be operative upon ratification by the Annual Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches.

11. DISSOLUTION:

In the event of the dissolution of the National Committee, its project and trust funds shall be paid to the purposes designated and its administrative funds to the Australian Council of Churches.

February 10, 1967
Sydney.

REPORT OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE FOR 1966

The Working Committee has met each month, February 1966 to January 1967 (except December), the regular meeting day being the fourth Wednesday. The office bearers and various sub-committees have met as needed.

Much of the work of 1966 has put into effect resolutions carried at the 1966 National Committee Meeting. There have also been efforts in promotion, some of the seed thoughts concerning which came from that meeting.

This report is presented under the following headings:

1. State Units
2. Denominational Women's Groups
3. United Churches
4. Special interest Groups
5. Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society
6. Representation on Committees within the Australian Council of Churches
7. Third Asian Church Women's Conference
8. Church and Life Movement
9. Study Book
10. Special Days
11. Projects -
 - Winifred Kiek Scholarship
 - Fellowship of the Least Coin
 - Other Projects
12. Promotion
13. Location of the Working Committee
14. National Committee Meeting
15. Administration -
 - Finance
 - Office work
16. Appreciation

1. STATE UNITS

There has been happy and co-operative relationships with State Units.

In May, Western Australia submitted the Group's draft Constitution. At the Working Committee Meeting of June 1 this draft was ratified, and Australian Church Women - Western Australia Unit - was accepted officially as the State Unit.

See Working Documents, pages 13 - 19 , for Reports from State Units.

2. FEDERAL DENOMINATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS

Links with these Groups have been strengthened through

- a) The preparation of an up-to-date list of Presidents and Secretaries.
- b) Presidents and Secretaries having been placed on our mailing list by which they receive Minutes of Working Committee Meetings and ACW literature having to do with Special Days, etc. An explanatory covering letter introduced this procedure.
- c) The request that each Group provide a brief report for the National Committee Meeting especially relating to their Denomination and ACW activities.

See Working Documents, pages 19 - 21 , for Reports from Federal Denominational Women's Groups.

3. UNITED CHURCHES

Efforts have been made to strengthen links with United Churches in North Australia and Papua/New Guinea. Some of the methods used have been:-

- a) Correspondence
- b) Mailing of Minutes of Working Committee Meetings and ACW literature to the Women's Fellowship of each United Church.
- c) Visits by the President, Mrs. M.G. Wyllie, and Mrs. D.J.A. Verco (Vice-President) to Papua/New Guinea.
- d) An invitation to send an observer to the National Committee Meeting; also a report of their activities and any suggestions as to how ACW can help.

There has been some encouraging response, e.g.

The Ladies Guild of the United Church at Darwin has decided to affiliate with ACW, and they have been accepted by the Working Committee as a Group of ACW. They will send an observer to the National Committee Meeting.

The Ladies Fellowship of the United Church at Woomera supplied ACW with a concise history of their Group from its inception in 1951 to present day activities.

The United Church Ladies Guild at Tennant Creek used the Fellowship Day Order of Service for a special Padre's Service.

There has also been correspondence with other Groups.

See Working Documents, pages 21 - 23 , for Reports from United Churches.

4. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

ACW has throughout the year valued co-operation on the part of the Young Women's Christian Association - from their Federal representative, Mrs. A.W. Burton and their Board in Melbourne, and from Mrs. F. Stafford in Sydney, who has been a member of the Working Committee.

5. COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY

There has been close co-operation between this Committee and ACW through the exchange of Minutes of Meetings.

The Convener, Mrs. T.H. Coates, advised that copies of the paper "Sex and Family Relationships" - material for study and discussion groups - was available; also the study outline, "Men and Women". Information concerning these papers was circulated through Minutes of the Working Committee.

Mrs. D.G. Badger, who was ACW's delegate to the Third Asian Church Women's Conference, held at Tokyo in July, also represented the Committee on Co-operation of the Australian Council of Churches at the Meeting of the Committee on Co-operation of the East Asia Christian Conference, which was also held at Tokyo following the Asian Church Women's Conference.

6. REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES WITHIN THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The names of ACW's representatives are stated below, together with reports:

Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women
in Church, Family and Society: Mesdames H. Stephens and D. Strack

Throughout the year bi-monthly meetings, chaired by the Convener, Mrs. J. Coates, have been held at Rolland House, Melbourne.

Mrs. Wilmshurt's group in South Australia has prepared and distributed a questionnaire to Heads of Churches throughout Australia, seeking information about the work of women and the development of co-operation between men and women in the churches. It is anticipated that this will be followed by study outlines inviting discussions on the broader issues raised.

A report was prepared for the E.A.C.C. Committee on Co-operation which met in Tokyo in July 1966. This was presented by Mrs. D.G. Badger, who later reported on the Tokyo meeting at a special meeting of the ACC Committee on Co-operation in Melbourne on October 21st, 1966.

At the May meeting Mrs. E.K. Smart, Principal of St. Hilda's College, presented a most interesting paper on "The Role of Women in Australia", and at the September meeting Dr. W.L. Carrington led a discussion on Young People and Morals.

Papers presented at meetings of the Committee are being made available by the ACC, and it is anticipated that these will be found helpful for discussion in Church Groups. Already there is some demand for duplicated papers giving study material as well as questions.

The Committee has given consideration to producing a series of leaflets on "Understanding our Neighbours". These would deal with family problems as they occur in New Guinea, in the Islands of the Pacific, amongst Aborigines, and amongst Migrant National Groups.

A merger has now taken place between the ACC Commission on Christian Marriage and Family Life and the Committee on Co-operation.

Commission on Christian Marriage and Family Life: Mrs. T.C. Rentoul

At a meeting of the Commission held on March 10, it was recommended that the Commission on Christian Marriage and Family Life and the ACC Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society merge.

A combined meeting of the two Groups was held on July 7, when it was jointly recommended to the ACC that the two groups merge.

This was approved by the Executive of the ACC at their July meeting.

Ecumenical Scholarship Committee: Mrs. J.D. McCaughey
Deaconess C. Ritchie

The Ecumenical Scholarship Committee has met four times during the year and has dealt with the routine business of recommendations for scholarship and travel grants.

The appointment by Australian Church Women of Miss Sabita Devi Swarup of Fiji as Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder for 1966 was accepted by the August meeting of the Committee.

A significant decision by the Committee is the recommendation of a new item for 1967, namely, the provision of scholarship assistance for Orthodox Churches in Australia. This proposal, which is the outcome of consideration given to Dr. Paul Anderson's report on the Orthodox position in Australia, has the approval of the Geneva office. Dr. Anderson's report revealed that there is a shortage of clergy in the various branches of the Orthodox Church, and consequently a need for training of priests of these Churches for service in the Australian situation.

The inauguration of the Pacific Conference of Churches will facilitate the procedure for dealing with applications for scholarships by the Pacific Churches.

7. THIRD ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Mrs. D.G. Badger was the elected delegate to this Conference which was held at Tokyo, July 15 - 26.

Mrs. J.F. Doy, the Treasurer, accepted responsibility for organising a Travel Fund by which it was hoped it would be possible for ACW to meet the whole of Mrs. Badger's return fare of \$807.50. The total amount donated was \$919.52.

In March word was received that ACW could also send an observer to this Conference, all expenses to be the responsibility of the person attending.

The Rev. Winifred Kiek attended in this capacity.

Mrs. Badger's official report was sent to all members of the National Committee, to State Units, Federal Denominational Women's Groups and State Secretaries of the ACC. (See pages 25 - 27 for Report)

Mrs. Badger, at the invitation of the State Units in Victoria and Tasmania, visited those States and reported on the Conference. In addition, Mrs. Badger has fulfilled several speaking appointments in the Sydney area.

8. CHURCH AND LIFE MOVEMENT

At the National Committee Meeting held in February 1965 it was resolved that ACW give support to the Church and Life Movement, and this was supported by the 1966 Meeting.

The Rev. Edwin Robertson, at the request of ACW, prepared the Order of Service used at Fellowship Day Services, which were held towards the close of the concentrated period of the Church and Life Movement.

9. STUDY BOOK

Considerable work has been put into the production of a set of studies, the theme of which is Worship.

Mrs. A. Dougan was asked to convene a small committee for early discussions, other members of the Working Committee forming the Committee being Mrs. M.G. Wyllie and Mrs. J.F. Dey.

The Rev. A. Dougan agreed to prepare a draft of the studies, which were then submitted to test groups.

The Rev. Rex Davis and Mr. Vaughan Hinton, of the ACC Staff, at the request of the sub-committee dealing with the studies, agreed to handle the production of the study book.

It is hoped the studies will be used extensively by Women's groups and mixed groups.

10. SPECIAL DAYS

Fellowship Day and World Community Day were observed in all States.

The title of the Order of Service for Fellowship Day, prepared by the Rev. Edwin Robertson, was "New Horizons". Questions for Group Discussions were prepared by the Rev. Rex Davis.

"Our Common Life and Responsibility in Family and Community" was the theme for World Community Day. The Order of Service and Questions for discussion were prepared by the Women's United Church Association of South Australia.

Canberra Church Women were invited by the Working Committee to prepare an Order of Service and Questions for Discussion for Fellowship Day 1967. They agreed to do this, and draft of the Order of Service has been received. This will be submitted to the National Committee Meeting.

11. PROJECTS

a) Winifred Kiek Scholarship

The decision of the National Committee Meeting that a National Scholarship Committee be formed was put into effect following the February meeting of the Working Committee. This was convened by Deaconess M. Andrews and meetings have been held regularly.

See pages 23 - 24 for Scholarship Report.

b) Fellowship of the Least Coin

Implementing the decision of the National Committee Meeting, a National Convener was appointed by the Working Committee - Mrs. S.M. Barrett - and State Units appointed State Conveners.

A new Information Folder was prepared by the National Convener and both this and a new label were produced and distributed to State Units in early October. Letters, together with samples of the new literature, were also sent to the United Churches.

Widespread response in this project is evidence of growing interest, and of the special nature of its appeal.

c) Other Projects

In harmony with the decision of the National Committee Meeting, the special project for World Community Day was Inter-Church Aid - to help migrant women in Australia.

12. PROMOTION

On the State level this has been handled by State Units.

On the Federal level, the Working Committee has felt the need for more to be done in this respect.

Through circulation of Minutes of Working Committee Meetings and ACW literature to the Presidents and Secretaries of Federal Denominational Women's Groups, to the United Churches and to State Secretaries of the ACC, and some contacts with the Denominational Conveners for Ecumenical Affairs, a worth-while effort in this respect has been made; also Mrs. A.G. Ralph accepted responsibility to be liaison between the Working Committee and Mr. Vaughan Hinton, the Public Relations Secretary of the ACC.

An Information Folder concerning ACW was prepared and will be available at the National Committee Meeting. It is regretted that the production of this was delayed over a period of some months, as there was request for something of this nature from State Units in the earlier part of the year.

Whilst the methods outlined above have not been without some encouraging results, yet the Working Committee is of the opinion that more could have been done in 1966 along the publicity line.

13. LOCATION OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE

As requested at the National Committee Meeting, the Working Committee in February appointed a small committee (the President, Secretary, and Miss T. Skiller) to "work out the implications involved in, and the possibility of, transferring the Working Committee to another Capital City in 1967".

The Findings of this sub-committee were issued to members of the Working Committee prior to the April meeting, when the position was discussed and it was agreed that the Working Committee should form a definite opinion in this matter at the next meeting which would be on June 1.

At the Working Committee Meeting on June 1 it was resolved

- 1) that the Working Committee recommends that the location of the Working Committee move in 1967, and thereafter biennially.
- 2) that the Working Committee recommends that for the period 1967 and 1968 the Working Committee be located in Melbourne.

The President, Secretary and Miss Skiller were authorised to proceed with the preparation of a document to be sent to each member of the National Committee, Leaders of Federal Denominational Women's Groups, and State Units, giving each an opportunity to give an expression of opinion. This document was to be presented for approval to the next meeting of the Working Committee.

At the meeting held on June 29 this draft document was submitted to the meeting, and revisions made as agreed upon. It was agreed that this document be sent to constituent members, and that the information requested on the form accompanying the document reach the Working Committee by August 5.

At the meeting held on August 24, it was reported that thirteen forms had been returned, and that there was fairly general agreement in the opinions given. The general opinion was

- 1) that it would be in the interests of ACW for the location of the Working Committee to move every two years.
- 2) that Melbourne would be the suitable location for 1967 and 1968.
- 3) that a Planning Committee to prepare for this change-over should be set up in Melbourne.

It was resolved that a meeting of the office bearers of the Working Committee be held as early as possible to study the information on the forms which had been returned, and to consider what steps should be taken in convening a Planning Committee.

At the meeting held on September 28 the report of the office bearers was received and discussed.

It was resolved:

1. That the Working Committee invite the following to form a Planning Committee, to function in Melbourne between now and the next National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women. The purpose of the Planning Committee will be to look into the future, and bring forward enquiries concerning matters of procedure, etc., to the present Working Committee and/or to the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967. As to how many times this Planning Committee will need to meet will depend upon what the members feel the need to be.

Mrs. N. Anderson, Mr. V.K. Brown, Mrs. T.H. Coates,
Rev. D.A. Dargaville (State Secty. of the Victorian Council
of Churches), Deaconess C. Ritchie, Mrs. Colonel Saunders
(Secty. W.I.C.C.), Mrs. V.C. Stafford (President W.I.C.C.),
Y.W.C.A. - one representative to be appointed by that body.

2. That Mr. V.K. Brown be asked to convene the first meeting of the Planning Committee, which meeting shall then elect a Chairman and Secretary of the Planning Committee.
3. That the Secretary of the present Working Committee communicate with the proposed members of the Planning Committee inviting participation, and referring them to documents concerning Australian Church Women already in their possession such as the Constitution of ACW, Minutes of the 1966 National Committee Meeting, Minutes of Working Committee Meetings, and inviting whatever enquiries the Planning Committee desires to make.
4. That Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings be forwarded to the Working Committee.
5. That the Planning Committee will cease to exist with the election of the office bearers and other members of the Working Committee at the National Committee Meeting in February, 1967.

It was recognised that the final decision concerning the proposed transfer would rest with the National Committee Meeting.

Each of those requested to be a member of the Planning Committee agreed, and word was received from the Y.W.C.A. that their representative would be either Miss Florence Christian or Mrs. A.W. Burton. Mr. V.K. Brown agreed to convene the first meeting, which was held on November 28.

Enquiries from this meeting were directed to the Working Committee, having to do in particular with the constitution of the Working Committee and finance. These enquiries were submitted by the Secretary of the Working Committee to the office bearers, who replied to the Planning Committee on their behalf. A second meeting was held on December 8, and a further meeting is planned for January 26. Mrs. A.W. Burton has been the Y.W.C.A. representative at these meetings.

14. NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

As certain business associated with the National Committee Meeting, including finance, had for previous meetings been handled by Miss T. Skiller of the ACC staff, the Working Committee found it necessary to seek clarification from the ACC as to whether it was desired that anything of this nature obtain for the 1967 meeting, or as to whether ACW would work independently in organising the meeting and in finance passing through ACW books.

The advice received from the ACC was for ACW to work independently in these matters.

The preparation for the meeting and production of working documents has been undertaken by the Working Committee, the office bearers carrying extra responsibility in this regard. The Working Committee is grateful to the ACC office for arranging for a member of the staff to run off stencils on the duplicator.

15. ADMINISTRATION

- a) Office work: During 1966 ACW became more self-contained than previously. The Hon. Secretary has handled the typing of all correspondence and, commencing with the Working Committee Meeting held on June 1, has also typed all stencils for Minutes and other ACW business. The ACC office has run off the stencils on the duplicator and dispatched Minutes in envelopes which had been addressed by the Secretary.
- b) Finance: The book-keeping has been taken over in its entirety by the Hon. Treasurer. Financing has also become more self-contained, and a system introduced whereby the ACC charge ACW for stationery supplied, postage for letters and goods dispatched from the office, and staff time used in duplicating.

16. APPRECIATION

The Working Committee expresses warm thanks to

- The Rev. Edwin Robertson
- The Staff of the Australian Council of Churches
- The Rev. A. Dougan and others who co-operated in the preparation of the Study Book
- The Women's United Church Association of South Australia - for preparation of World Community Day Order of Service
- All who assisted with the Travel Fund for the Third Asian Church Women's Conference
- Mrs. D.G. Badger and the Rev. Winifred Kiek for being our representatives at the Asian Church Women's Conference
- The Congregational Women's Fellowship of Nauru for substantial financial support
- Mr. S.A. Gill, Commercial Artist, for designs for Fellowship of the Least Coin literature.
- The Principal and Council of St. Hilda's College, and to the Women's Inter-church Council of Victoria, for hospitality extended during the 1966 National Committee Meeting.
- The Waverley Methodist Mission - concerning accommodation of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder.
- The Waverley War Memorial Hospital
- State Units
- Federal Denominational Women's Groups
- United Churches

Our special thanks are expressed to Miss Thelma Skiller, now of the staff of the British Council of Churches, for her great interest in ACW from its inception, for her 'drive' and organising ability, and for the work which she personally put into the cause of ACW, so much of which was done out of office hours.

M.G. Wyllie
H.V. Cross

President
Hon. Secretary

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP
REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

It is with pleasure that I present the first report of the National Scholarship Committee.

During the year the Committee has met before the Working Committee Meetings or at special times.

As this year's Scholarship holder was resident in Sydney, Mrs. A.G. Ralph was appointed liaison between the Working Committee and the N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council, and has attended to various business arrangements.

Mrs. J.F. Dey, the Hon. Treasurer of ACW, has looked after the financial matters connected with the Scholarship holder, for which we have been grateful.

We were delighted that Miss Sabita Devi Swarup, an Indian young women, 23 years of age, was able to accept the Winifred Kiek Scholarship for 1966, and she arrived in Sydney on 7th August for six months. Miss Swarup comes from the Lautoka Methodist Church in Fiji, where she was engaged in Christian activities. She has endeared herself to all with whom she has come into contact.

Miss Swarup has been doing a course of typing, shorthand and book-keeping at the Metropolitan Business College, where she has been making steady progress.

In October, Miss Swarup had to have her appendix removed at St. Vincent's Hospital.

In January, Miss Swarup is to get some business experience at the Waverley War Memorial Hospital, as she is to return to the Ba Hospital Office in Fiji.

We are grateful to the Waverley Methodist Girls' Hostel for providing accommodation for Miss Swarup at half the usual fees, Mr. and Mrs. Dey kindly provided hospitality for Miss Swarup during her first days in Sydney.

Canberra Church Women invited Miss Swarup to Canberra from 17th - 20th November, which she enjoyed very much.

In August an Information Folder was produced and sent to State Units. In the folder Miss Swarup's story was given and some information about the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

There has been encouraging support of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund through -

Offerings at Fellowship Day Services
Women's United Church Association of South Australia - proceeds
from "Musical at Home"
The Congregational Women's Fellowship of Nauru
A donation from the Women's World Day of Prayer in Queensland,
and other donations.

It is hoped that the Scholarship holder for 1967 will come from Papua.

A letter from the General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. at Port Moresby has asked that Miss Busima, a Papuan Y.W.C.A. worker, be considered for the scholarship.

The Rev. F. Kemp of Pt/ Moresby has been asked to acquaint Churches in Papua/New Guinea of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

Miss Connie Tan Kwie Hwa, the first Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, has written thanking Australian Church Women for the opportunity to study in Australia in 1965. She has been given a further Scholarship to study in Holland, where she has been working in three Children's Homes.

At the end of the orientation period in July, it was suggested that Miss Tan stay and study for another year in Holland in order to do further practical training and to study child psychology, methods of handling emotionally disturbed children, and supervision of professional house parents. The object of this extension is that at the end of the study period a concrete plan will be set up for a Children's Home, which will also be used as a training centre for students of the educational faculty and faculty of social work in Indonesia.

Through a contact Mrs. H.T. Wells had with Miss Tan in Amsterdam, it was learned, in November, that she had received the appointment she will fulfil at the end of this extended scholarship term, viz. - in charge of a special Children's Home in Jogdjarkarta.

Mary Andrews
Convener of the National Winifred
Kiek Scholarship Committee

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for year ended December 31, 1966

Fellowship Day, World Community Day and Administration

RECEIPTS:

:PAYMENTS

Balance in hand 31.12.65	92.44	Printing of Fellowship Day Orders of Service	190.00
Receipts for Fellowship Day Orders of Service	219.41	Printing of World Community Day Orders of Service	135.00
Receipts for World Community Day Orders of Service	128.85	Administration - Stationery	39.95
Offerings - Fellowship Day		Postages (ACC) & Duty stamps	37.44
Queensland	23.50	Secretarial expenses	27.40
N.S.W.	167.67		104.79
Victoria	160.00		
Tasmania	30.00	Transfer to Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	300.00
Sth. Australia	11.50		
A.C.T.	30.00		
	422.67	To ACC Inter-Church Aid - for Migrant women in Australia	300.00
Offerings - World Community Day			
Queensland	12.12		
N.S.W.	77.09	Balance in hand 31.12.66	113.73
Victoria	120.00		
Tasmania	10.50		
Sth. Australia	20.00		
A.C.T.	15.00		
	254.71		
Interest	25.44		
	<u>\$ 1143.52</u>		<u>\$ 1143.52</u>

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Balance in hand 31.12.65	768.79	Transfer to W.C.C.	768.79
Receipts to date for Information folders	20.20	Printing Labels	128.25
Donations -		Printing Information Folders	147.50
Queensland	228.18	Postage	2.97
N.S.W.	221.21		278.72
Victoria	192.29		
Tasmania	149.79		
Sth. Australia	223.44	Balance in hand 31.12.66	853.55
West Australia	28.25		
A.C.T.	58.91		
United Church in Nth. Aust.	10.00		
	1112.07		
	<u>\$ 1901.06</u>		<u>\$ 1901.06</u>

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE TRAVEL FUND

Receipts:

: Payments

Balance in hand 31.12.65	4.00	Mrs. D.G. Badger's fare to Tokyo	807.50
Donations -			
Queensland	53.00	Mrs. Badger's fare to Tasmania & Victoria	81.40
N.S.W.	457.87		
Victoria	104.60		
Tasmania	48.80		
Sth. Australia	78.45		
West Australia	10.00	Balance in hand 31.12.66	112.02
United Church Women -			
Nth. Aust.	20.00		
Nauru	103.50		
Federal Denominational Associations	110.00		
Personal	10.70		
	<u>996.92</u>		
	\$ 1000.92		\$ 1000.92

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WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Balance in hand 31.12.65	389.85	Allowance to Scholarship Holder, Tuition, Travel, etc.	632.11
Donations -			
Women's World Day of Prayer, Q'land	40.00		
N.S.W.	6.00	Balance in hand 31.12.66	624.89
South Australia	203.20		
A.C.T.	7.45		
Nauru	<u>310.50</u>		
	567.15		
Transfer from Fellowship Day	300.00		
	<u>\$ 1257.00</u>		\$ 1257.00

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP FUND INVESTMENT

Investment with ACC Assn. Ltd.	200.00	Balance in hand 31.12.66	208.22
Interest	8.22		
	<u>\$ 208.22</u>		\$ 208.22

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SUMMARY OF BALANCES IN VARIOUS FUNDS

Administration	113.73
Fellowship of the Least Coin	853.55
Asian Church Women's Conference Travel	112.02
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	624.89
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Investment	208.22
	<u>\$ 1912.41</u>