

Australian Church Women

National Committee Meeting

Deaconess House, SYDNEY, N.S.W.

6th-9th FEBRUARY, 1973.

"Able for all things"

MINUTES

N.B. MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS, FRIDAY, 9th FEBRUARY, are subject to approval.

TUESDAY, 6th February -

INTRODUCTORY
SESSION:

President's Opening Remarks and Welcome - The President drew attention to the fact that there were representatives at the 1973 meeting from all States. She extended a welcome to all, taking special opportunity to offer the right hand of fellowship to two representatives of the Girls' Brigade on the occasion of their first participation as members of the National Committee of Australian Church Women. Mrs. Dennis urged the National Committee not to approach the Sessions as 'inverted Micawbers' - waiting for something to turn DOWN. She expressed her appreciation of the ready and willing co-operation of each member of the Working Committee, and wished for South Australia the same joyous experience.

APOLOGIES

were received from Pastor Sylvia Simpson,
Mrs. Macneil,
Miss Jean Skuse,
Mrs. Colonel Saunders,
Mrs. Joyce Gilbert,
Mrs. Elizabeth Finnegan

and apology was made on behalf of some South Australian nominees to the 1973 Working Committee who were unable to attend the National Committee Meeting.

GREETINGS

had been sent to the National Committee by New Zealand Church Women, the Victorian W.I.C.C., Mrs. Colonel Saunders and Violet Sampa. A telegram from Mrs. Nancy Pfeiffer contained Greetings and Felicitations also an apology for her absence.

ROLL CALL

was used to introduce participants.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Opportunity was taken by the secretary to make necessary announcements and explanations re content of wallets, etc.

Mrs. Dougherty was invited to comment on the gift of A.C.W. bookmarks which had been printed by a friend. She advised that a very large quantity is available and asked that State Units let her know how many they would like to receive.

The President then asked the Treasurer to explain the various charges for accommodation, meals, etc.

LUNCH

OPENING WORSHIP
AND ADDRESS:

This session was conducted in the chapel using a prepared order of service. The address was delivered by MRS. DOROTHY McMAHON, Methodist representative to the N.S.W. Council of A.C.C. In a vote of thanks, Mrs. Doreen Strack spoke of the inspirational beginning to the National Committee Meeting - the 'shot' to send us spiralling. Mrs. Strack endorsed Mrs. McMahon's emphasis on the need for confidence in our Christian life. The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

The President advised that copies of Mrs. McMahon's address would be available from the secretary as requested.

BUSINESS SESSION:

AGENDA

Request for alteration to the Agenda as presented in Working Documents was brought in the form of a motion

"THAT NOTICES OF MOTION BE BROUGHT FORWARD FOR CONSIDERATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON".

An additional alteration was made by a motion

"THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE MEMORIAL BURSARY BE BROUGHT FORWARD TO THE EVENING SESSION ON TUESDAY".

RE ELECTION
OF WORKING
COMMITTEE,
1973

The following scrutineers were appointed:

Mrs. Nash, Mrs. Groat
Mrs. Montgomerie Mrs. Marsden-Smedley

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

APPOINTMENT OF REPORTERS

Action taken by the Working Committee in appointing members of the Queensland delegation reporters for the 1973 Meeting was ratified. The President requested that individual representatives accept responsibility for forwarding reports to church papers.

MINUTES OF N.C.W., 1972

Following correction as requested by N.S.W. W.I.C.C. these were approved and signed by the President.

BUSINESS ARISING - The President pointed out that Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Working Committee recorded that action had been taken according to direction given by the 1972 National Committee. She invited comment on matters which could not be dealt with by the Working Committee, viz. -

PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVMENT OF ABORIGINAL WOMEN WITH A VIEW TO REPRESENTATION - Comment on this matter was made by New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland and Y.W.C.A. As nothing specific was proposed, the President suggested that all be "bridge builders" with Aboriginal and other national women. Comment was invited on a second matter, viz. -

THE REQUEST BY THE 1972 N.C.W. THAT DELEGATES TEST REACTION OF CONSTITUENCIES TO RAISING OF FUNDS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE HOLDING OF AN ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA - Many and varied opinions were expressed: the provision of accommodation was mentioned, also the possibility of attracting financial assistance through Government aid and air-line concessions. The Girls' Brigade representative cited recent experience in connection with their New Zealand Conference and reference was made by the Y.W.C.A. representative to a previous conference in which Government aid was given. Queensland expressed willingness to support any offers of assistance which might be made by the National Committee. Mrs. Dingle added that A.C.W. should be prepared to deny themselves in order to assist Asian Church Women to hold a conference in Australia.

AFTERNOON TEA

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

The President introduced a special matter for the consideration of the meeting relating to THE NATURE OF THE TRIBUTE which might be paid TO A.C.W.'s 'FOUNDERS', as February, 1973, completed A.C.W.'s FIRST DECADE. It was resolved

"THAT LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN BE CONFERRED ON DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS, MRS. KEELAH DEY, MRS. MARJORY VERCO and MRS. LABEL WYLLIE."

The President indicated that special tribute would be paid to these ladies at the evening session and the honour conferred at that time.

REPORTS:

WORKING COMMITTEE

This report was received and adopted. Opportunity was taken to express appreciation of the secretary's work.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT & REPORT

During the course of her report, the treasurer brought forward the following resolutions which were carried -

1. "THAT A LETTER OF APPRECIATION, TOGETHER WITH A BOOK TOKEN BE SENT TO OUR HONORARY AUDITOR, MR. J. WALLACE."
2. "THAT A LETTER BE WRITTEN TO ALL STATE TREASURERS AFTER EACH N.C.W. ADVISING THEM WHERE MONIES SHOULD BE SENT AND OF ANY DECISIONS MADE REGARDING FINANCIAL MATTERS."
3. "THAT STATES ENSURE THAT THEIR TREASURERS ARE MADE AWARE OF ANY MATTERS PERTAINING TO FINANCE THAT ARE REPORTED IN THE WORKING COMMITTEE MINUTES."
4. "THAT AN AMOUNT FROM THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT BE INVESTED EACH YEAR, THE PARTICULAR AMOUNT TO BE DECIDED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE EACH YEAR."
5. "THAT AUTHORITY BE GIVEN TO THE WORKING COMMITTEE TO RE-INVEST SPECIAL BONDS AS THEY MATURE AND AMALGAMATE AMOUNTS MATURING WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF EACH OTHER."
6. "THAT THE WORKING COMMITTEE BE GIVEN AUTHORITY TO INVEST AT ITS DISCRETION MONIES CONTRIBUTED TO A.C.W. MEMORIAL BURSARY FUND."
7. "THAT THE INTEREST FROM THE MEMORIAL BURSARY FUND BE TRANSFERRED TO THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT TOWARDS PAYMENT OF THE \$50 BURSARY."
8. "THAT \$400 FROM THE FELLOWSHIP DAY ALLOCATION TO THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP A/C ALSO \$100 DONATION FROM WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER BE INVESTED IN COMMONWEALTH BONDS."
9. "THAT THE PROFIT (\$222) FROM THE SALE OF CALENDAR-DIARIES (1972) BE TRANSFERRED TO THE MEMORIAL BURSARY FUND."
10. "THAT THE AMOUNT OF \$4000 BE REMITTED (from F.L.C. contributions) TO THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN INTERNATIONAL, GENEVA, and \$50 BE TRANSFERRED TO ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL ACCOUNT."

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND REPORT -RESOLUTIONS (Contd.)

11. "THAT \$1450 FROM FELLOWSHIP DAY OFFERINGS BE TRANSFERRED TO THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT, & \$50 TO ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL ACCOUNT."
12. "THAT \$900 FROM WORLD COMMUNITY DAY OFFERINGS BE REMITTED TO "SATYA WATJANA" UNIVERSITY IN CENTRAL JAVA, INDONESIA, AND \$50 BE TRANSFERRED TO ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL ACCOUNT."
13. "THAT FULL FARES AND FULL ACCOMMODATION FOR THE A.C.W. PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER AND HALF-FARES FOR ALL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE BE PAID FROM ADMINISTRATION AND GENERAL ACCOUNT FOR EACH NATIONAL MEETING."
14. "THAT STATES RETAIN NOT MORE THAN 30% OF SPECIAL DAY OFFERINGS ACCORDING TO THE PROVISION UNDER CLAUSE 10 A OF THE A.C.W. CONSTITUTION."

The Treasurer's report in its entirety was adopted.

Deaconess Andrews requested that appreciation of the Treasurer's invaluable work be recorded.

NOTICES OF MOTIONAMENDMENT OF A.C.W. CONSTITUTION -

It was resolved

"THAT CLAUSE 3 (b) OF THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION BE DELETED AND THE FOLLOWING CLAUSE INSERTED IN ITS PLACE -

"AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE."

It was also resolved

"THAT CLAUSE 4 (a) (i) OF THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION BE DELETED AND THE FOLLOWING INSERTED IN ITS PLACE -

"ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH PARTICIPATING CHURCH, APPOINTED BY THE FEDERAL WOMEN'S ORGANISATION OR BY WHATEVER MEANS IS APPROPRIATE TO THE PARTICULAR CHURCH."

It was further resolved

"THAT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL CLAUSE BE ADDED TO CLAUSE 7, to be 7 (v) -

"ONE OBSERVER FROM THE STATE WOMEN'S ORGANISATION OF EACH CHURCH IN THE STATE IN WHICH THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING IS HELD."

RE FINANCE - It was resolved

"THAT CLAUSE 10 (b) BE ALTERED TO READ '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 FUNDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN INTERNATIONAL.'"

and

"THAT CLAUSE 10 (c) (ii) BE ALTERED TO READ 'BANK ACCOUNTS SHALL BE OPERATED UPON BY ANY TWO JOINTLY OF THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.'"

EVENING MEALEVENING SESSION

Mrs. Pope introduced the Winifred Kiek Scholar for 1973, MISS KALPANA AIRAN, presenting her with a shoulder spray. Mrs. Dennis officially welcomed Kalpana on behalf of the National Committee and wished her well in her studies. She then presented her to the 'founders' of A.C.W., before handing to her the Memorial Bursary Certificate and cheque.

Kalpana expressed her appreciation of the opportunity to further her study in education and in the church. She paid special tribute to Mrs. Pope, Mrs. Badger and Mrs. Ralph. She spoke of the progress of the church in North India and expressed a hope for the eventual unity of the churches of North and South India. She regards her scholarship as a God-given opportunity to become more active and more devoted in her church service on her return home.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Four women whose vision and endeavours had been responsible for the commencement of Australian Church Women had been invited as special guests to the evening session, so that suitable recognition could be made to mark the completion of A.C.W.'s first decade. After reference to the part they had played and brief quotations from their recorded reminiscences by the secretary, the President conferred Life Membership in the National Committee of Australian Church Women on

DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS

MRS. KEELAH DEY

MRS. MARJORY VERCO

MRS. MABEL WYLLIE

The remainder of the evening session was occupied with slide-viewing with commentaries by

Mrs. Dennis (A.I.M. Safari)

Mrs. Dingle (England - 1972 visit)

Deaconess Mary Andrews (New York, '72).

These were much appreciated by the National Committee.

EVENING MEDITATION AND PRAYER IN THE CHAPEL brought the day's proceedings to a close.

SUPPER

was served at 9.15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 7th February -

MORNING SONG Prayer, Praise and Meditation in Chapel, 7.15 a.m.

BREAKFAST

BIBLE STUDY

The President welcomed Deaconess Margaret Rogers (Tutor at Deaconess House) and invited her to conduct the first in the series of Bible Studies. It was of special interest to note that Deaconess Rogers used as her starting point, a phrase from the Opening Worship (Meditation) - "There is an insistence in the very complexities of the times in which we live, that Christian women frequently remind themselves, not only of the quality of the faith we hold, but of the nature of the One in whom we have placed that faith." She indicated that the study would be dealt with in three sections::

"God, the Father",
 "God, the Son",
 "God, the Holy Spirit",

"God, the Father" being the title of this morning's study.

BUSINESS SESSION

At the President's request, the secretary announced the result of the election of Office Bearers and members of the incoming Working Committee which was as follows:

President	Mrs. A. C. SMITH
Vice-Presidents	Mrs. W. F. KAIN and DEACONESS NORAH NORRIS
Secretary	Mrs. D. ACKLAND
Treasurer	Mrs. E. A. BACHE
W.K.S. Convenor	DEACONESS EUNICE SIMMONS
C'tee Members	Mrs. P. C. PARKIN
	Mrs. D. J. ROWLSTON
	Miss F. E. BIRBECK
	Mrs. B. GOLDING

VISIT TO LONGUEVILLE

Following announcement regarding this, appreciation was expressed of the generous gesture of the N.S.W. W.I.C.C. in meeting the total cost of the bus fares of the National Committee to Longueville.

MINUTES

of proceedings (Tuesday, 6th) were read and amended as requested by the National Committee, following which the record was approved.

A.C.W. BOOKMARKS

Attention was drawn to the fact that bookmarks would be posted to States by the printer at no cost to A.C.W. It was then resolved

"THAT A LETTER OF APPRECIATION BE SENT TO MR. R. HAYES FOR PRINTING AND POSTAGE TO STATES OF 150,000 BOOKMARKS AT NO COST TO A.C.W."

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Dougherty for her part in making this gift possible was carried by acclamation.

REPORTS -

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION - This was received and adopted.

STATE UNITS:

CANBERRA - Following comment by Mrs. Winter, this report was received.

N.S.W. - In moving the reception and adoption of the report, Mrs. Dougherty explained arrangements made in regard to the stay of the Winifred Kiek Scholar in N.S.W. during her study year.

10.30 a.m.

DEPARTURE OF BUS FOR LONGUEVILLE.

On arrival at St. Aidan's Church, the National Committee assembled for devotions. The President introduced Mrs. Joy Smith, newly-elected President of A.C.W. who conducted the devotional session.

BUSINESS SESSION

This was conducted in the Church Hall. Mention was made of the fact that the Lane Cove-Longueville Women's Inter-Church Fellowship is a branch of the N.S.W. W.I.C.C.

REPORTS

The President called the meeting to hear reports of Federal organisations.

ANGLICAN WOMEN - Miss Mitchell spoke on points not mentioned in the report contained in Working Documents. These concerned her desire for greater participation of Anglican women in A.C.W. activities.

C. OF CHRIST AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Mrs. Faulkner spoke to this report and mentioned the increasing role of women in the ministry of the church.
CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIA & NAURU - Mrs. Pope, in moving the reception of this report, intimated that Mrs. Elizabeth McChesney Clark (Brisbane) was soon to be ordained and that Pastor Simpson (Melbourne) was being inducted on Thursday evening as Director of Pastoral Care and Training at the Independent (Congregational) Church, Collins St.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMEN - It was mentioned by Mrs. Dingle who spoke to the report that there were already in each State ordained women ministers within the Methodist Church. Mrs. Dingle asked permission for Mrs. Nash (Area President of the World Federation) to speak. Mrs. Nash commented on the world programme of the Federation which contained some exciting prospects, viz. Overseas Study Courses and the possibility of the development of a World Christian Women's organisation.

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

REPORTS (Federal Organisations)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA - In the absence of Mrs. Sticpewich, Mrs. Groat spoke to the report. She drew attention to the fact that Mesdames Dennis and Eldershaw (President and Treasurer of A.C.W.) would be assuming office later in the year as President and Treasurer of Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia.

THE HOME LEAGUES OF THE SALVATION ARMY (Eastern & Southern Territories) - Mrs. Carpenter commented on additional aspects of women's work within the Salvation Army ("Outer Circle Outreach", "Helping Hand Project", "League of Mercy".)

GIRLS' BRIGADE - Speaking to the report, Miss Christie said that the Brigade was run by women for girls and that the up-to-date programme was prepared by Australians for Australians. She also added that the opportunity to co-operate with A.C.W. was appreciated.

Y.W.C.A. - It was mentioned by Mrs. McPhee who spoke to this report, that special consideration was being given to "change" (reviewing and revising), to social responsibility and to an endeavour to be better informed on concerns and issues of our times. She also expressed appreciation of the opportunity to co-operate with A.C.W.

" (Working Committee)

UNITED CHURCHES - Mrs. Lane, A.C.W.'s correspondent, was pleased to have additional names to pass on to the incoming Working Committee.

NEWSLETTER, "WOMEN AT WORK" - Mrs. Dingle, who had been responsible for writing the newsletter, made a strong appeal to State Units and others to send "snippets" of news for inclusion in future issues.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN - Mrs. Haigh, National Convenor of the Fellowship, made brief comment on her report. She added that the special inspiration of the year had been the visit of Shanti Solomon. She requested the co-operation of State Units in supplying the incoming Convenor with names and addresses of State Convenors.

INTRODUCTION OF WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR

Mrs. Pope (W.K.S. Convenor) introduced Miss Kalpana Airan and invited her to speak about the course of study which she has already commenced at the University of Sydney.

LUNCH

was provided by the Lane Cove-Longueville ladies whose hospitality was much appreciated. A vote of thanks was carried by acclamation.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Rev. Dorothy Wacker conducted this segment on "Designing a Worship Session".

RETURN TO DEACONESS HOUSE and FREE CONVERSATION TIME.

EVENING MEAL

EVENING SESSION

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY - This session was conducted by the Rev. Bruce Reddrop (Chairman of C^ttee on Co-op.). He spoke on the work of the committee and his visit to Fiji in connection with this. He called for comment on the content of the draft leaflet on "Moral Issues in Human Reproductive Science".

Mrs. Colonel Carpenter expressed the thanks of the National Committee to the Rev. Bruce Reddrop.

EVENING MEDITATION AND PRAYER in the chapel concluded the day's proceedings.

SUPPER

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THURSDAY, 8th February -

MORNING SONG

The day commenced with Prayer, Praise and Meditation in the Chapel at 7.15 a.m.

BREAKFAST

BIBLE STUDY

Deaconess Rogers' study theme for the day was "God, the Son". (Arrangement had been made for studies to be duplicated and supplied to committee members at a cost of 50 cents: cost would also include copies of Mrs. McMahon's address.)

MINUTES

of the previous day's proceedings (Wednesday, 7th) were corrected and approved.

BUSINESS SESSION

REPORT

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP - This report as contained in Working Documents, was received and adopted.

Mrs. Pope expressed thanks to the Western Australian Unit and to the Methodist Church for providing fares for Terani's visit to W.A.

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)REPORTWINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP (Contd.)

With regard to Kalpana's course of study, Mrs. Pope stated that this may not be as long as first expected, as Kalpana may be able to complete assignments by correspondence, in which case she would be in Australia only until November. This would have some bearing on Kalpana's State visits; however plans were being considered to work in State visits with "project" visits.

Deaconess Andrews was invited to comment on "Terani in New Zealand". In concluding her remarks, Deaconess Andrews said she looks forward to the day when she will see Terani as a "leading light".

Mrs. Pope drew attention to the fact that the word "overseas" was not written into the statement of the Aims of the Scholarship, but was understood to apply to candidates seeking the scholarship: she felt also that the tenure of the scholarship could be best expressed as an academic year (rather than as 'being of about ten months' duration'). It was therefore resolved

"THAT, IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE ACROSS NATIONAL BOUNDARIES, THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP IS GIVEN TO AN OVERSEAS CHRISTIAN WOMAN (WHO HAS ALREADY RECEIVED HER BASIC TRAINING) TO OBTAIN EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING IN THIS COUNTRY WHICH SHE COULD NOT RECEIVE IN HER OWN COUNTRY."

It was brought to the attention of the meeting by Miss Jan Christie that Miss Jacki Kini, a former Winifred Kiek scholarship-holder would be arriving in Australia very soon to take up a course of study at the Canberra College of Advanced Education.

In reply to a question re financial support for the Scholarship, the treasurer said that it was receiving fairly satisfactory support.

Re Kalpana's programme for her study year - Mrs. Pope had consulted Mr. Grey in regard to State visits, as the difficulty of fitting these into a heavy University study programme may preclude them. Mrs. Pope had ascertained that there would be a fortnight available at Easter during which visits could be made to Victoria and Tasmania. It seemed possible that South Australia could be visited in mid June, and Queensland during late July when she would be visiting the University there as part of her programme, and Western Australia on her way home. Visits to Canberra would be arranged in co-operation with New South Wales. Deaconess Andrews urged the National Committee to make extensive use of the A.C.W. leaflet on the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. Mrs. Pope suggested that States make full use of the additional printed leaflets on Kalpana for publicity purposes.

Deaconess Andrews congratulated Mrs. Pope on her handling of Winifred Kiek Scholarship affairs.

Mrs. Pope expressed her pleasure at learning that a church in South Australia was offering assistance to one of the applicants for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and she commended this action to others.

A motion of appreciation of Mrs. Pope's work was carried by acclamation.

MORNING TEASPECIAL TELEGRAM

It was resolved

"THAT A TELEGRAM BE SENT TO PASTOR SYLVIA SIMPSON ON THE OCCASION OF HER INDUCTION AS DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE AND TRAINING AT COLLINS ST. INDEPENDENT CHURCH, MELBOURNE."

BUSINESS SESSIONREPORTS

STATE UNITS (Two reports were received on Wednesday morning before departure for Longueville) - The following reports were received:

VICTORIA - In speaking briefly to the report, Mrs. Downes expressed regret that while good participation in the World Day of Prayer continued, there had been a considerable decrease in the number of branches sharing in A.C.W.'s special days.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA - Mrs. Smith drew attention to a matter raised in the report concerning the possibility of an A.C.W. Scholarship for an Aboriginal student. Mrs. Kain had obtained information about Commonwealth Scholarships which indicated that the need was not so great in this area.

TASMANIA - Mrs. Cocks moved the reception of this report.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA - Mrs. Wilson spoke to the report adding that W.A. was exploring the possibility of extra services in some areas. She also mentioned the great value to W.A. of visits by the Winifred Kiek Scholars. The President congratulated W.A. on the growing interest in special days.

QUEENSLAND - Mrs. Clarke referred to the change of name by the Unit and commented that the State had been working very happily for a year under the new name. She displayed "kits" which had been prepared for issue to new members and branches and also a copy of the history of the Unit compiled to mark the conclusion of its twenty fifth year. She added that the granting of a free rail pass to the President or her representative to visit country areas was much appreciated. It was of particular advantage during

- 7 -

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)REPORTSSTATE UNITS (Contd.)QUEENSLAND (Contd.)

Terani's visit to the far north of Queensland. The profit from the sale of planner diaries had been put to good use.

NEXT STATE
LOCATION OF
THE WORKING
COMMITTEE

The President requested that some thought be given to a possible future location for the Working Committee of Australian Church Women.

GREETINGS AND REMARKS -

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER LIAISON OFFICER - Mrs. Strack brought Greetings from the W.W.D.P. Committee. She commented on the 1972 Service ("All Joy Be Yours") and said that the World Report was available for perusal. She read an abridged account of the Australian report. Mrs. Strack said the 1973 theme for the day of prayer was "Alert in Our Time" and had been prepared by New Zealand women, and that the theme for 1974 was "Make Us Builders of Peace". This would be prepared by Japanese women. A growing co-operation between the Fellowship of the Least Coin and Women's World Day of Prayer was most encouraging.

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES - COMMISSION ON FAITH AND ORDER - The A.C.W. representative to the Commission, Mrs. Ralph, reported on meetings, interests and concerns of the Commission. Deaconess Andrews expressed her hope that more women would be concerned and involved in this particular avenue of A.C.C. activity. Miss Christie drew attention to a Youth Conference in Malaysia this year and urged A.C.W. to endeavour to ensure that young women were enabled to attend.

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE - Planning Committee Member, Mrs. Badger, spoke of the distressing situation in the Philippine Is. and the persecution of some Christians there. She was concerned that there had been no news of the President of A.C.W.C., Mrs. Esther Bautista of Manila, who had planned to move to America. The venue of the next conference had not been decided but it would possibly be Japan or Hongkong.

It was thought that the next "Circle of Prayer" would be complete before the next committee meeting.

Concerning "Asian Focus", she explained that there had been some delay in getting articles for publication.

As mention had earlier been made of the possibility of holding a conference in Australia, Mrs. Badger referred to the almost insurmountable difficulty of financing this.

Re submissions to F.L.C. International for financial assistance - Mrs. Badger informed that these need not be restricted to requests for \$1,000 nor to projects within Australia.

Memorial to Rev. Dr. D. T. Niles and Mrs. Niles - Following informed comment by Mrs. Badger, it was resolved

"THAT AN AMOUNT OF \$25 BE DONATED TO THE NILES PROFESSORSHIP IN ECUMENICAL STUDIES, TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY DONATIONS FROM THE STATE UNITS AND INDIVIDUALS."

Reference was also made by Mrs. Badger to a request received from Miss Brigalia Bam, in which she asked that every effort be made to include women in delegations to the next W.C.C. Assembly in 1975. It was resolved that

"THAT THE SECRETARY OF A.C.W. WRITE TO THE SECRETARIES OF ALL ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEES OF MEMBER CHURCHES ASKING THEM TO CONSIDER THE INCLUSION OF YOUTH AND WOMEN IN THE DELEGATIONS TO THE NEXT ASSEMBLY OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDONESIA IN 1975."

Mrs. Dougherty suggested that an opportunity be made during this National Committee Meeting for special remembrance in prayer of people of the Philippine Islands. The President then requested the Rev. Dorothy Wacker to lead in prayer for all those who were suffering in this distressing situation.

LUNCH

NEWS OF
VIOLET SAMPA

Before the afternoon business session was commenced, Mrs. Pope sought permission to share some news of Violet Sampa - her study progress and vacation visit to her home in Zambia.

BUSINESS SESSION
THEMES FOR
SPECIAL DAYS

There was considerable discussion on this matter, following which it was resolved

- 8 -

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)THEMES FOR SPECIAL DAYS (Contd.)

"THAT THE WORKING COMMITTEE SEND A QUESTIONAIRE TO EACH STATE UNIT SEEKING THEIR IDEAS REGARDING THE RELEVANCE OF FELLOWSHIP DAY AND WORLD COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES."

and

"THAT THE WORKING COMMITTEE BE EMPOWERED TO WRITE TO CHURCH WOMEN UNITED FOR THEIR THEMES FOR 1974 AND TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PREPARATION OF THE SERVICES."

It was further resolved

"THAT THE WORKING COMMITTEE OBTAIN THE INFORMATION ON THE 1975 THEMES FOR THE CELEBRATION DAYS OF CHURCH WOMEN UNITED IN TIME FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING, 1974."

PREPARATION OF SERVICE ORDERS -

It was decided that these be prepared as follows -

- FELLOWSHIP DAY, 1974 by the A.C.T. Unit of A.C.W. (Canberra Church Women)
WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, 1974 by the Girls' Brigade of Australia.

PROJECTS

The following projects were submitted as worthy of consideration to receive financial assistance -

1. The Gordon Barclay Vietnam Fund.
2. The Theological Training of a woman student from Gilbert Is. at the Pacific Theological College.
3. The Korean Girls' Welfare Association.
4. The "Women of Bangladesh" Appeal.
5. Gospel Recordings.
6. The Menduli Sewing School at Tari (New Guinea).
7. The Redfern Medical Centre for Aborigines.
8. The Port Lincoln Pre-School for Aborigine Children.
9. The Training of an indigenous officer of the Girls' Brigade in New Guinea.

Those responsible for the presentation of projects listed were given opportunity to inform the National Committee concerning particular needs.

It was pointed out that A.C.W. needed to be aware of projects within the World Christian Action Programme of the A.C.C. and to give consideration to them.

Lengthy discussion and consideration followed. It was resolved

WORLD
COMMUNITY
DAY OFFERING
PROJECTS

"THAT FIFTY PER CENT. OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY DAY OFFERINGS BE DONATED TO A WORLD CHRISTIAN ACTION PROJECT AND FIFTY PER CENT. TO ANOTHER PROJECT."

It was further resolved

"THAT THE WORLD CHRISTIAN ACTION PROJECT TO RECEIVE 50% OF THE WORLD COMMUNITY DAY OFFERING BE THE "WOMEN OF BANGLADESH APPEAL."

and

"THAT THE REMAINING 50% BE DONATED TO THE TRAINING OF A WOMAN STUDENT FROM THE GILBERT IS. AT THE PACIFIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE."

F.L.C.
SUBMISSIONS
FOR
ASSISTANCE
GRANTS

The remaining listed projects were then more carefully considered with the result that it was resolved

"THAT A.C.W. SUBMIT FIVE PROJECTS FOR FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN GRANTS."

It was then decided that submissions be made according to the requirements of application on behalf of these following projects, viz.,

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. The Gordon Barclay Vietnam Fund | for a grant of \$1,500, |
| 2. The Redfern Medical Centre for Aborigines | " \$1,000, |
| 3. The Menduli Sewing School at Tari, N.G. | " \$1,000, |
| 4. The Korean Girls' Welfare Association | " \$1,000, |
| 5. The Training of an indigenous officer of
the Girls' Brigade in New Guinea | " \$2,500. |

Prompted by a suggestion from Mrs. Dingle, it was decided that the A.C.W. Secretary write to the headquarters office of each of the projects being submitted asking that they forward an application to F.L.C. International for assistance, on their own behalf, which A.C.W. would support and sponsor.

- 9 -

BUSINESS SESSION (Contd.)

At this point a telegram was received from Brigadier Geddes (Brisbane) sending greetings and good wishes to the National Committee. (Brig. Geddes had been a member of the Working Committee in Queensland).

PROMOTION & PUBLICITY FOR SPECIAL DAYS

The opinion was expressed and enthusiastically endorsed that posters were a necessary aid to publicity for special days and the Working Committee was requested to proceed with preparation of these for use in connection with Fellowship Day and World Community Day, 1973.

PEN SALES

Mrs. Miller presented a detailed report on the issue of A.C.W. pens for sale during the period February, 1971, to February, 1973, as follows -

619 dozen pens were issued to 8 Units during the period, valued at \$1,487.20.

Sales had been slightly less in 1972 than in 1971.

Details of issue were as follows -

New South Wales	73 doz. + 4	- Value	\$176.00
Victoria	78 doz.	- "	\$187.20
Queensland	216 doz. + 10	- "	\$520.40
N.T. - Alice Springs	12 doz.	- "	\$28.80
South Australia	48 doz.	- "	\$115.20
Tasmania	118 doz. + 8	- "	\$284.80
A.C.T.	30 doz. + 10	- "	\$74.00
Western Australia	42 doz.	- "	\$100.80

It was urged that as many outlets as possible be exploited for the sale of A.C.W. pens which have proved to be a very valuable promotional avenue for A.C.W.

SALE OF A.C.W. NOTELETS

Mrs. Farr (Secretary, W.I.C.C. S.A.) reported that 750 packets of notelets had been brought to the National Committee Meeting to be distributed among State Units. As only 400 of these were taken (300 by Queensland and 100 by Tasmania), there was a balance of 350 to be stored. New South Wales offered to hold these in storage for the National Committee. It was observed that the value of these articles as very good publicity aids was not being appreciated.

TRAVEL FUNDTREASURER'S STATEMENT -

The treasurer reported that the sum of \$429.93 would be required if refund of Travelling Expenses was to be made on the same basis as was used in February, 1972. This amount included \$385.07 for State representatives and \$44.86 for denominational representatives. For the information of the meeting the treasurer stated that the amount required to cover Working Committee Travelling Expenses was \$208.26.

TRAVEL POOL - Mrs. Smith spoke about the possibility of establishing a Travel Pool. It was then resolved

"THAT THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE DIRECTS THE WORKING COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A TRAVEL POOL FOR FUTURE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS."

It was also resolved

"THAT THE AMOUNT OF \$429.93 FOR TRAVELLING EXPENSES BE PAID FROM THE SCRIBAL PEN & NOTELET A/C (TRAVEL FUND) FOR STATE DELEGATES AND EIGHT DENOMINATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES."

VENUE FOR 1974 NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Incoming Working Committee was asked to investigate the costs of board and lodging in South Australia. The Meeting authorised the S.A. Working Committee to select the venue following its investigation.

SPECIAL MATTER

Miss Mitchell asked permission to raise a query in regard to Fellowship Day Services and the Winifred Kiek Scholars -

She asked if provision had been made to keep people informed as to what is happening to Winifred Kiek Scholars (ref. Working Committee Report, Working Documents) She also asked if members of State Units were aware that Miss Jean Beglin had died in 1971. (Miss Beglin was mentioned in regard to Miss Veronica Kafa's employment on return to the Solomon Is. - 1973 Fellowship Day Order of Service).

Following this advice from Miss Mitchell, State Units were asked to ensure that the final sentence in the paragraph on Veronica Kafa in the Fellowship Day Service reads, "She is now working as a lecturer." (The remainder of that sentence to be deleted).

The meeting then adjourned for the Free Conversation Time as scheduled on the Agenda.

EVENING MEAL

EVENING SESSION

This session, scheduled "Salvation Today", was conducted by Mr. Bruce Best, Public Relations Secretary for the Australian Council of Churches, who had recently returned from a visit to Bangladesh and Indo-China.

Thanks on behalf of the National Committee were conveyed to Mr. Best by Mrs. Rhodes.

EVENING MEDITATION AND PRAYER IN THE CHAPEL concluded the proceedings for the day.

SUPPER.

.. .. .

FRIDAY, 9th February -

MORNING SONG

Meditation, Praise and Prayer in the chapel commenced at 7.15 a.m.

BREAKFAST

BIBLE STUDY

Final Study Theme: "God, the Son". At the conclusion of the session, Mrs. Groat thanked Deaconess Rogers on behalf of the National Committee for the very helpful study series which she had conducted.

OVERSEAS CABLE

The following cable which was read to the National Committee before the commencement of the morning's business session, had been sent by SHANTI SOLOMON -

"GOD'S PRESENCE WITH EACH MEMBER OF WOMEN'S COUNCIL. LOVE AND BEST WISHES. SOLOMON".

BUSINESS SESSION

APPOINTMENTS

The National Committee made the following appointments -

- (a) TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM A.C.W. TO THE COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION based in Melbourne - The president indicated that Mrs. Macneil had given her consent to her nomination as representative to this committee, and called for a second nomination: Mrs. Downes (Melbourne) was nominated. The President then declared
MRS. M. MACNEIL and MRS. FRAN. DOWNES
representatives of Australian Church Women to the Committee on Co-operation.
- (b) TWO CONSULTANTS FROM A.C.W. TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES' GENERAL MEETING to be held in Melbourne during August, 1973. -
Following discussion, it was resolved
"THAT THE PRESIDENT AND ONE OTHER MEMBER OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE BE CONSULTANTS FROM A.C.W. TO THE A.C.C. GENERAL MEETING, AUGUST, 1973, IN MELBOURNE."
- (c) ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A.C.W. TO THE A.C.C. COMMISSION ON FAITH AND ORDER -
During 1972, A.C.W. had been represented on the Commission by Mrs. Margaret Ralph who was willing to act in this capacity during 1973. The President therefore declared that the representative to the A.C.C. Commission on Faith and Order for 1973 be
MRS. MARGARET RALPH.
- (d) An A.C.W. ARCHIVIST - Following discussion relating to the appointment of an archivist, it was resolved
"THAT AN ARCHIVIST BE APPOINTED FOR A.C.W. RECORDS."

MORNING TEA

BUSINESS SESSION -

- (d) (contd.)
Further to the appointment of an archivist, it had been ascertained that Mrs. Mabel Wyllie had consented to nomination to this office, but that present commitments prevented her from assuming duties immediately. It was therefore resolved
"THAT MRS. COLONEL CARPENTER (N.S.W.) BE APPOINTED ACTING ARCHIVIST DURING 1973 (UNTIL MRS. WYLLIE IS ABLE TO TAKE UP THE APPOINTMENT OF ARCHIVIST)."
Appreciation was expressed to N.S.W. W.I.C.C. for their kindly offer to store A.C.W. records.

MINUTES

of the previous day's proceedings were distributed and committee members were requested to read these very carefully, noting corrections to be made. After necessary alterations had been made, the minutes were approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS (Contd.)

The treasurer sought direction regarding the remittance of the amount of money being held as donation to the "Women of Bangladesh Appeal". It was decided that as offerings on World Community Day were being donated in part to this project, this amount be transferred to the World Community Day Account and added to the donation which would be made following allocation of the total offering-as directed by the National Committee.

The treasurer also asked for direction concerning cancelled cheque butts. It was decided that the 1973 Working Committee should receive these with other financial records and further that the books of account be closed and forwarded to South Australia by the end of February.

Regarding files of A.C.W. Correspondence for the years 1971 and 1972, it was decided that the Working Committee take these to South Australia for reference and record, items worthy of preservation eventually being received by the A.C.W. archivist.

OBSERVATION

The comment was made that it would be a good thing if some measure of the warmth extended to our Winifred Kiek Scholars during their study time in Australia could also be shown to Aboriginal people.

NEXT LOCATION
OF A.C.W.
WORKING
COMMITTEE

The President had previously asked that some thought be given to this matter. It was strongly felt that immediate consideration would be valuable. Those States which had not yet shared this honour and responsibility were urged to give serious thought to participation at this level. Subsequently, A.C.W.-W.A. Unit, the W.I.C.C. of Tasmania, and Canberra Church Women indicated their willingness to do this to facilitate a decision at next National Committee Meeting.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the retiring Working Committee, the Secretary, Mrs. Connell, expressed thanks to all National Committee members for co-operation during the two-year term in office of the committee in Queensland, and to Deaconess Andrews and her staff for their cheerful attention to meal-time needs (sometimes under difficulties). Particular appreciation was addressed to Deaconess Andrews for her kindly hospitality, her generosity in making facilities at Deaconess House available to the National Committee (office equipment and use of the chapel, organ, projector, etc being just a few named which had been available without charge), and above all for the inspiration of her Christian personality and thoughtfulness throughout the meetings. In replying, Deaconess Andrews said that it had given her special joy to be associated again with a National Committee Meeting of A.C.W.

CLOSING SESSION

This was conducted in the Chapel (3.00 p.m.) using a prepared order of service. In the opening act of the service, the retiring President, Mrs. Jessie Dennis, placed in the hands of the Acting Archivist, Mrs. Carpenter, an indexed copy of A.C.W. Records for the years 1971 and 1972, thus marking the conclusion of the term in office of the Working Committee located in Queensland. The service was of special significance, being at the one time a conclusion of a term in office of the Queensland Committee and the commencement of the South Australian Committee's term. It was therefore a service of Thanksgiving, Commitment, Dedication and Praise in which the commitment and dedication were symbolized by the passing on of lighted candles by the retiring committee to the incoming members.

AFTERNOON TEA

at approximately 4.00 p.m., provided opportunity for leave-taking and the exchange of good wishes and appropriately concluded the National Committee Meeting, 6th to 9th February, 1973.

CONFIRMED _____

DATE _____

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.

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 be a member of the Asian Church Women's Conference.

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE:

The National Committee shall consist of

- (a) Representatives who shall be appointed annually:
 - (i) one representative from each participating church appointed by the federal women's organisation or by whatever means is appropriate to the particular church.
 - (ii) two representatives of each and every State Women's Inter-church organisation recognized 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.
- (b) the Office Bearers and five other committee members who together shall comprise the Working Committee.

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 per cent. 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 Working Committee shall consist of ten members -

- (a) the office bearers of the National Committee,
- (b) five committee members, one of whom shall be elected annually as the convenor of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee by the National Committee.

The ten members of the Working Committee shall be

- (i) resident in one State
- (ii) elected annually by the National Committee.

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 its meetings. In the event of a vacancy on the Working Committee occurring between National Meetings, the Working Committee shall appoint a replacement to fill such vacancy and shall duly notify members of the National Committee of such appointment.

7. OBSERVERS and CONSULTANTS:

Non-voting observers with privilege to speak on any matter raised in conference shall be invited to attend the annual meetings of the National Committee:

- (i) one observer from each participating church appointed by the federal women's organisation or by whatever means is appropriate to the particular church.
- (ii) two observers from each and every State Women's inter-church organization recognized by Australian Church Women as its State Unit.
- (iii) one observer from the Federal organization of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee.
- (iv) up to eight observers from the new State location, at that National Meeting which will elect a Working Committee from a new State.
- (v) one observer from the State women's organisation of each church in the State in which the National Committee Meeting is held.

Consultants who shall have the same privileges as observers, shall be invited to attend the National Committee Meeting:

- (i) the Federal Liaison Officer, Women's World Day of Prayer.
- (ii) Australian members of the Planning Committee of Asian Church Women's Conference.

8. STATE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATION:

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

9. PROGRAMME OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN:

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

10. FINANCE:

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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 Funds of the Fellowship of the Least Coin International.
- (c)
 - (i) Accounts shall be kept as determined by the National Committee in consultation with the Honorary Treasurer of the Australian Council of Churches.
 - (ii) Bank accounts shall be operated upon by any two jointly of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.
 - (iii) 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.
 - (iv) The financial year shall end on 31st December.

11. AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION:

The Constitution shall be amended by a vote of a two-thirds majority of the National Committee present. Notice of motion to amend the Constitution shall be given to the Working Committee by an organization having representation on the National Committee. All constituent bodies shall be notified in writing 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.

12. 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.