

INTERIM COMMITTEE OF AUSTRALIAN
CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, June 10 at 10 o'clock in the Australian Council of Churches' Meeting Room.

OPENING: Opening prayers were led by the convener, Mrs. M. G. Wyllie.

PRESENT: Mesdames S. McPhee, J. F. Dey, D. J. A. Verco, M. G. Wyllie and Deaconess Andrews.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs. S. M. Barrett and Mrs. L. Lilley, the Rev. H. L. Perkins and the Rev. J. R. Neal.

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

BUSINESS ARISING:

- 1) Constitution: Mrs. Wyllie reported that no further action had been taken concerning the drafting of the constitution.
- 2) Tasmania: A letter was tabled from the Rev. Norman Kemp, chairman of the Tasmanian Council of Churches, indicating that steps were being taken to establish a women's inter-church council by the Council of Churches. Reported that the resolutions, following the Consultation held in March by this committee, had been forwarded to Mr. Kemp to assist him in the planning.
- 3) Fellowship of the Least Coin: Reported that following the last meeting Mrs. Wyllie had approached Deaconess Andrews with the request that she draft the intercessions to be suggested on the label for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Deaconess Andrews reported that she had worked with her students on the preparation and tabled a draft of their work. The meeting expressed their thanks to Deaconess Andrews and her students and with the suggestion of a small amendment it was agreed that the label be produced as part of the leaflet for the promotion of the Fellowship.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: It was reported that in the minutes of the Western Australian Council of Churches it had been noted that discussions had taken place within the Council concerning the formation of an inter-church womens group which could be affiliated with Australian Church Women. It was noted from the minutes that Mrs. G. Appleton and Mrs. R. Sutton were to discuss the matter and report back to the Council.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY: A discussion took place as to whether the ACT should be included in the responsibilities of the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council or should be the responsibility of this Committee as a Federal Committee. It was agreed that the ACT should come under this committee which would bring it into line with ACC policy where a separate Council of Churches is in existence.

SERVICE AND STATUS OF WOMEN

IN THE CHURCH: Mrs. Wyllie reported that she had received from Mrs. Rose Symons the material she had requested on the Service and Status of Women in the Church which had been prepared by the Methodist Women's Federation.

It was agreed that the material should be read by the members of this committee and that a questionnaire be prepared and that the matter be discussed at the next meeting.

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WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIPS: The meeting discussed the establishment of a Winifred Kiek Scholarship and it was agreed that:

1. Fellowship Day collections be used in aid of a scholarship for an Asian woman (or from New Guinea or the Pacific) to come to Australia.
2. The scholarship be not an academic one but could be one to look at institutions or do training - e.g. YW, Deaconess House, etc.
3. If possible the person chosen could address groups in our churches
4. We consult with Inter-Church Aid
5. Make the appeal at Fellowship Day 1965.

Further agreed that it be included on the next Agenda for a discussion on courses available.

NEWSLETTER: The meeting listed items they would like included in the next Newsletter to be mailed during July.

1. Fellowship of the Least Coin
2. World Community Day
3. Winifred Kiek Scholarship
4. Service and Status of women in the Church
5. news of women in other countries - e.g. Orthodox participation in inter-church activities
6. News in the States - development of ACW
7. Book Review - Ordination of Women
- Saints Alive! 2nd edition.

CLOSING: Meeting closed with prayer led by Mrs. Wyllie.

** It was resolved that we investigate the possibility of introducing a study on the Service and Status of Women in the Church with special reference to the Biblical approach and that it be discussed at the next meeting and we prepare suggested topics for discussion.

Confirmed:

Mable G. Wyllie

Date:

9.8.64