

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of the Working Committee held on Wednesday, February 23rd, 1966, at 10. a.m. in the ACC Meeting Room, 511 Kent Street, Sydney.

OPENING: The meeting opened with prayer led by Deaconess M. Andrews.

PRESENT: Deaconess M. Andrews (chair), Mesdames J.F. Dey, A. Dougan, A.G. Ralph, L. Evangelinidis, C.F. Gribble, F. Stafford, D.J.A. Verco, D.G. Badger, Miss T. Skiller, Lt. Colonel H. Cross.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. M.G. Wyllie.

Welcome was extended to Mrs. D.G. Badger, who had been invited to attend the meeting.

MINUTES: Minutes of the Working Committee Meeting held on 23rd November, 1965, and of Meeting of the Executive held on December 14th, 1965, were taken as read and confirmed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence, as outlined below, was received:

- a) A letter from the Rev. F. Engel, enclosing cheque for £15 (received late December) to be used in the Scholarship programme of A.C.W. In 1963 the National Missionary Council had planned to bring a Tahitian woman to Australia for some special training. At the last minute, because of a health condition with the person concerned, this did not eventuate. A donation of £15 had been given at a special meeting for this project. At a meeting of the committee of the Division of Mission it was decided this money should be handed to A.C.W.

It was agreed that this be acknowledged, with thanks.

b) 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference:

A further letter from the Asian Church Women's Conference, asking for the name of A.C.W.'s delegate to this conference. It was reported that the Asian Church Women's Conference had been informed that Mrs. D.G. Badger would be the representative and the required nomination form (as supplied by the A.C.W.C.) had been filled in and forwarded with covering letter.

- c) A letter from Mrs. A. Yule - press representative of Australian Presbyterian Life - expressing her thanks for being able to attend some of the sessions of the National Committee Meeting and enclosing copy of a report which she had prepared. This has already appeared in Australian Presbyterian Life. This report will be made available to any members of the Working Committee who think they can make use of this in connection with their denominational papers.

It was agreed that this be acknowledged, with thanks.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING:

Reference was made to the Minutes of the National Committee Meeting held in Melbourne, January 19th - 21st, 1966, parts of which were read.

The appreciation of the Working Committee was expressed through the Chairman, to the Hon. Secretary for work done in connection with the national Committee Meeting.

Follow-up work, as outlined below and listed in the Minutes under the headings stated, received the attention of the Working Committee.

1. Report from Working Committee - Reports from States - page 5.

The Secretary reported that a letter had already been sent to Mrs. Eaton, Secretary of the State Unit in Western Australia,

thanking her for her letter and sending greetings from the National Committee Meeting.

2. The Winifred Kiek Scholarship - pages 5 & 6.

- a) It was resolved that a letter be sent to Miss Connie Tan, sending greetings and appreciation from the National Committee Meeting. Also, that in this letter it be indicated that we would appreciate receiving her assessment concerning the Scholarship Course at an early date.
- b) National Scholarship Committee. It was resolved -
 1. That Deaconess M. Andrews put the convening of this Committee into effect.
 2. that reports of the Committee's deliberations be presented at Working Committee Meetings.
 3. that the National Scholarship Committee now deal with matters related to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship specifically mentioned at the National Committee Meeting, viz:
 - The application of Mrs. Savali Fiti Sunia
 - Solicit further applications for the 1966 Scholarship
 - Examine and redraft, as necessary, the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Policy and the recommendations for Working arrangements.
 4. that it will be the responsibility of the National Scholarship Committee to communicate with State Units concerning the forming of scholarship sub-committees, it will, therefore, not be necessary for State Units to take any action until advice is received.

3. Fellowship of the Least Coin - pages 6 & 7.

It was resolved -

- a) that Mrs. S.M. Barrett be invited to be the National Convener.
- b) that State Units be asked to give attention to the appointment of State Conveners, and that consideration be given to the appointment of conveners in local branches.

4. Location of the Working Committee - page 8.

Following brief general discussion, it was resolved that the President, Secretary and Miss T. Skiller form a sub-committee to carry out the terms of the resolution of the National Committee Meeting.

It was the opinion of the Working Committee that this should take place at an early date.

5. Role of the Local Women's Group - pages 8 & 9.

- a) Collection of Church literature having to do with Women's Work - next National Committee Meeting. It was resolved that Mrs. J.F. Dey be asked to be responsible for this. Mrs. Dey was present at the meeting and agreed to this request.
- b) Arising out of the resolution of the National Committee Meeting that specified Federal Women's Groups be invited to send an observer to the next National Committee Meeting, it was resolved that State Secretaries of denominational women's groups connected with A.C.W., resident in the State where the National Committee Meeting will be held, be invited to attend as observers.

6. 1966 Programme - Special Days, page 9.

- a) It was reported that early in February a letter had been sent to the Rev. J. Neal, asking that he follow through with the Rev. Edwin Robertson his earlier agreement to prepare a Worship Service and study questions for Fellowship Day. It was indicated that it would be helpful to have this at an early date, and that the end of March would need to be regarded as the dead line.

6. b) It was noted that a letter needed to be sent to the Women's United Church Association of South Australia, confirming the verbal request Mrs. Wells had been asked to convey, that this State Unit be responsible for preparing the Worship Service and Study questions for World Community Day.

7. Study Book for 1967 - page 10.

There was brief discussion. The view was expressed that if A.C.W. is going to produce studies, these should be provided for each year - not necessarily an annual production, but if produced every second year, that study material be provided for each year.

It was resolved that a sub-committee be asked to consider this subject and bring recommendations to the next Working Committee Meeting. Those appointed were Mrs. A. Dougan (convener), Mrs. M.G. Wyllie and Mrs. J.F. Dey.

8. Appointments to Related Committees - page 12.

It was noted that a letter needed to be sent to Mrs. T.C. Rentoul, requesting her to continue representation on the Commission on Christian Marriage and Family Life.

9. 3rd Asian Church Women's Conference - page 13.

a) It was agreed that Mrs. D.G. Badger attend Working Committee Meetings.

b) Travel Fund: Mrs. J.F. Dey, Treasurer, agreed to be responsible for organising this. It was resolved that a sub-committee be convened by Mrs. Dey for this purpose. Mrs. Dey and Mrs. A.G. Ralph were appointed as members of this committee, with power to co-opt.

As a result of requests received during the period of the National Committee Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches, it was resolved that copies of the Minutes of Working Committee Meetings be sent to the State Secretaries of the ACC; also to the New Zealand Women's Committee of National Council of Churches, on an exchange basis.

The wisdom of making evaluations concerning the National Committee Meeting was briefly discussed. It was agreed that this be placed on the Agenda of the next Working Committee Meeting.

ALTERNATES:

There was brief discussion as to whether it would be correct procedure, or otherwise, for alternates to be appointed for members of the Working Committee. It was agreed that members of the Working Committee give thought to this matter, which will be further discussed at the next meeting.

NEWSLETTER: There was brief discussion as to whether a member of the Working Committee should be asked to be responsible for periodically writing a newsletter. It was agreed that this be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. It was reported that a commentary, written by Mrs. T.H. Coates, "Australian Church Women meet at St. Hilda's in Melbourne", was in the process of being sent by Mr. Vaughan Hinton to Church papers. It was agreed this met any immediate need.

It was resolved that additional copies be made and ten sent to each State Unit.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, 23rd March, at 10. a.m.

CLOSING:

The meeting closed with prayer led by Deaconess Andrews.

CONFIRMED

Mabel G. Wyllie

DATE

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