

INTERIM COMMITTEE OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday, November 6 at 10am
at 511 Kent Street

OPENING: Mrs. Wyllie led the meeting in opening prayers using selected prayers from the Order of Service for the Dedication of the Unity Chapel at Coventry Cathedral.

PRESENT: Mrs. M.G. Wyllie (chair); Mesdames F. McKay, J.F. Dey, L. Lilley and Deaconess Andrews.

APOLOGY: Apology received from Mrs. S. McPhee.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting, having been duly circulated were taken as read and confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Mrs. Wyllie agreed to contact Mrs. Verco concerning her becoming a member of the Interim Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence received from Mrs. C.R. Ford, United Church in North Australia, Alice Springs forwarding a cheque for £2/2/- from the World Community Day service held and expressing the greetings and thanks of those who participated to the committee for the study material.

- Women United Church Association of Sth. Aust. accepting the invitation to affiliate as a state council of ACW.
- Women's World Day of Prayer Committees of Queensland and Western Australia, both declining to become affiliated with ACW.
- Mothers' Union - Diocese of Tasmania and Bendigo - acknowledging receipt of correspondence concerning the formation of ACW and advising that the correspondence would be referred to further meetings of their church.

Resolved that the correspondence be received and dealt with by the chairman.

VISIT OF DR. M. BAROT:

It was reported that Dr. Barot had visited Tasmania, Victoria and N.S.W. as previously planned by the committee and in all centres had enjoyed profitable meetings with both denominational and inter-church groups.

Mrs. Wyllie spoke of certain points mentioned by Dr. Barot which could affect the policies of this committee in its future planning:

- . cooperation of men and women in the life of the Church - in the local church, etc
- . the particular contribution which women have to make
- . the ordination of women
- . the place of professional women in the church
- . the contribution the church has to make to the life of the working mother
- . questions of marriage and family life
- . the concerns of the status of women in society.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY 1964

It was resolved following discussion on the plans for 1964 World Community Day to ask the Victorian unit of ACW - the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council - to undertake the preparation of a study and a worship service for the 1964 World Community Day. Further resolved that the following suggestions be forwarded as a guide to the committee in its planning:

- . that a date be suggested which, if at all possible, could be used in all states
- . the theme be "Christians and World Peace"
- . that the format and outline of study and worship service be similar to the 1963 material.

The committee also requested that if the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council could not undertake this assignment they advise us so that other arrangements can be made quickly. The committee felt that following the experience of this year more time should be given to the study and perhaps conclude the day with the worship service rather than to begin with it.

RESOURCE MATERIAL:

The meeting suggested that a file be kept of resource material which has been used by the various groups to share with other women's groups.

STUDY MATERIAL:

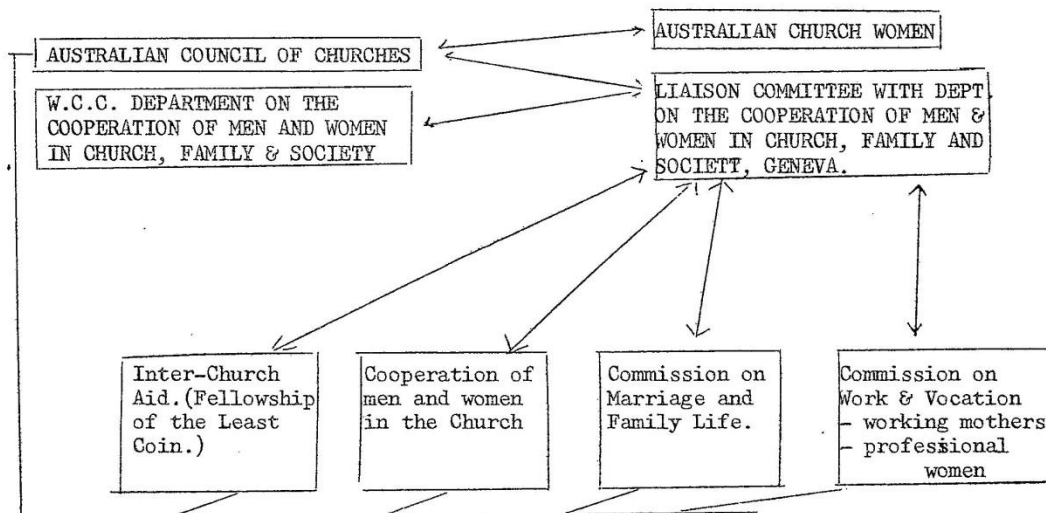
Mrs. Dey and Mrs. Wyllie reported that the 4 studies were now finished and ready for production after some work on format had been done. Both agreed that the study as it now is should be most useful and profitable to groups taking part.

It was resolved:

- 1) 1500 copies be produced
- 2) They be sold, if possible, at 1/- each.
- 3) Available on December 1 - if possible.
- 4) The format be similar to the production "Projects in Christian Unity" - i.e. sixmo size, side stapled.
- 5) That the title be "Saints Alive"
- 6) Study to be undated so that it can be used at any time by any group.
- 7) Publicity be through church press releases/ local women's groups (both state and federal); through a newsletter to state councils and through the ACC channels (committees, councils, etc.).

NEXT STEPS:

- (a) Mrs. Wyllie introduced the subject of what next steps should be taken in the furthering of the committee's work:
Following discussion it was resolved:
 - 1) That a national consultation be called by the Interim Committee
 - 2) That the consultation be held from March 17 - 18, 1964 in Sydney.
 - 3) That invitations be sent to the women's inter-church councils of South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales.
 - 4) That the fare of one person from each state be paid by the committee (return rail fare from Melbourne and Brisbane, air fare from Adelaide), and that each state be invited to send one other at their own expense.
 - 5) That hospitality be found in Sydney.
 - 6) That Mrs. McKay, Mrs. Verco and Deaconess Andrews form a sub-committee to prepare a draft agenda to be submitted to the next meeting.
 - 7) That there be three or possibly four sessions: afternoon and evening of March 17 and morning and possibly afternoon of March 18.
- (b) Department on the Cooperation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society.
Mrs. Wyllie introduced the business which arose following a resolution at the ACC Executive Committee during September, which Mlle Barot attended. The staff of the ACC were asked to work out a pattern whereby the work of the Department on the Cooperation of Men and Women could be channelled into the churches and the ACC. Mrs. Wyllie reported that she had discussed this with the General Secretary and the Executive Secretary and outlined the discussion and the findings. It was resolved, following discussion, that the following diagram be forwarded for consideration which, the meeting felt, expressed by the relationships which need to be established.



It was further resolved that the following names be considered by the staff as likely people form this liaison committee:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr. V.K. Brown | Deaconess K. Browning |
| Mrs. Lillian Wells | Dr. Maynard Rennie |
| Rev. Dr. C.J. Wright | Rev. Alan Spalding |
| Rev. Lillian Livingston | Mrs. M.G. Wyllie |
| Rev. John Garrett | Rev. H.L. Perkins |
| Mr. Bruce Mansfield or | |
| Miss Kath George | |

LIAISON BETWEEN STATE COUNCILS OF THE A.C.C. AND STATE UNITS OF A.C.W.

It was resolved that we seek the assistance of the General Secretary concerning the liaison between these bodies on the state level. It was felt that clarification re relationships needed to be made especially concerning representation on committees and cooperation in planning functions. Also suggested that at the Annual Meeting of the ACC the opportunity may be found for the State Secretaries to consult with members of the Australian Church Women present at the Annual Meeting to help in the establishment of working relationships.

NEWSLETTER:

The meeting agreed that a NEWSLETTER to be circulated to State Women's Inter-Church Councils and denominational women's groups, etc was needed. Resolved that it contain such items as:

- . 1964 World Community Day announcement
- . study material for local groups
- . national consultation planned for March 17-18, 1964 in Sydney
- . reports from the States re Mlle. Barot's visit
- . appointment of a Promotion Officer by the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council
- . Christmas Greetings.

ACC ANNUAL MEETING: Mrs. Wyllie reported that an invitation had been received for the Interim Committee to appoint a consultant to the ACC's annual meeting in Melbourne during February. Resolved that we approach Mrs. D.J.A. Verco. If she is unable to accept the invitation be extended to Mrs. J.F. Dey or Mrs. J. Coates.

The meeting also asked that we enquire from the General Secretary when the business of the Interim Committee would come before the Annual Meeting.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Mrs. Wyllie presented a document received from the WCC Department on the Cooperation of Men & Women in Church, Family & Society concerning the granting of ecumenical scholarships. Resolved that the document be forwarded, with covering letter, to the ACC/DICARWS, Scholarship Committee in Melbourne and the NMCA for discussion by the mission boards.

NEXT MEETING: Resolved that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, December 4 at 10am.

MEETINGS 1964

Resolved that the 1964 meetings be held on the SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month in lieu of the first as during 1963.

CLOSING: Mrs. Wyllie closed the meeting with prayer.

CONFIRMED: _____

DATE: _____