

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Collaroy Centre
Collaroy, New South Wales

September 9 - 13, 1991

'WE BEING MANY, ARE ONE IN CHRIST'

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1991

Welcome: The National President, Mrs Marie McCann, welcomed Delegates, Observers and Visitors from interstate and three visitors from New Zealand and Rachel Sobana from India, the 1991 Winifred Kiek Scholar.

Opening Devotions: Mrs McCann read from Paul's Letter to the Romans in Chapter 12, which related to the Conference Theme, 'We Being many, are one in Christ'.

Apologies: Mrs Margaret Napier, Aust. representative to ACWC; Mrs Judy Stewart, Presbyterian Women's Association; Mrs Betty Checkley, Baptist Women's Fellowship; Mrs Barbara Grealy (S.A.); Mrs Rachel Cocks (Life Member, Tas.); Mrs Joyce Balnaves (Catholic Women's League, Aust.); Mrs Evonne Sullivan (ACT); Mrs Sheila Hart (S.A.); Mrs Aileen Fitzgerald, Mrs Pauline Wells, Mrs Nancy Branston (Tasmania) Mrs Dorothy Hartman (Tas.).

Roll Call: All participants were acknowledged as individuals and groups were presented. It was a joy to note that three Life Members were in attendance: Mrs Olive Ackland (Vic), Deaconess Mary Andrews (NSW) and Mrs Ruth Burmester (ACT).

In Memoriam: A tribute was paid by the President to Miss Gladys Locke (Life Member W.A.), Mrs Phyl O'Loughlin (Tas.), Mrs Florence Marshall (Vic.) who have passed away since last Conference. A prayer of thanksgiving for their lives and service was offered.

Greetings: Mrs Margaret Napier, Mrs Judy Stewart, Mrs Betty Checkley, Mrs Barbara Grealy, Mrs Anne Brown (Church Women United, New Zealand), Mrs Rachel Cocks, Mrs Joyce Balnaves, Mrs Sheila Hart, and from the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Trustees.

Procedural Arrangements: 1. Any business not included in the Agenda is to be referred to the National Executive no later than noon Tuesday, September 10, for consideration and presented for debate if and when considered appropriate.
91/2
2. It was moved, seconded and approved that the Reference Committee of three be: Mrs Lorraine Davis (Tas.), Mrs Shirley Birch (S.A), and Lady Wilson (Leila) (WA).
3. Returning Officers will not be appointed unless the necessity arises - no secret ballot being envisaged at this point in time.
4. Adoption of Agenda: Mrs Edith Ridge (NSW) drew attention to an error on page 42 of the Conference papers. In the sentence beginning "A third year would enable...", the letters ACWC should read ACW. In the NSW Unit Report, on page 32 in the Special Days paragraph, "Fellowship Day 1990" should read "1991".
Mrs Vera Wilson (W.A.) pointed out that Mrs Ednah Daw is a W.A. Visitor, not representing Churches of Christ, as listed. Mrs Joan Stott (Vic) sought clarification of the word "members" in item 7, page 6. It was pointed out that

this meant voting members only.

It was agreed that Dr Juliet Backhouse had been incorrectly shown as Miss Backhouse, but that the name should, in any case, be eliminated as she is unable to attend.

It was noted that Mrs Lt. Col. Williams should be listed as a Salvation Army Observer.

It was moved by Mrs Maureen Clark (S.A.), seconded Mrs Betty Farrell (ACT) that the Agenda be adopted, as amended.

It was moved by Mrs Rhoda Gates (UCA), seconded Mrs Shirley Birch (S.A.), that all other procedural arrangements be approved, as printed in the Working Papers.

The Business Session ended at 3.15 pm, with the singing of the Conference Theme Chorus, "In Christ we are one", words and music of which had been composed by Mrs Lucelle King (Nat.Exec.), and arranged by her daughter, Helen Scott. Mrs King intimated that the words and music may be used when desired, without fear of infringing copyright.

Report on Opening Service - Monday evening 7 30 pm

The Opening Service of the 1991 Conference, attended by 120 people, commenced with a processional of banners, National Executive and Service participants. With the singing of "The Bond of Love", the Christian Women's Choir (augmented by ACW members) opened the Service. Mrs Marie McCann conducted the worship within the Conference Centre Chapel.

Miss Jean Raddon was the speaker, addressing the theme, "We Being Many, are one in Christ". Others taking part were the W.K. Scholar, Rachel Sobana, and Mrs Major Joan Tong, Miss Doris Mitchell, Mrs Helen Richardson, Mrs Elizabeth Walker, Mrs Yvonne Davis and Mrs Lucelle King.

At the conclusion of the Service in the Chapel, the NSW State Unit assisted in presenting an excellent supper in the Conference Room. Ecumenical guests were welcomed and greetings were received from Archbishop Abooti of the Syrian Orthodox Church and Mr Ed Walker, President of the NSW Ecumenical Council. Archbishop Abooti asked Australian Church Women to write to the Australian Government asking them to provide overseas aid to the women and children of Iraq who are suffering as a result of the Gulf War.

The evening concluded with the singing of the Doxology.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1991

BUSINESS SESSION 2.

Minutes from
last Conference:
91/3

Perth, September 11-15, 1989.
Moved Leila Wilson, seconded Olive Dell(both W.A.)
that the Minutes be confirmed. Motion approved.

Business arising:

1987 Winifred Keik Scholarship which was not used for
the applicant from Burma, but used for the Winifred
Keik Fellowship for women who attended the
W.C.C.Assembly, Canberra 1991.

Archivist (89/47). This matter was dealt with
by the States.

Consumer & Credit Education. This matter was
dealt with by the States.

A.C.W.C.Annual Financial Statement. Tabled by
Joan Tong (N.S.W.).

Correspondence:

The National Secretary reported that all correspondence
had been dealt with by the National Executive.

REPORTS:

91/4

Moved Edith Ridge (N.S.W.), seconded Mavis Burtenshaw
(National) that the reports be taken as read.
The motion was carried.

91/5

Secretary. Helen Richardson presented the report
as written on page 9, commenting on our gift to
Kiribati Protestant Church. The Women's Resource
Centre has been built and opened 8th June.

Moved Helen Richardson (National Secretary),
Seconded Yvonne Davis (National) that the report
be received.

91/6

Treasurer's report. Elizabeth Walker presented
the financial statement which is appended to the
official record of this session.

Moved Elizabeth Walker (National), seconded
Gladys West (National) that the report be received
and adopted.

Appreciation. Shirley Birch (S.A.) congratulated
Elizabeth on the manner in which she has carried
out her responsibilities as Treasurer.
Carried by acclamation.

91/7

Auditor. It was moved by Elizabeth Walker,
seconded by Mavis Burtenshaw (National) that the
National Conference express its sincere appreciation
to Prudence Honey A.C.A. for her contribution
and assistance as Honorary Auditor.
The motion was carried.

Prayer Partners: Brigadier Mabel Ward matched prayer partners, distributed cards, following which we sang 'Bind together Lord.'

BUSINESS SESSION 3

Winifred Kiek
Scholarship
Report:

91/8

Lucelle King presented the report as printed on page 11. Mrs King announced that Rachel Sobana has still to visit South Australia and Western Australia (for six weeks each), and will return home on December 9. Rachel has expressed sincere gratitude for opportunities given her and hospitality shown by the ACW members and feels she has benefited greatly from experiences in the various hospitals which she has visited. Mrs King moved that the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Convener's Report be accepted; seconded by Marjory Baker (Nat. Ex). The motion was approved.

Questions:

1. Dorothy Wright (WKS Trust) asked the Convener if sufficient funds were available for the remainder of this year to cover the Scholarship. The question was redirected to Elizabeth Walker (Nat. Treas.), who assured members that funds were adequate.
2. Eunice Reidy (C/C) expressed concern that scholars are chosen and Scholarships awarded before the courses are established. Mrs King replied that there were many contingencies relating to the Scholarship which would be discussed in accordance with a forthcoming recommendation.
3. Betty Farrell (ACT) asked if it were possible to have a list of subjects to offer rather than allow the students to make the choice. Mrs King replied that this matter would be answered in the Discussion Paper and a recommendation she intended putting forward.
4. Marion Dodds (Vic) expressed concern that the different styles of hospital administration as practised in India (following the English system), compared with that in Australia (following the American system) might be confusing to Rachel. Mrs King replied that she understood and shared this concern but it has been apparent that Rachel has been interested in making comparisons and has learned much from her experiences.

Convener's
Recommendation:

91/9

Mrs King recommended "That because of rising costs, availability of courses and the economic situation, the whole concept of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be reviewed with the possibility of restructuring the practicalities of the guidelines of the Scholarship"; (p 41/13).

Winifred Kiek
Scholarship
Trustee Report
and Financial
Statement:

91/10

Dorothy Wright (WKS Trustee) presented the report and financial statements (for the two years) as printed on pages 16-23. It was noted that the Trustees' Recommendations would be discussed later.

A reminder was given concerning the Memorial Bursary Fund, set up to honour the memory of members from various State Units; contributions can be made to this fund. Members' names are recorded in the Memorial Bursary Book with a resume of their services to the Unit.

Mrs Wright moved that her report be received and Shirley Birch (SA) seconded. The motion was approved.

Appointment of
WKS Trustees:

91/11

Dorothy Wright (WKS Trustee) reported that the retiring Trustees, Joan Brewer and Dorothy Haensel, are eligible for re-election. Mrs Wright moved that these two Trustees be re-appointed for a further four-year term. Lucelle King seconded the motion which was approved.

Mrs Wright requested that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Geoffrey Butler, Hon. Auditor, expressing appreciation for his services over the last four years.

91/12

Mrs Wright moved that an honorarium of \$200 be forwarded to Mr Butler. Doris Mitchell seconded and the motion was approved.

91/13

It was noted that Mr Butler is unable to accept re-appointment. Mrs Wright moved that Mr Adrian Nicholls ACA (a Uniting Church Auditor) be appointed Hon. Auditor for the W.K. Scholarship Trust for ensuing term. Edith Ridge (NSW) seconded the motion which was approved.

WKS Discussion
Paper:

91/14

Mrs Wright brought greetings from the WKS Trustees and drew attention to the Discussion Paper.

Conference members then formed groups from all State Units to discuss the Paper and bring back recommendations to the meeting.

At the end of the discussions, each group brought back their points of view to the meeting.

91/15

It was moved by Ruth Burmester (ACT), seconded Betty Farrell (ACT) that time for submission of Notices of Motion be extended until 2 pm today.

The meeting closed with prayer at 1 pm.

BUSINESS SESSION 4

Vice President Doris Mitchell chaired the session.

Change of
category.

The president reported that Mrs Lieutenant Colonel Mary Begley has been changed from delegate to observer, and Mrs Lieutenant Colonel Win Williams from observer to visitor.

Special Days
Report

91/16

Yvonne Davis presented the report as printed on page 13. Special concern was expressed about copyright. This matter will come up for discussion in a later session. People are urged to encourage young people to attend the special days services.

Publications
Report

91/17

Mavis Burtenshaw presented the report as printed on page 10. Contributions to the editor of ACW News should be crisp and concise.

Unit
Reports

91/18

Australian Capital Territory

Betty Farrell presented the report as printed on page 26. Special mention was made of the Fellowship Day service which was very well attended.

Victoria

Barbara Lacy presented the report as printed on page 27. Membership is growing steadily. The 50th anniversary of the formation of the ecumenical women's movement in Victoria, now known as Australian Church Women - Victorian Unit, will be celebrated during 1991-92.

Tasmania

Shirley Brooks presented the report as printed on page 28. The Launceston branch holds an annual day of prayer, for the past two years focussing on the needs of the people of Burma. (Myanmar)

South Australia

Maureen Clark presented the report as printed on page 29. Jubilee 150 trust fund continues to assist under-privileged women.

Western Australia

Vera Wilson presented the report as printed on page 30. There are no branches as such, but several church women's groups are associated with ACW and participate by holding special day services. A forum - Living in Peace, was successfully held by the inter-church women's groups.

Queensland

Margaret Bull presented the report as printed on page 31. The F.L.C. convenor has initiated interest in two new areas of the state, Carpentaria and Noosa/Tewantin.

Unit New South Wales
reports (contd.)

Joan Tong and Edith Ridge presented the report as printed on page 32. The pen project has proved most successful. Denominational people were invited to attend the Golden Jubilee celebrations in 1988 and to bring banners. The Ukrainian women attended. They have recently indicated their intention to join the NSW unit of ACW and a letter of invitation has been sent.

Thanks were expressed to all units for the reports as presented, and all the effort represented therein.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that each report be received.

BUSINESS SESSION 5

Brigadier Mabel Ward (Nat.Ex) presided over the Session.

Denominational
Reports:

91/19

National Committee of Anglican Women of Australia: Helen Lloyd (ACT) spoke to the report, prepared by Cecily Butcher the National Co-ordinator. This is an "umbrella" organisation trying to cover all Anglican women.

Australian Baptist Women's Fellowship: Valmae Renn (NSW) spoke to the report printed on page 33.

Australian Christian Women's Fellowship of Churches of Christ: Eunice Reidy (Vic) spoke to the report printed on page 34 and said that a number of their women plan to attend the meeting of the World Council of Women's Fellowships in Long Beach, California next year.

National Committee for Adult Fellowship Groups, Uniting Church: Rhoda Gates (NSW) spoke to the report printed on page 35.

Salvation Army Women's Ministries: Major Olive Lucas (NSW) the Territorial Secretary for Home Leagues for NSW & Qld (Eastern Territory) spoke to the reports covering both the Eastern and Southern Territories, printed on pages 36 and 37.

The report of Lutheran Women of Australia was noted - no speaker present.

National
Interest Groups:

91/20

World Day of Prayer: Margaret Watson (Vic) spoke to the report on page 40, prepared by Jean Cheshire for whom there was an apology. Prayers were sought for Israel, Jordan and Syria as they prepare the 1993 Order of Service.

Australian Council of Churches: Joan Tong (NSW) spoke to the report on page 24 and emphasised the importance of information coming from ACC to Australian Church Women.

It was moved by Elizabeth Walker (Nat.Ex), seconded Marie Hewitt (Tas), that the reports be received with appreciation. The motion was approved.

Question:

Vi Bache (SA) asked if Conference will be hearing more about the Ecumenical Decade of Solidarity with Women.

Elizabeth Walker (Nat.Ex) replied that this matter should be referred to Judy Nelson-Clegg on Thursday.

Iraqi situation:

91/21

Brigadier Ward referred to comments made by Archbishop Aboodi of the Syrian Orthodox Church the previous evening, regarding the plight of women and children in Iraq.

It was moved by Helen Richardson (Nat.Ex), seconded Shirley Wells (Nat.Ex) that a letter be sent from ACW to the Australian Government asking them to relax the trade restrictions on Iraq to enable food to go through to women and children.

Rhoda Gates (NSW) suggested that the motion should be re-worded because "relaxing trade restrictions" would involve a change of political policy. The mover and seconder agreed.

The motion was re-worded as follows: "that a letter be sent from ACW to the Australian Government asking them to enable food and humanitarian aid to reach women and children in Iraq.

Margaret Bull (Qld) suggested that this wording was not definite enough to attract attention.

Conference agreed that the matter be referred to a drafting committee [on the suggestion of Joan Stott (Vic)] for more appropriate wording and submitted to a later session.

It was moved by Eunice Reidy (Vic), seconded Edith Ridge (NSW) that this committee comprise Margaret Bull (Qld), Leila Wilson (WA) and Joan Stott (Vic). The motion was carried.

Fellowship of the
Least Coin:

91/22

It was moved by Margaret Wall (Vic), seconded by Marion Dodds (Vic) that Fellowship of the Least Coin Guidelines be affirmed and adhered to, with applications for Grants continuing to be made primarily on worth and value of the application.

Rationale: The fundamental principle is that the Least Coin is the leveller, allowing all countries equal right of application.

Discussion ensued with comment from Glad West (FLC, Nat.). The motion was put to the vote and defeated (9 votes to 16).

After lengthy discussion, Joan Stott (Vic) applied for leave to present a new Notice of Motion arising out of this debate, at a later date. Approval was granted from the Chair.

The Session closed at 5.35 pm.

BUSINESS SESSION 6. REPORTS.

- 91/23 It was moved Olive Dell (WA) seconded Joan Tong (Nat.Ex) that the reports be taken as read and received at the end of the session. Carried.
- Fellowship of the Least Coin.
Report was presented by Glad West, National Convenor, as printed on page 14.
- Asian Church Women's Conference.
In the absence of the Representative, Margaret Napier, the Report was presented by Joan Tong, a member of the General Committee of ACWC, as printed on page 25. Joan spoke to the report, saying it was a wonderful experience to be able to attend the ACWC Conference in Jakarta, where it was evident that ACWC is a very strong ecumenical movement.
- Archivist's Report.
The Archivist, Edith Ridge (NSW) presented the report as printed on page 15.
After some discussion arising from questions regarding the lodgement of the archives and the length of time of retaining Convenors' records,
- 91/24 it was moved by Lorraine Davis (TAS) seconded by Lucelle King (Nat.Ex) that one term plus one year of records be passed on to the incoming National Executive and the balance be retained by the Archivist. Carried.
- Special Days Orders of Service.
It was moved by Yvonne Davis (Nat,Ex) seconded by Lucelle King (Nat.Ex) that the National Convenor for Special Days, with her Committee, write the Special Days Orders of Service, which are to be Scripture-based, and that speakers' time be allowed at 15-20 minutes. Hymns used to be out of copyright and alternate hymns provided. If Bible verses are printed copyright must be obtained (except King James' version).
After discussion, the motion on being put, was lost.
- It was moved, seconded and agreed that the reports be received.
- The business session was declared closed.
- Evening Devotions were conducted by West. Australia Unit delegates.

SEMINAR DAY, 11th September, 1991

First Speaker - Deaconess Margaret Rodgers
'In Christ Freedom'

All humans are born free and equal in dignity. We seek freedom from aggressive neighbours. People in communist countries are tasting freedom for the first time in many years. Refugees are moving to be free. Many cry out for religious freedom. People seek freedom to be employed, to choose for themselves. Many fear freedom and relaxation of laws of morality. Freedom can be a frightening feeling. Jesus said: 'The truth will make you free. If the Son makes you free you will be free indeed'. The self centered are not free, they are slaves to themselves. Obedience is freedom. Freedom is found in relationships with Christ.

Second Speaker - Miss Freda Whitlam
'In Christ Growth'

We need to grow - we are pilgrims on a journey. Jesus as a man showed human characteristics - he wept, slept in the boat, chose to eat with sinners, talked to the women of Samaria, asked John to care for his mother. Jesus wants us to use our minds, to develop. Women have been made to feel guilt, but the Women's Liberation Movement has freed us. We have a responsibility to be open to change. Bishop Spong challenges us to open our eyes. We have a command to grow. We have a responsibility for the world.

Third Speaker - Sister Anita Brennan
'In Christ Hope'

We mainly talk about love - hopes gets neglected. The church has been male dominated but there is no place for men to show their feminism. Paul talked about unity with diversity. Hope is a human reality, it accompanies everything we do. Pregnant women are expecting, waiting. Hope is linked with imagination of what can be. Hope for Jesus was about the reign of God. God's spirit is active in the world. As women in the world we have nothing (not much) to lose. We are wholly the church - not the whole church. We are not powerless, we have power. We share the planet and our survival depends on how we work together. Find the movement of the Spirit and support it. It is women who will save the planet. We need to explore spirituality.

The day provided tremendous variety. It was refreshing and gave much food for thought. The three people were whole in their attitudes; each had a good sense of humour, and each speaker was part of the world - not 'withdrawn'. Remarks from the Plenary session:

1. Deaconess Margaret Rodgers - we appreciated her global view - freedom is the cry of our age. The freeing of political prisoners is a burning issue. We must have freedom of the press. People need to be free from poverty. The speaker broadened our vision of freedom beyond the traditional view of the church. The church fears freedom, it is a threat to tradition. Freedom sometimes brings lack of control. True freedom is found in an active relationship with Christ. Women are becoming more vocal in the church.

2. Miss Freda Whitlam - The speaker brought the audience into her world, speaking in lay language and was easily understood - she involved us. If we are free we can grow. We must never think we have reached our pinnacle. The key word is 'pilgrimage'. We grow through the

struggles of life - it's disappointments and difficult times. The toddler grows through struggle and movement. There is strength in unity. Unity produces energism - a multiplication of power.

3. Sister Anite Brennan - If we're free we can grow - if we grow we will hope. There is a link between the three speakers and the themes. We agreed that hope is born amid difficulty. The speaker equated hope with strength. The cry of agony of Jesus on the cross was the birth of hope for the world and the church. We must be more active in the church and speak out against the wrongs of the world.

Conclusion: Let's all do the Jesus thing', says one group. 'One of the most tremendous days in my experience', one was heard to say. 'I have been inspired with confidence to proceed with God.' The three urged us all to be active where we are as we seek to grow in Christ in freedom and hope.

BUSINESS SESSION NO. 7.

President Marie McCann presided over Session.

Secretary gave greetings from the following, to the Conference.

1. Catholic Women's League of Australia
2. Catholic Women's League of Tasmania
3. World Day of Prayer National Co-Ordinator Jean Cheshire.

91/23

Iraqi Situation.

Motion from Reference Committee as follows: (No. 26)

Moved by Joan Stott (Vic.) Seconded by Betty Brown

"That ACW write to the Prime Minister urging him to facilitate the sending of necessary food and medicines to quickly alleviate the suffering, particularly of Iraqi women and children, by working through agencies ie. Red Cross, already in place to accelerate delivery of such aid."

CARRIED.

Joan Stott also read the proposed letter to the Prime Minister which was approved by the Conference who thanked the Committee for framing the letter.

91/24

Moved by Yvonne Davis (Nat.) Seconded Mabel Ward (Nat.)

"That the ACWC Day order of service of the previous year be considered when preparing the World Community Day service." After discussion motion was carried.

91/25

Moved by Yvonne Davis (Nat.) Seconded Elizabeth Walker (Nat.)

"That the Lord's Prayer be included, but not necessarily printed in all Special Day services."

CARRIED.

91/26

Moved by Glad West (Nat.) Seconded Lucelle King (Nat.)

"That the Fellowship of the Least Coin offerings be given on Fellowship Day."

Delegates expressed the view that there was confusion in the minds of some people over names of the Services and perhaps more education was needed.

The motion was put to the vote but was defeated.

91/27

Moved by Yvonne Davis (Nat.) Seconded Lucelle King (Nat.)

Motion is "That the ACWC Partners Gift be received as a retiring offering on World Community Day."

After discussion motion put to vote but was defeated.

91/28

Moved by Betty Farrell (ACT) Seconded Ruth Burmester (ACT)

Recommendation to Unit Preparing Special Days Services.

- (a) Length of Service to be kept to 8 pages maximum
- (b) Theological content to be on an ecumenical basis
- (c) Hymns to have alternative suggested.
- (d) Units to check copyright
- (e) Thoughts (questions) for discussion, optional.

This recommendation carried.

Recommendation to National Committee approving Service.

- (a) Unit to be advised of any alterations deemed necessary by National Committee before MasterCopies are sent out.
- (b) National Committee to distribute Master Copies.

This recommendation was also carried.

91/29 Moved by Edith Ridge (NSW) Seconded Dorothy Lumb (NSW)
 "That the term of the National Committee of ACW be extended to three years (Constitution 6.1 page 4).
 After discussion Conference voted the Motion was defeated (13/17).

The President advised that Motions 1, 2 and 3 from the National Executive were withdrawn and Motion 4 was extended as follows:
 91/30 It was proposed by Lucelle King (Nat.) Seconded Elizabeth Walker (Nat.) that the words "and that expenses be subsidised" be added to this motion.
 Elizabeth Walker explained that the wording had deliberately been left open for the subsidy to include National Conference and other Church gifts and the spirit was to encourage all members of incoming executive to attend.
 Motion was carried.

Meeting concluded at 6.00 p.m.

BUSINESS SESSION 8.

91/31 It was moved Doris Mitchell (Nat.) seconded Elizabeth Walker (Nat.) that two of the voting delegates to ACWC be the National President and one of the following office-bearers: the National Secretary or the National President-Elect or the National Secretary-elect.
 After discussion permission to withdraw the motion was given.
 Notice of Motion 9 - permission to withdraw.
 Notice of Motion 10 - permission to withdraw.
 91/32 It was moved Mabel Ward (Nat.) seconded Elizabeth Walker (Nat.) that the National Executive be authorised to engage secretarial services for peak loads of work.
 The motion on being put was lost.
 91/32 It was moved Marion Dodds (Vic) seconded Joan Stott (Vic) that the matter of the W.K.Scholarship be reviewed, with regard to costs, availability and places of courses of study, qualifications of applicants.
 After some discussion and expiration of session time, voting was deferred.

Session concluded at 8.00 p.m. and we adjourned to the Chapel to be entertained by the Forest Bellringers.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1991

BUSINESS SESSION 9

- 91/33 Motion 21 - It was moved by Marion Dodds (Vic), seconded by Joan Stott (Vic) that the matter of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be reviewed with respect to costs, availability and places of courses of study, qualifications of applicants.

The motion was carried.

- 91/34 Motion 32 - It was moved by Marion Dodds (Vic), seconded by Joan Stott (Vic) that as from January, 1992 the Winifred Kiek Scholarship no longer be offered to overseas students, but that it be awarded to assist Christian women, residents of Australia, in studies in theology, social work, migrant affairs or similar areas.

After lengthy discussion the motion was put to the meeting.

The motion was lost.

- 91/35 Motion 17 - It was moved by Yvonne Davis (National), seconded by Mabel Ward (National) that the State and Territory Units endeavour to involve Aboriginal and ethnic church women's groups as members of the Unit.

The motion was carried.

- 91/36 Motion 18 - It was moved by Lucelle King (National), seconded by Mabel Ward (National) that Units and Branches be encouraged to hold ecumenical luncheons, dinners, seminars or similar with topics of community concern as the theme.

The motion was carried.

BUSINESS SESSION 10

- REPORT:
91/37 Judy Nelson-Clegg was welcomed and spoke to the Report of the Australian Council of Churches, which had been deferred from Business Session 6.

The Report was received.

- 91/38 Motion 24 - It was moved by Joan Stott (Vic), seconded by Marion Dodds (Vic) that all notices of motion include a preamble and/or rationale as part of that notice of motion.

The motion was carried.

- 91/39 Motion 25 - It was moved by Edith Ridge (NSW), seconded by Joan Tong (National) that recommendations coming out of the discussion on the WKS Discussion Paper, not dealt with as motions, be kept and reviewed by the incoming National WKS Convener and her Committee and/or the WKS Trustees. Motion carried.

- 91/40 Motion 27 - It was moved by Dorothy Wright (Trustee), seconded Shirley Birch (SA) that the Conference reverse the 1989 Conference decision of using 1987 WKS Funds as WK Fellowship Funds back to allocation of Scholarships. This matter was left with the Reference Committee for consideration and suggestions as to procedure.

- 91/41 Motion 31 - It was moved by Olive Dell (WA), seconded Vera Wilson (WA)
a. that the Winifred Kiek Scholarship be the complete responsibility of the Trustees with the proviso that the study courses be shared amongst the states if possible.
b. that the Winifred Kiek Convener on the National Executive organise scholars' visits to the states, keep in touch with the Trustees and the scholar and communicate relevant news to the states.
The motion was lost due to the necessity for constitutional review.
- 91/42 Motion 33 - It was moved by Helen Richardson (Nat.), seconded Mabel Ward (Nat.) that entries for ACW Memorial Bursary include a photograph, if possible, of the person being honoured.
An amendment was moved by Betty Brown (Tas), seconded Alison Ison (Tas) that the words "size of the photograph to be determined by the keeper of the Book" be added.
The amendment became the motion. Motion carried.
Joan Stott requested change of voting members: Margaret Wall (Vic) to replace Marion Dodds (Vic). Permission granted for the Session.
- 91/43 Motion 35 - It was moved by Edith Ridge (NSW), seconded Joan Tong (Nat.) that as the National Convener for Fellowship of the Least Coin does not appear to receive FLC news and information direct from the FLC International Committee, future ACW National Executive Committees be asked to take out a subscription to ACWC Bulletin for the National FLC Convener.
The motion was carried.
- 91/44 Motion 36 - It was moved Edith Ridge (NSW), seconded Rhoda Gates (Un) that time be allowed at this Conference to explore ways of encouraging the women of the Northern Territory to become again a State or Territory Unit of Australian Church Women.
Discussion ensued concerning ways and means of re-forming a Unit in this area.
The Session closed at 5 50 pm.

ACTIVITIES:

Conference participants and visitors left the Conference Centre at 10 am and, after a scenic drive through the northern beach suburbs, visited points of interest in Sydney.
They then attended a Civic Reception at the Town Hall where they were presented individually to the Lord Mayor, Ald. Jeremy Bingham, who extended a warm welcome to the City of Sydney and commended Australian Church Women on their aims and activities.
Mrs Marie McCann responded graciously and the Australian Broadcasting Commission recorded something of the reception on evening television.
The party returned to the Conference Centre at 2 30 pm.

After dinner an Evening of Fellowship and Fun was presented in the Conference Room, each State Unit presenting an item. The evening concluded with Devotions by the ACT Unit.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th 1991

BUSINESS SESSION 11

CHAIR: National President.

NOTICE OF MOTION 16: Withdrawn.

NOTICE OF MOTION 27: Dorothy Wright (Tas) reported on behalf of Reference Committee that notice of motion 27 had been re-worded to read as follows:

91/45 "That this Conference approve the use of the balance of the 1987 WKS Funds for scholarships and further projects." Moved by Dorothy Wright (SA) seconded Shirley Birch (SA). Carried.

91/46 MOTION 28: Reference Committee advised that 27a and 28 had been combined into the following:
"That \$5000 from 1987 WKS be given to the Myanmar Ecumenical Women's Council for the running of seminars and leadership training or scholarships." Moved Dorothy Wright (SA) seconded Shirley Birch (SA). Carried.

91/47 MOTION 29: Moved Dorothy Wright (SA) seconded Maureen Clark (SA)
"That \$2,500 be made available for a scholarship for an aboriginal woman from 1987 WKS funds."
It was suggested by Joan Stott (Vic) that the word "Christian" be inserted before "aboriginal woman."
The mover and seconder agreed and the motion was carried.

91/48 MOTION 30: Moved Dorothy Wright (SA) seconded Shirley Birch (SA)
"That \$300 from 1987 Memorial Bursary Funds be donated to the Myanmar Ecumenical Women's Council to purchase suitable resource materials for the women's use. Carried.

91/49 MOTION 37: Moved Dorothy Lumb (NSW) seconded Yvonne Davis (NSW)
"That Mrs. Marie McCann be the ACW representative to ACC for the next term and that Mrs. Major Joan Tong be thanked for her term in this appointment and that Mrs. Edith Ridge be appointed the proxy for Mrs. McCann." Carried.

91/50 MOTION 38: Archivist. Moved Helen Richardson (Nat) seconded Joan Tong (NSW) that Edith Ridge be appointed Archivist. Carried.

REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP.

91/51 As a result of the deliberations of the Reference Committee, it was moved by Lorraine Davis (Tas) seconded Alison Ison (Tas)
"That the WKS Review Committee consist of the five trustees, the past National WKS Convenor, the current National WKS Convenor and current National President, with input from the States and Territories through their WKS Convenors." Carried.

NOTION OF MOTION 10: Withdrawn.

NOTION OF MOTION 34: Withdrawn

APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE: Lorraine Davis (Tas) presented those members of the incoming National Executive who were present and the Conference approved appointment of the following:

Lorraine Davis	President
Betty Brown	Vice President and WKS Convenor
Marie Hewitt	Vice President
Aileen Fitzgerald	Secretary
Alison Ison	Treasurer
Juanita Miller	FLC Convenor
Phyl Marsden	Publications
Pauline Wells	Special Days
Nancy Bransden	Minute Secretary
Shirley Brooks	State President

AUDITOR: 91/52 It was moved Alison Ison (Tas) seconded Betty Brown (Tas) that David Kay be appointed auditor. Carried.

APPRECIATION: The President thanked members of the outgoing National Executive and NSW Unit for their help during her term of office and particularly in connection with Conference and also thanked Deaconess Mary Andrews our official photographer.

Helen Stutchbury (Visitor NSW) being given permission to speak to the Conference expressed to the outgoing National President the thanks of the Conference for all her work and this was carried by acclamation.

David Heffernan, Centre Manager spoke to the meeting of the concept and ideals of the Centre - disadvantaged children and mothers being welcomed for holidays - how so often, these days change their lives. David also said how happy the management were to have had us for this Conference, especially our joyful singing.

Our three New Zealand sisters, Nan Farrant, Anne Brown and Jennifer Newton, brought greetings from their organisation, Church Women United, and told of their work and service. They then farewelled us with a New Zealand "Song Of Love."

Lunch together on the final day was an Agape Meal shared in loving fellowship and friendship.

CLOSING SERVICE: A Worship Service was held in the Conference Centre Chapel, when the outgoing National Executive handed over their badges of office to the incoming National Executive, who dedicated themselves to the cause of ACW. The Choir was a feature of the Service; an address by the new National President and the Benediction concluded our worship.

Afternoon Tea was a great time of fellowship; goodbyes were said and we all wished one another godspeed. We give thanks and praise to God for His goodness to us during our Conference days.

Chairman

Date

BIBLE STUDIES, SEMINAR SPEAKERS AND MORNING AND EVENING DEVOTIONS.

Monday, 9th September 1991.

Opening Service: Speaker: Miss Jean Raddon
"We Being Many, Are One In Christ"

Tuesday, 10th September 1991.

Morning Devotions: New South Wales Unit.
Bible Study: Captain Lyn Pearce - Salvation Army
"We Being Many, Are One In Worship"
Evening Devotions: Western Australian Unit.

Wednesday, 11th September 1991.

Morning Devotions: Victorian Unit.
Bible Study: Mrs. Betty Checkley - Baptist
"We Being Many, Are One In Work"
Seminar Speakers: Deaconess Margaret Rodgers - Anglican
"In Christ, Freedom"
Miss Frieda Whitlam - Uniting
"In Christ, Growth"
Sister Anita Brennan - Catholic
"In Christ, Hope"
Evening Devotions: Queensland Unit.

Thursday, 12th September 1991.

Morning Devotions: South Australian Unit.
Bible Study: Mrs. Peg Blake - Presbyterian
"We Being Many, Are One In Witness"
Evening Devotions: A.C.T. Unit.

Friday, 13th September 1991.

Morning Devotions: Tasmanian Unit.
Bible Study: Miss Judy Gordon - Churches Of Christ
"We Being Many, Are One, On The Way"
Closing Service: Speaker - Mrs. Lorraine Davis.
