

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. STATE UNIT

Minutes of the Council Meeting, held in the Meeting Room, 5th.floor, Picadilly Court (Uniting Church Building), 222 Pitt St. Sydney, on Monday, 21 September, 1987.

The meeting opened at 10.45 a.m. with the President, Mrs June Graham in the Chair.

Those present 29 are recorded in the attendance book, as are the names of those who sent apologies, 18.

Welcomes were expressed to new delegate Mrs Sally Alland and to Ingrid Pi-Ying Hong, a member of the A.C.W.C. Executive who was able to attend the meeting on her way home to Taiwan from the meetings in Adelaide.

The President led the Devotions, reading Colossians 3 verses 15-17, and spoke about Love being the perfect bond that holds the Christian family together. A prayer was followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Ingrid Pi-Ying Hong was invited to address the meeting. She spoke about her work with the girl prostitutes in Taiwan. (A full report of her address is attached to these minutes.)

Mrs Graham in thanking Ingrid told her of our continuing prayers for the children of Asia.

The Minutes of the meeting, 17 August were read and confirmed.

Business Arising from the Minutes.

1. Visit of Rathie Selvaratnam. This was a very successful day. Those who attended and who assisted with the lunch were thanked. The financial result was most satisfactory. Donations of \$43 were received, the contributions at the lunch were \$73 and the World Day of Prayer Committee met the remainder of Rathie's travelling expenses.

2. Flower Festival at St. Mary's Cathedral. All were invited to view the Festival from Friday 25 to Monday 28 September at a cost of \$3.

Our committee will arrange our display on Thursday and donations were invited to assist with the possible purchase of tall flowers. Our colour scheme is white to cream.

3. Government or other Grant to assist us to stage the 50th. Jubilee of A.C.W. N.S.W. UNIT in 1988. Inquiries regarding the allocation of Bi-Centennial money indicate that it may be difficult for us to be given a grant, but Sister Norma Clare McKay is continuing to make inquiries.

4. A.C.W.C. Conference. The Bi-annual meetings of A.C.W.C. were held in Adelaide from 12-19 September. As well as the two delegates and two observers from our Council, eight women from N.S.W. attended as visitors.

A full report of this conference was given by Mrs Marjorie Baker and is attached to these minutes.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards. 1. From the National Executive. Minutes of August and September meetings.

2. From A.C.W.C. Notification that the Executive of A.C.W.C. would be meeting in Adelaide at the time of the National Meetings of A.C.W. Mrs Dorothy Haensel has been appointed Assembly Secretary for A.C.W.C.

3. From City Branch, notification of the resignation of Jeanne Sutherland as its delegate and the nomination of Glyn Robinson to this position.

4. From Y.W.C.A. Notification of the resignation of Pat Alexander as delegate from the Y and nomination of Jeanne Sutherland.

5. From N.S.W. Baptist Women's Fellowship, list of the names of the Baptist delegates.

6. From Presbyterian Women's Association, list of their delegates.

7. From 60 Minutes, regrets that it was not possible to supply any information on Tourism & Prostitution for our delegates to take as resource material to the Seminar in Adelaide.

8. From the Mike Willesse Show, response as above.

9. From A.C.C. invitation to a luncheon on October 15. Mrs E.Ridge will attend as our 'Friend of A.C.C.'

10. From the Flower Festival organisers. Invitation to the President to attend the official opening of the Festival.  
11. Constitution of the Victorian Unit of A.C.W.  
12. From Sister Emily Mary Holstein, thank you letter.  
Outwards. 1. To Joan Curtin inviting her to accept a Life Membership of A.C.W. N.S.W Unit.

2. To Lucelle King, re notices for publicity.  
3. To Sister Norma Clare, a get-well card.  
4. To Mrs Agnes Green, thanks to her for her loyal and valuable membership of the Council since 1970. We regret that Mrs Green has resigned as a delegate from P.W.A.

Business arising from the Correspondence.

The resignations were accepted and the new delegates accepted. Sister Emily Mary is now back home from hospital after her car accident, and Sister Norma Clare is also recovered.

Reports.

Fellowship of the Least Coin. In her devotional segment, the convenor, Mrs Glad West asked for remembrance of the troubles in China, Bangladesh and India, asking for prayers especially as we approach Christmas. Mrs West used a devotional from Circle of Prayer, written by a Chinese woman. The F.L.C. collection was taken.

W.K.S. It was reported that news was received lately of the recent engagement of former student, Valeri Palang (P.N.G.)

Treasurer's Report.

The Report as attached was adopted and the payments ratified.

General Business.

1. It was reported that there is a Statement on Tourism to come from the National Conference. A motion re violence in films and video films was passed at the Conference. Council members were encouraged to write to the Attorney General re the matters referred to on the document from Conference. (Business session 7)

A Motion that this matter be printed in Newsette was carried.

2. Membership lists. The Membership Secretary requested information from the Branches re their representatives.

3. November Meeting. Two N.S.W. ladies who are Life Members of the National Committee of A.C.W. are to be invited to this meeting. Mrs Marjorie Vercoe was presented with her Life Member's Badge in Adelaide & it will be our pleasure to present her badge to Mrs. Mabel Wyllie. A Life Membership of N.S.W. Unit will be given to Mrs Joan Curtin at this meeting, also.

Written Branch Reports are requested to be sent or brought to the November meeting, when the hostesses will be the Baptist ladies. The Delegates from the Churches of Christ were thanked for the morning tea served at the commencement of today's meeting.

The meeting was closed with the benediction.

Mrs Elaine Telford from Trading Partners was invited to address the meeting and to display the goods she had brought for sale. Trading Partners are now located at Young St Annandale. Groups and individuals are invited to visit there Mon. to Fri. 10 a.m. -4p.m. and Saturdays, 11 - 4p.m.

Trading Partners buys from -

The Pacific, 6 countries.

Sub-Asia, 4 countries, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal.

Asia, 3 countries, Laos, Kampuchea, Indonesia.

Equador, Guatamala, Peru (South America.)

Africa, Ethiopia, Kenya, Cameroon.

Members were invited to add their names to a petition requesting the Federal Government to lift import duty on Trading Partners goods.

Members showed their appreciation of Elaine Telford's contribution to the meeting by admiring and purchasing many of the beautiful goods she had on display.

Confirmed.

Date.

*J. Chaban*  
16/11/87.

Two Reports to be attached to the Minutes of 21 September, 1987.

Miss Ingrid Pi-Ying Hong executive Member of A.C.W.C. addressed the meeting and spoke of her work of reclamation with the girl prostitutes of Taiwan, her homeland. The name of this work is the Rainbow Project. We have seen this name in the lists of monies allocated by F.L.C. and we were to hear at first hand how this money is spent and about the plight of these victims of prostitution. All these girls are under 16 years of age and are the targets of the helping organisations like Rainbow Project. The parents sometimes unknowingly sell their little daughters to the system. Others give the children away to advantage them, but the adopting parents subsequently sell them. Some come from broken families and run away to the cities and they soon find that the only jobs available for untrained girls are in the hands of the 'gangsters' who control the prostitutes. They are powerless to fight or to escape these gangsters. Some are so young that they are pre-pubescent and they all have V.D. The very young ones are frequently injected with hormones. Rainbow Project is now requesting the Police and other authorities to ask the girls whether they have been injected. They have no freedom at all, the brothels are like jails, their I.D. cards are taken from them by the gangsters. Rainbow Project is now fighting for these girls. We were asked to pray for them in their endeavours.

#### Report of the A.C.W. National Conference.

The theme of the Conference was 'When I Needed a Neighbour, Were You There?'

The A.C.W.C. Executive met at the same time as our Conference and we had many opportunities of sharing with these women.

There were five New Zealanders with us, including a Samoan woman living in N.Z. since 1966.

The Adelaide A.C.W. members made us very welcome, giving each participant a pair of knitted bedsocks and a crocheted bookmark.

The Opening Service was held in the Henley Catholic Church, when the President of A.C.C. Dr. D'Arcy Wood preached. We had shared in a Communion Service earlier in the day.

Mrs Rathie Selvaratnum lead the daily Bible Studies and they were much appreciated.

Most sessions were held in the Church of Christ building, but on two days we took the business to the country, where the local people were able to share with us. We went to the Barossa Valley and to Victor Harbour.

Important business included the adoption of a Winifred Kiek Deed of Trust. Five trustees will be appointed to administer the Trust. A.C.W. will become an Incorporated body at the next Conference. All State Units are to inquire about Incorporation in their states and report to the National Executive.

Much work was done on the Seminar on Tourism in Asia. Rev. Peter Holden of A.C.C. led us in this Seminar. His paper on the subject told of the effects of tourism on Asian countries. We considered tourist brochures and what tourists need to be told about the culture and customs of the countries they are to visit before they travel. The Conference adopted a statement on Tourism and will encourage the State Units to act upon the statement as they are able. At the closing service of the Conference, lighted candles were used as symbols as the old Executive gave over to the new, based in West Australia. At this impressive service of Installation, the old officers pinned the badges of office onto the new Executive. The Delegates and Observers from N.S.W. Unit expressed their gratitude for the opportunity of representing the unit at this Conference.

The Visitors were glad of the opportunity of being included in the business sessions and of sharing in the Seminar.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (N.S.W. STATE UNIT)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH ENDED 31ST AUGUST, 1987

CR. BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 1/8/1987 \$2,864.26

ADD AUGUST RECEIPTS

Affiliation Fees	15.00	
A.C.W.C. Bulletin	5.00	
Donations	11.00	
<u>Donations - Mrs. Selvaratnum's Expenses</u>		
(Cnl. Meeting 17/8/1987	43.00	
Meeting Bible House with		
Women's World Day of		
Prayer	73.00	
Women's World Day of		
Prayer	84.00	200.00 (c)
"Newsette" subscriptions	16.00	
Overseas Travel Fund	15.00	
Sales "Circle of Prayer"	9.00	
Sales Teaspoons	54.00	
F.L.C. donations	198.37	
W.K.S. "	50.00	
Fellowship Day (W.K.S.)	2,153.85	
Partners	15.00	
		<u>2,742.22</u>

LESS AUGUST PAYMENTS

5,606.48

Printing W.C.D. Service Booklets & Reports	230.00 *	
Printing "Suggestions for Leaders"	3.00 *	
Rent Pilgrim House room for Exec. & Cncl.		
Meeting 17/8/1987	20.00	
Speaker's Expenses	5.00	
Treasurer's Imprest	30.00	
Mrs. R. Selvaratnum	200.00 (c)	
"Newsette Printing, Postage etc.	45.81	
(230 copies)	38.00) *	
Postage W.C.D. Service booklets	51.95	
Membership subscription Friends A.C.C.	25.00	
		<u>648.76</u>

CR. BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD 31/8/1987

\$4,957.72

PAYMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION

Uniting Church in Aust. - Beard of Education	271.00 *	
Mrs. D. Woodhouse "Newsette" Postage etc.	45.81	
Rent Pilgrim House room	20.00	
Speaker's Expenses	5.00	
Treasurer's Imprest	30.00	
Mrs. R. Selvaratnum	200.00	
Postage W.C.D. Service booklets	51.95	
Membership Subscription Friends A.C.C.	25.00	
		<u>\$648.76</u>

FELLOWSHIP DAY OFFERINGS to 31/8/1987

\$3,105.69

(Expenses are to be deducted when forwarding)=====

*Dorothy E. Lumb*  
21/9/1987