

MINUTES of meeting of the NSW Women's Inter-Church Council, held at the Pitt St. Congregational Church, Sydney, on Monday, 21st June, 1976, at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Lt.Col. E.Baker, President, in the Chair, and 40 members attended, names as listed in the Attendance Register.

APOLOGIES: Mesdames Armstrong, Billington, Corlett, Gilbert, Hardy, Hill, Hulme-Meir, Lean, Mayne, Oates, Pfeiffer, Prior, Stanhope, Miss Lee, Brigadier Ruth Smith.

OPENING OF MEETING: The President conducted the devotional opening, readings and prayers, in which other members shared. She then offered a warm welcome to new members- Sister Ursula Freney, Mrs. Holloway and Mrs. Narden.

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 12th April, 1976, were read and confirmed.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE: The Hon. Secretary reported on the following:

Newsletter- The Newsletter had been printed and distributed at the Annual Service. Members were requested to take copies as required and representatives of local branches were asked to pass on a copy to the Secretary of their group.

Fellowship Day Orders of Service and Leaders' Guide: These had been distributed by the Convenor for Promotion, as ordered.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Leaflets had been received from the A.C.W. Working Committee.

Resignation: The Executive had received with great regret the resignation of Sister M. Francisca Fitzwalter and a letter conveying greetings and thanks had been sent to her. Sister Ursula Freney has been appointed to succeed her as representative of the R.C. religious sisters.

CORRESPONDENCE: From Mrs. H. Stevens, Secretary, Women's Interim Committee, Uniting Church, enquiring whether Council members could assist in staffing a creche during the Women's Day 1976 Service at St. Stephen's Church, Macquarie St, on Friday October 15th.

From Mrs. R.F. Brand, Hon. Secretary, Women's World Day of Prayer, NSW, re WICC representation on their Committee. As Mrs. Mayne has withdrawn as one of our representatives, it was agreed, on the motion of Deaconess Andrews, seconded Mrs. Chambers, that the Executive deal with the filling of the vacancy, and that the correspondence be received.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: The Hon. Treasurer presented her Statement of Receipts & Payments, 10.3.76 -- 7.6.76. This was received on the motion of Mrs. Perriam, seconded Mrs. Curtin. On the motion of Mrs. Perriam, seconded Mrs. Bent, the following accounts were passed for payment- Epworth Press- Printing- \$109.00; Service Copying Co- Printing - \$ 38.10.

REPORTS: Promotion- In the absence of the Convenor, Mrs. Major I. Hill, the Hon. Secretary reported on arrangements made for the distribution of Fellowship Day material. Information was provided regarding the services in city and suburban centres, as far as it had been made available. List is appended to these Minutes. The report was received on the motion of Mrs. Griffiths, seconded Mrs. Davies.

Publicity- Mrs. J. Curtin, ~~Convenor~~ <sup>Publicity Officer,</sup> reported having furnished information re Fellowship Day to the press, and on letters received from the Editor of the "Catholic Weekly" and Hon. Sec. of the N.C.W./NSW. Mrs. Curtin moved the reception of her report, which was seconded by Mrs. Griffiths and carried.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship: In presenting her report, the Convenor, Deaconess Mary Andrews, drew attention to mention of the W.K.S. Investment Fund in the current issue of "Women at Work". She requested the prayerful interest of Council members in previous W.K.S. holders, and mentioned that Violet Sampa, (Zambia) would shortly be married. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Violet, offering congratulations and good wishes on this happy occasion, with the assurance of our prayers. The report was received on the motion of Deaconess Andrews, seconded Mrs. Bent.

REPORTS: (cont) Fellowship of the Least Coin: In the absence of the Convenor, Mrs. Stanhope, Mrs. Curtin reported for her, drawing attention to the F.L.C. Quarterly Bulletin recently received. It was noted that Mrs. Rathie Selvarathnam, who had visited Australia several years ago from Sri Lanka, has now gone with her husband to Samoa, to work with the Anglican Church. The report was received on the motion of Mrs. Curtin, seconded by Deaconess Andrews. As Mrs. Betty Davis will shortly be visiting W.Samoa, she was asked to take our greetings to Mrs Selveratnam; good wishes were extended to Mrs. Davis for an enjoyable and profitable visit to Fiji, Samoa and Tonga.

PROGRAMME OF COUNCIL MEETINGS: The Hon. Secretary advised of arrangements for future meetings during the rest of 1976.

August 16- Speaker: Mrs. Audrey Somerville.  
September 20- Open Day. Branch Reports: Discussion.  
November 15- Day of Retreat. Further details to be available at next meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS: Legalisation of Casinos- In view of reports in the press of the possibility of legislation being brought forward to legalise gambling casinos in NSW, it was moved Mrs. Bent and seconded Deaconess Andrews that this Council send a letter to the Premier of NSW, voicing its protest and requesting a referendum on the matter. Following discussion, the motion was carried.

Queen's Birthday Honours- Mention was made of honours conferred on Dame Monica Gallagher, D.B.E., President of the Catholic Women's League, Brigadier Flo Whittaker, M.B.E., of the Salvation Army, and Bishop Ravu Henao O.B.E. and Mrs. Mila Walo M.B.E., of Papua New Guinea. The Hon. Secretary was asked to send a letter of congratulations to Brigadier Flo Whittaker.

The President expressed the thanks of Council to Mrs. Udy, for her help in connection with printing of Fellowship Day material.

CLOSURE: The President closed the meeting with prayer at 12.20 p.m.

Confirmed *E. J. Baker* . . . . .

Date . . . . . 16.8.76 . . . . .