

National Executive Report

The National Executive of the Council formally met in Adelaide on Sunday, 6th August, 1978 and during a hard working meeting they dealt with very heavy Agenda, including the Treasurer's Report including Statements of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 January 1978 through to 30 July, 1978; the Council Auditor's Report of Statements of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July, 1977 to 30 June, 1978; comparison of Estimated Budget and actual Income and Expenditure for the financial year 1977/78 and Estimates of Budget for the fiscal year 1978/79. In accepting such Statements of Account and associated reports it was obvious to Members of the Executive that we are about to be confronted with yet another worrying and trying year insofar as it may pertain to the continuation of the Secretariat in its present form as it would appear that the Commonwealth Government Grant of \$28,000.00 will be insufficient to meet known commitments during the course of 1978/79.

In dealing with anticipated State Government Grants for 1978/79 the Chairman commented that the following Grants may be anticipated from respective State Governments during this coming year:

N.S.W.	\$1,000.00
Victoria	\$1,000.00
Queensland	\$1,000.00
Western Australia	\$1,050.00
South Australia	\$1,250.00
Tasmania	\$750.00

He advised the meeting that he had on a number of occasions over months now passed written to all State Attorneys and that he had received only one or two acknowledgements resulting from such representations made and he urged all State Branch Representatives to do all that they could to assist in gaining additional funding, at State level, for the Council.

Other matters dealt with by the National Executive included an outstanding report required resulting from resolution moved and passed at the Eighth Biennial Conference and which resulted in Ms S. Hardie, Ms C. McKinna and Mr D. Biles tabling their report on the subject (copy of which is produced in this issue of the journal).

The matter of the Ninth Biennial Conference resolution dealing with Women Prisoners in Australia (and whether they have available to them rights, opportunities, facilities and standards of conditions as set down in the U.N. Standard Minimum Rules) was also dealt with and the meeting was advised that Dame Phyllis Frost, D.B.E., J.P., who is Chairman of the sub-committee dealing with this matter from within the Victorian Branch, has the matter well in hand and that she now currently awaits return of certain questionnaire from all States and all State Branch Hon. Secretaries. Hopefully, Dame Phyllis Frost should like to bring this matter to successful conclusion pre-Christmas 1978 and which would then allow her sufficient time in order to prepare her sub-committee's report for presentation at the Tenth Biennial Conference, Hobart, August, 1979.

The proposed new Constitution of the Council was also examined and discussed at some length by the Executive and after certain further amendments and corrections were made to the draft under examination it was directed that the proposed draft be now circularised to all State Branch Hon. Secretaries for consideration by respective Branches. Such draft will now be circularised early October. Should such draft be accepted by the Branches the National Executive hopes that it may then be presented at the next occurring Biennial General Meeting for acceptance.

The Victorian Branch most commendably submitted a number of Agenda items to be dealt with at this past meeting (commendably, — insofar as it was the only Branch in Australia to submit written Agenda Item for the meeting). Within such submitted Agenda Item was the subject of delegates attending the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders to be held Sydney, N.S.W., August, 1980. It was the view of the Victorian Branch that if A.C.P.C. has delegates attending this Congress that volunteers be adequately represented in the A.C.P.C. delegation. In discussing this particular Agenda Item Mr P.R. Loof (Commonwealth Government Representative on the National Executive) advised that it would not be likely that the Council would have a delegation at the Congress although volunteers may register individually, but not as a body. Mr Loof further advised that the Australian delegation may be elected and decided upon within the next 18 months and that normal procedure apropos appointment of delegates attending such Congress would be for responsible authorities from within each State or Territory making recommendations to the appropriate Minister in that State and that such Minister may then submit such nominees to the Federal Government for further consideration. In concluding discussion on this the Executive

resolved that A.C.P.C. make representation to the appropriate persons for volunteers to be included in the Australian delegation.

Frequency of National Executive Meetings was another matter discussed at some length by the Executive and it was resolved that if National Executive Meetings are to be held annually that such Meetings be for a two day duration (but that this requirement only applies if the Executive is to meet annually).

Another Agenda Item submitted by the Victorian Branch of the Council was to the effect that the National Executive consider means that could be undertaken to stop the media from publishing details of offenders' families. This subject matter was of great concern to the Executive and much discussion took place on action which could be taken in respect to this matter and it was resolved that the President communicate with the Law Reform Commission, with the Press Council and such other bodies as may be appropriate to express concern about the inroads into the privacy of offenders' families. It was also felt that the Branches could monitor cases in the press and it was further moved that State and Territory Branches be requested (by the Executive) to gather evidence of cases where the media has published details of offenders' families. It was also suggested by the Meeting that before (Council) writes the Law Reform Commission the Victorian Branch obtain information on cases which (originally) raised this matter.

In speaking on the Ninth Biennial Conference wind-up report Detective Inspector R. Holles advised the Executive that the N.S.W. Branch had hoped to be able to present this report within about six months after the last Biennial Conference but unfortunately there had been a series of events which precluded same eventuating. He further advised that the publication of proceedings of the Conference had been delayed due to a fire in the publisher's warehouse and which stopped the functional operation of the press but that it was hoped to have the proceedings finalised very shortly. Mr Holles also confirmed that there was still \$2,500.00 to be returned to the Council from the Ninth Conference.

The Tasmanian State Branch representative on the Executive, Miss P. Harris, confirmed to the meeting that firm booking had now been made and finalised at the Wrest Point Hotel-Casino for the Tenth Biennial Conference to be held Hobart between the 13th and 18th August, 1978. Amidst other matters of interest she advised that the conference room at the Casino had a seating capacity for some 700 people and that the conference room could be divided into three areas. Miss Harris also advised that accommodation costs would be approximately \$18.00 per head (and upwards). She said that planning for the conference was under the overall control of the State Branch and that committees had been set up to cover the administration and day to day running of the conference and that, additionally, they had a well organised programme committee already in operation. The overall theme of the Tenth Biennial Conference would be 'Crime Trends and Crime Prevention Strategies' and that a new innovation to A.C.P.C. Conference would be an invitation to security firms and organisations to set up displays on practical methods of security. Miss Harris added that her Branch would be most grateful for suggestions in writing from throughout Australia covering matters or ideas which membership and people should like to see included in the Conference programme and that she should like to receive such suggestions or ideas BEFORE the Conference and not AFTERWARDS!

Miss Harris also confirmed that there would not be any overseas key-note speaker at the Tenth Biennial Conference unless there was some visiting scholar in Australia at that time and who could then be invited to participate at the Conference. She also expressed the hope that registration fee for the Conference would be below \$25.00.

Speaking on the Sixth United Nations Congress to be held Sydney Opera House, August, 1980, Mr P. R. Loof, Australian Co-ordinator of the Congress, tabled very informative information notes and discussion guide covering the Congress. Within Mr Loof's spoken report on the Congress he added that it was his hope that organisations would hold their own meetings either before or after the Congress with a view towards stimulating interest in the Congress in Australia. An example of this is the International Prisoners' Aid Association who will be holding their conference in Adelaide some three days before the Congress.

Mrs P. A. M. Mountain representing Voluntary Agencies on the National Executive queried the value of I.P.A.A. having its meeting in Adelaide as she felt that such meeting being held away from Congress venue in the State of New South Wales would severely drain the limited funds of voluntary organisations. She anticipated that voluntary organisations would only be able to send one representative to Congress and if such representative was obligated

to go to Adelaide it could well take such voluntary representative away from Congress. Mr Loof explained that the Commonwealth Government had no say in the matter of where any organisation held their respective meetings.

The meeting also discussed the possibility of the Council publishing a uniform style of publication for seminar papers and other documentation which may originate from within the Branches from time to time. It was suggested that to a large extent this matter has already been covered by publication of the journal and that seminar reports could be published therein. This suggestion was discounted as it was felt that seminar reports could lose their impact by being included in the journal. It was subsequently moved that feasibility of this suggestion being implemented be investigated by the Executive Director and that he report on his finding to the next occurring meeting of Management Committee.

The Executive also dealt with and accepted the new Membership Application List received since January, 1978 and which included 32 Associate Members, 4 Voluntary Organisation Members, 11 Organisation Members and two Life Associate Members.

Life Associate Membership accepted at this meeting was made up of Mrs A. A. Campbell of 1085 Gympie Road, Petrie, Q'ld and Mr B. J. Murphy, Controller of Security, G. J. Coles & Coy. Limited, 236 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria. We are indeed grateful to G. J. Coles & Coy. Limited for having sponsored Mr Murphy as their nominee for Life Associate Membership with the Council; such action having resulted from representations made by Vice President P. F. Johnson, Hon. Secretary J. G. Mackay and Executive Director, J. H. Purcell when they visited the Head Office of G. J. Coles & Coy. Limited on the 20th March, 1978.

The Executive Director also confirmed to the meeting that rent on present office premises had been increased by \$20.00 per week from the 1st July, 1978 but resulting from personal representations made he had been able to prevent implementation of this requirement until early September. He advised that whilst we were only paying a very minimum rental at present we really could not afford to pay any increase in rent at this present time. He recommended that we ought to attempt to locate other suitable premises and the Executive moved that the Executive Director be empowered to seek alternative accommodation for the Secretariat in premises which may be suitable and available at a rent not exceeding that which is presently being paid with a tenure on the best term available pro tem.

Mrs Mountain referred to her tabled report (on Voluntary Agencies) and made mention of the criticism raised by Voluntary Agencies as to the position of the Secretariat as it was (alleged) to be seen by Voluntary Agencies as appearing to be inaccessible.

The Chairman noted Mrs Mountain's comment and advised that he could not accept this as a matter for discussion as it had been discussed and dealt with at previous meetings. The Executive Director added that in establishing the Secretariat in the first instance he had freely offered to firmly establish the Secretariat in Canberra, A.C.T., that he was at that time prepared to sell up and permanently move to Canberra, etc. etc. but that he had been shouted down on such suggestion and that many of the people present at this very meeting were the ones who opposed the suggestion when they firmly pointed out that Government policy was not to have voluntary organisations which they financially supported based in Canberra. He went on to say that such determination and directions on this requirement was fully documented within the Minutes (at that time on the table).

After dealing with much General Business the Executive then proceeded to amend By-laws, 15, 16 and 17 of the Constitution so as to allow for more time being available to the Hon. Secretary of the Council in preparing for and finalising paper-warfare which is nowadays required in bringing the National Elections of Office Bearers Postal Ballot to successful conclusion biennially.

Resulting from a matter brought to notice by Mrs Mountain the Executive agreed that she relinquish her position representing both Female Ex-Offenders and Voluntary Agencies and that she retain only her co-opted position on the Executive representing Voluntary Agencies. The Executive further moved that they ask a suitable female ex-offender to represent female offenders on the National Executive and that this information be communicated to Dame Phyllis Frost, D.B.E., J.P. in Victoria. It was also resolved that in deciding upon a suitable person to fulfil this position that such proposal be put on the Agenda for the next Management Committee Meeting (which will be held on Sunday, 22nd October, 1978).

The meeting was concluded by the Executive moving that Honorary Life Membership of the Australian Crime Prevention Council be conferred upon the immediate past Hon. Treasurer of the Council, Mr K. W. Michaelis, A. O., and Senior Vice President of the Council, Mr F. D. Hayes and it was the unanimous decision of all members present that such was an honour well deserved.

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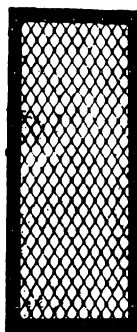
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