

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
=====

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
=====

1971
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MINUTES
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DEACONESS HOUSE,
CARILLON AVENUE,
NEWTOWN, N.S.W.
=====

FEBRUARY 9th - 12th
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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA

February 9th - 12th, 1971

TUESDAY, February 9th

12:30 p.m. Lunch
2:00 p.m. Opening Worship & Introduction of Theme 'Action for
World Development'
3:15 p.m. Welcomes
Roll Call
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Tea
4:00 p.m. Procedural Arrangements
Minutes of 1970 meeting
Appointment of Committees
Report from Working Committee
Finance
6:00 p.m. Evening Meal
7:30 p.m. Reports - State Units
Federal Denominational Groups
United Churches
Fellowship of the Least Coin
9:00 p.m. Evening Prayers
9:15 p.m. Supper

WEDNESDAY, February 10th

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Winifred Kiek Scholarship
'Women at Work'
10:40 a.m. Morning Tea
11:00 a.m. 'Action for World Development'
12:30 p.m. Lunch
2:00 p.m. Report from Djakarta - Asian Church Women's Conference
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Tea
4:00 p.m. W.W.D.P. Greeting - Report of W.W.D.P. meeting at
4:30 p.m. Travell Pool - Pens - Notelets Bangkok
Issues
6:00 p.m. Evening Meal
7:30 p.m. 'Action for World Development'
9:00 p.m. Evening Prayers
9:15 p.m. Supper - Closing of Nominations for 1971 Working
9:30 p.m. Slides and Film Strip from Djakarta

THURSDAY, February 11th

8:00 a.m. Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. 1972 Project for Fellowship of the Least Coin
Issues
10:40 a.m. Morning Tea
11:00 a.m. Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church,
Family and Society
12:30 p.m. Lunch
2:00 p.m. Special Days 1972
National Committee venue 1972
Working Committee venue 1973-4
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Tea
4:00 p.m. Issues
6:00 p.m. Evening Meal
7:30 p.m. Inter-Church Aid 'Action for World Development'
9:00 p.m. Evening Prayers
9:15 p.m. Supper

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA (cont.)

FRIDAY, February 12th

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
10:00 a.m.	Future Activities of A.C.W. - Theme for 1972 National Committee Meeting
10:40 a.m.	Morning Tea
11:00 a.m.	Statement and recommendations to member organizations
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
2:00 p.m.	Election of Officers & Working Committee Appointment to related Committee Any other business
3:30 p.m.	Closing Prayers
4:00 p.m.	Afternoon tea.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Mrs F.R. Ashton
Vice President	Mrs T.H. Coates (Apology)
" "	Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders
Secretary	Mrs G.I. Duke
Treasurer	Mrs E. Stephens

STATE UNIT REPRESENTATION

Queensland	Mrs E. Dingle Mrs D.L. Cramb
N.S.W.	Mrs M. Stanhope Mrs R. Dougherty
A.C.T.	Mrs E.H. Winter Mrs C.A. Neal-Smith (Apology)
Victoria	Mrs Brigadier I. Macintyre Mrs L.E. Warner
Tasmania	Mrs D. Hartam Mrs G. Wood
South Australia	Mrs T.R. Howie Mrs R. Wilkins
West Australia	Mrs M. Eaton

DENOMINATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Anglican	Mrs Leslie
Churches of Christ	Mrs S. Bloore
Congregational	Mrs D.W. Bailey
Methodist	Mrs A.W. Pederick
Presbyterian	Mrs J. Sticpewich
The Salvation Army (Southern Territory)	Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders
The Salvation Army (Eastern Territory)	Mrs Lt. Col. O. Carpenter

Y.W.C.A. Mrs F.G. Engel

REPRESENTATIVES FROM

ACC Executive Committee
Deaconess C.I. Ritchie
Mrs H.G. Wells
Mrs A. Loy
Head Deaconess M.M. Andrews

Committee on Co-operation of Men &
Women in Church, Family & Society

Mrs T.H. Coates
Mrs H.T. Rogers

WORKING COMMITTEE

Mrs A.W. Burton (Apology)
Mrs J.A. Strack
Mrs H.T. Rogers
Deaconess F. McKechnie

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR:

Miss Violet Sampa (unavoidable)

OBSERVERS

State Units

Queensland	Mrs K.G. Pope Mrs G.E. Clark Mrs G.V. Haigh Mrs J. Dennis Mrs G.S. Udy Mrs C. Connell Mrs D. Eldershaw
N.S.W	Mrs A.G. Ralph Mrs D.G. Badger
Victoria	Mrs Brigadier Callander Deaconess E. Alfred
South Australia	Mrs W.K. Johns Mrs A. Gray
Tasmania	Mrs E.W. Rayner

Federal Denominational Women's Groups

Methodist	Mrs A.H. Atkinson
Presbyterian	Mrs J. Groat
Congregational	Mrs H.A. Downes

N.S.W.

Anglican	Mrs Jessup
Churches of Christ	Mrs Fishburn
Methodist	Mrs Bell
Presbyterian	Mrs Tulloch
Y.W.C.A.	Miss Muriel Harding
Catholic	Mrs J. Curtin

Women's World Day of Prayer

Federal Liaison Officer - Mrs E. Dingle

TUESDAY 9th February:

- OPENING: The President, Mrs F.R. Ashton, led the opening devotions. The Rev. E.H. Arblaster, Director of the Australian Council of Churches Division of World Christian Action introduced the Theme for the National Committee Meeting 'Action for World Development.' At the conclusion of Mr Arblaster's challenging address Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders extended the thanks of the meeting and presented him with an A.C.W. pen.
- WELCOMES: Mrs Ashton welcomed all members and observers to the National Committee Meeting. A special welcome was extended to the Rev. F. Engel, General Secretary of the Australian Council of Churches, Miss Elsie Needham, and Miss Jean Skuse who were visiting for the afternoon session.
- APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs T.H. Coates, Mrs A.W. Burton and Mrs N. Faichney (Working Committee members), Mrs Neal-Smith (A.C.T.) and the Society of Friends.
- GREETINGS: Greetings were received from the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council. Mrs Wells brought greetings from Mrs Myrna Buschmeyer (U.S.A.) who had attended the 1968 National Committee Meeting.
- ROLL CALL: The Secretary called the names of all those attending as representatives or observers and introduced them to the meeting.
- PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS:
1. It was resolved that the Agenda as printed be accepted. The Fellowship of the Least Coin film strip would be shown at the conclusion of Tuesday meeting in place of 'Companions in Compassion' which was to have been shown by Mrs Coates.
 2. Elections: Nomination papers are to be in the hands of the Secretary by 9:15 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th February. All nominations must have the consent of the Nominees. Deaconess Frances McKechnie was appointed Returning Officer and Mrs Ruth Gray and Mrs Margaret Jessup were appointed Scrutineers.
 3. Committees: It was resolved that a Committee be set up to prepare the policy of Australian Church Women and its responsibility to the Asian Church Women's Conference, the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and the Fellowship of the Least Coin. It was agreed that the said Committee be the retiring Working Committee based in Melbourne and that the task be completed as soon as possible. It was agreed that a Committee be formed to prepare a Statement and Recommendations to member organizations and Mesdames Dougherty, Howie, Macintyre and Eaton were appointed.
- MINUTES: Minutes of the 1970 National Committee were confirmed with the proviso that Session 9 record be included and that the Minutes of this session be circulated with the minutes of this meeting.
4. Conference information had been distributed and members were reminded of several matters printed in this.

REPORT FROM WORKING COMMITTEE

The Report as printed in the Working Documents was presented by the Secretary (Report attached). The Report was received and adopted.

It was noted that Mrs Ruth Gray had been responsible for the ordering and distribution of the Notelets on behalf of the South Australia W.I.C.C.

Mrs Dorothy Hartam of Tasmania expressed thanks to the Working Committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Financial Statement to 31st December, 1970 was presented by the Treasurer, Mrs Eild Stephens. This also included a Financial Report. It was agreed that the Financial Statements and the Treasurer's report be adopted.

FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. It was agreed that an annual contribution be made from the Fellowship of the Least Coin for administration to the General Fund and that this year the amount be \$50.
2. It was agreed that \$3000 be forwarded to Geneva from the Fellowship of the Least Coin and that \$546.20 be held for expenses.
3. It was resolved that \$100 be paid into the Trust Account for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and that we refer to the Working Committee for consideration the value of accepting this customary practice and report to the next National Committee Meeting.
It was agreed that \$900 be transferred from Fellowship Day Offerings to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund - \$800 to the current account and \$100 to the Trust Account.
4. It was agreed that \$650 be paid to A.C.C. for the Life Line Centre in Seoul, Korea from the World Community Day Offerings and that \$50 from this offering be transferred to the General Fund for administration.
5. It was agreed that one first-class rail fare be paid to each State Unit and an economy air-fare from Tasmania. This to be paid from the Travel Fund.
It was agreed that the first class train fare be paid from this Fund for the President, Secretary and Treasurer.
It was agreed that half the first-class train fare be paid for members of the Working Committee from the Travel Fund.
It was moved that a part fare be paid for denominational representatives (Federal). It was agreed that the vote on this motion be deferred until the Treasurer has further information to put before the meeting.
6. It was agreed that the Treasurer and Secretary remain in office until 28th February in order to finalise accounts and to attend to the necessary handing over of books etc.
7. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to the Auditor and a small token be sent to her.
8. It was agreed that the accommodation expenses of the President, Secretary and Treasurer be paid from the General Fund (for the National Committee).

At the opening of the evening session the President, Mrs Ashton, welcomed visitors and Mrs Jean Tulloch observer for the P.W.A. of N.S.W. Our visitors included Mrs Margaret McKay, who by virtue of the fact that she is wife of the Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church of Australia is Honorary President of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia and Mrs Jessie Scotford who is President of the National Council of Women of Australia.

Mrs Lilian Wells spoke about books recommended by the Rev. E.H. Arblaster in his opening address. These were available for purchase.

REPORTS FROM STATE UNITS:

A representative from each State Unit spoke briefly to the report, commenting on the highlights of the year's work. Speakers were:- Queensland - Mrs Eileen Dingle; N.S.W. - Mrs Marjorie Stanhope; Canberra - Mrs E.H. Winter; Victoria - Mrs L.E. Warner; Tasmania - Mrs Dorothy Hartam; South Australia - Mrs Kath Howie; West Australia - Mrs Peg Eaton. The reports were received.

REPORTS FROM FEDERAL DENOMINATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS:

These reports had been circulated in the Working Documents and the following spoke to the reports: Anglican Women - Head Deaconess Mary Andrews; Churches of Christ - Mrs Sheila Bloore; P.W.A. of Australia - Mrs Jean Sticpewich; A.F.M.W. - Mrs Dorothy Pederick; Salvation Army - Southern Territory - Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders; Salvation Army - Eastern Territory - Mrs Lt. Col. Carpenter; Congregational Women's Fellowship of Australia - Mrs Frances Bailey. The reports were received.

FELLOWSHIP of the LEAST COIN:

Mrs Doreen Strack spoke to this report and indicated that 200 copies of Volume IV of Circle of Prayer had arrived and would be distributed to the States but 2000 copies were still to come. Thanks was expressed to Mrs Strack for her untiring work as Convener for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. This report was received.

UNITED CHURCHES:

Deaconess Frances McKechnie brought news and insights into the problems of those working in the Inland and Northern Australia. Many problems arise from the fact that the expansion of these towns is so rapid and prices of land have risen so quickly. Aborigines present many challenges and much more time must be spent in listening to what they are saying. Extracts were read from a paper presented by the Rev. B.A. Clarke on the Position Statement on Aboriginal Development presented to the United Church Conference, Darwin.

PRAYERS:

Evening prayers were conducted by Mrs Kath Howie (S.A.) in the Chapel.

FELLOWSHIP of the LEAST COIN FILM STRIP:

At the conclusion of supper Mrs Strack screened the F.L.C. Film strip. This was of considerable interest to the ladies and comments were made by various member of the conference on people who appeared in the film strip.

WEDNESDAY 10th February

The Rev. Dr A'Arcy Wood, Secretary, Division of Studies of the A.C.C., led the meeting in morning worship and bible study based on Genesis 1 : 26 - 31a.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

In the absence of the Convener of the Scholarship Committee, Mrs A. W. Burton, Mrs Ashton reported on the training of Miss Veronica Kafa. Appreciation of the work of Mr A. Humphries, Co-ordinator and Consultant of Migrant Education for the Education Department of Victoria, was expressed and it was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to him on behalf of the National Committee.

The meeting ratified the action of the Working Committee in making a small gift to the Sisters at St Michael's. The Sisters had provided Miss Kafa with accommodation free of charge. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Sisters.

It was also agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Mrs Burton for her work as Convener of the Committee.

It was again unfortunate that the Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, Miss Violet Sampa of Zambia had not arrived for the National Committee Meeting. Discussion took place re accommodation for the Scholarship holder. The meeting was reminded that previously the sending church had been asked to be responsible for the pocket money necessary for the Scholarship Holder. This is done with E.A.C.C. Scholarships.

It was resolved that at the time of Fellowship Day an appeal be made to encourage people to give generously to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

It was agreed that the leaflets concerning the Scholarship holder were most valuable in promoting the Scholarship.

ACTION FOR WORLD DEVELOPMENT

"Asian Women in Development"

Mrs. Jill Perkins, a journalist and mother of seven children, wife of the Rev. Harvey Perkins, gave a most challenging address on "Asian Women in Development", giving a brief glimpse of the cultural background of Asian women. Her urgent plea to us was that we must stand alongside rather than we feel that we are in the position to lead. We should provide conditions which will make for growth and integrity, peace and happiness. It is our responsibility as women to learn as much as we can of the background of Asia. Human dignity is the most important consideration and there can be no development in aid that denies both the giver and receiver of dignity.

A vote of thanks to Mrs Perkins was expressed by Mrs Dennis.

REPORT FROM DJAKARTA - 4th ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

This session was given by the members of A.C.W. who had attended the 4th A.C.W.C. in September - Mrs Doreen Strack and Mrs Frances Bailey as delegates, Mrs Eileen Dingle and Mrs Elizabeth Ashton as observers and Mrs Olga Badger who had been a member of the Planning Committee of A.C.W.C. Mrs Jill Perkins had also attended this Conference and acted as reporter for it.

The ladies introduced us to some of the people who had been present at the Conference and described what had been highlights of the Conference to them. The theme for the Conference, 'Who is My Neighbour' had been introduced by Dr Madeleine Barot under 5 headings:

1. The World, This Family which is Ours (Exodus 20: 13 - 17).
2. The Hungry (Exodus 22: 1 - 27)
3. The Stranger (Nations and Races) (Luke 10: 25 - 37)
4. Unemployment and Underemployment (James 2 and 5)
5. Education (Romans 13: 8 - 10) (Math. 5: 17 - 48)
6. The One Who has No Faith (1 John 3: 1 - 24)

Father Paul Verghese had led the Bible Study which had been an inspiration to all members present. It was resolved that an invitation for the next Asian Church Women's Conference be sent and that the meeting be held in Canberra in February before the academic year begins.

Mrs Bailey expressed appreciation of the part taken by Mrs Olga Badger as a member of the Planning Committee for A.C.W.C. Her work had been appreciated by others on the Planning Committee and she had been made a member of the Working Committee.

It was resolved that if the Asian Church Women's Conference Australian Planning Committee member is not otherwise a representative to the Australian Church Women's National Committee Meeting that she be invited to attend as a Consultant and give any report or information available. If she is unable to attend that a written report be made.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Mrs Dingle, National Liaison Officer for Australia brought greetings from the Women's World Day of Prayer Committee. Mrs Dingle then gave a report of the World Conference held in Bangkok in September, 1970. The W.W.D.P. Committee would meet in Sydney following the rising of National Committee. Mrs Dingle introduced Mrs Doreen Strack who is to be the next National Liaison Officer for Australia.

A letter of greeting from Mrs Sabita Kumar (nee Swarap) was read to the Committee. It was resolved that greetings be sent to Mrs Kumar who was the second holder of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

TRAVEL FUND

Following the deferment of the decision re part fare for Federal Denominational Delegates it was resolved that the amount of \$47.20 be passed for payment for half fare for these delegates. This brought the total amount of fares to be paid from the Travel Fund to \$576.48.

Considerable discussion took place concerning the possibility of the Working Committee being able to notify States as to amounts that might be available for State Unit and Federal Denominational representatives to National Committee Meetings. It was decided that President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Working Committee should have their fares met as the first charge on the Travel Fund. A Committee comprising Deaconess McKechnie and Mesdames Warner and Wilkins were asked to frame a suitable motion to be brought to a later session.

Notelets: Mrs Gray (S.A.) reported that \$260 profit from sales of Notepaper had been forwarded towards the Travel Fund. It was agreed to ratify the action of S.A. in ordering 4000 packets of notepaper in the new Post Office-Preferred envelopes at a cost of 31 cents per packet. It was agreed that these should be sold at 45 cents for a packet of 25. It was also agreed that State Units should deduct reasonable expenses for postage from profit made. It was resolved to advance \$4.00 from the Travel Fund to S.A. towards payment for the 4000 packet order. It was resolved that the Notelet project be left in the hands of South Australia. A vote of thanks to Mrs Gray for her work in this project was passed with acclamation.

Pens: Mrs Col. Saunders reported that she had 138 dozen pens in hand. \$279.27 was still owing for pens distributed to State Units. Pens would be readily obtainable in Queensland. Thanks were expressed to Mrs Saunders for care and attention given to this project.

ISSUES

Issues raised by Queensland, Canberra and the Working Committee were linked and a brief discussion took place. Suggestions made included those that we should be experimenting in working in different ways and that we should try to work out priorities.

It was decided that this discussion be continued at the next session on 'Issues'.

"ACTION FOR WORLD DEVELOPMENT"

Panel Session on "Racism as a factor hindering Development".

The Rev. E.H. Arblaster chaired this session and introduced the following panel:

Mrs Faith Bandler, Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Straits Islanders;
Pastor Frank Roberts, Adviser on Aboriginal Affairs to the Australian Board of Missions;
Dr S. Sunder Das, Lecturer in Psychology at the University of N.S.W.
Mrs Sunder Das;
Miss Jean Skuse, Assistant Executive Secretary, N.S.W. Council for the A.C.C., formerly Observer at U.N.O. for World Methodist Women;
Mr John Brink, bookseller, former South African national;
Mr Jim Roxborough, Wallaby International footballer with South African experience, law student at Sydney Law School.

Each member of the panel spoke on aspects of racial discrimination within Australia or South Africa. Comments and questions were offered by members of the meeting who were challenged to be practising Christians by all members of the panel.

Mrs Wilkins (S.A.) expressed the thanks of the members to Mr Arblaster and the panel.

Evening prayers were conducted by Mesdames Strack, Bailey, Dingle and Badger using a service which had been prepared for the Asian Women's Conference evening devotions.

THURSDAY, 11th February

The Rev. Dr D'Arcy Wood continued the Bible Study using Ephesians 2:11 - 16 as the basis of this study.

The President announced that the nominations for Officers and members of the Working Committee had closed at 9:15 p.m. on Wednesday and that the following had been returned unopposed:

President: Mrs Jessie Dennis Secretary: Mrs C. Connell
Treasurer: Mrs D. Eldershaw.

Voting for the Vice-Presidents would close at 7 p.m. The following had been nominated: Mrs C.J. Millar, Mrs Muschamp, Sister Angela Simmons and Mrs D.J. Ure.

It was resolved that a greeting be sent to Church Women United for their special 30th Anniversary gathering to be held at Wichita, Kansas from April 22 - 25. Deaconess Mary Andrews expects to attend this gathering.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN PROJECT 1971.

It was resolved that we should recommend the Institute for Aboriginal Development in Alice Springs as the project for assistance from the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Deaconess Frances McKechnie had photos of this Institute and agreed to collect material which could be sent in support of our application.

ISSUES:

The discussion from the issues raised on Wednesday was continued and out of the discussion came the suggestion that the 1972 National Committee might use as its theme 'Mission and Ministry of Women in the Church in the '70's'. Small buzz groups to be held at a later session about a suitable title. Members were urged to consider this in their own areas and to come prepared for the next National meeting.

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION of MEN & WOMEN in CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY

Mrs Ashton introduced the Rev. Frank Engel who was to chair the session. Regret was expressed at the absence of Mrs T.H. Coates who is Convener of this Committee. Mrs Ilma Rogers outlined some of the thinking of Professor Birch, University of Sydney, a noted biologist who had attended the World Council of Churches Exploratory Conference on Technology and the Future of Man and Society held in Geneva, June 28th - July 4th, 1970.

Mrs Rogers raised points under these headings: Man's Genetic Future; Dilemma of Biology; Tragic Statistics; Genetic Defects Cause Suffering; Master-minding Man. (See "In Unity" - October, 1970)

Questions asked included: Who decides who shall have children? Should all couples - undergo tests? - receive genetical counselling before marriage? Should parents alone decide whether a handicapped child should be born? Should parents with a high chance of producing defective offspring be encouraged to use artificial insemination?

Portion of a tape of the address given by Professor Birch at the ACC Annual Meeting, 1970 was played to members.

Mr Engel brought the session to a close with comments on some of the problems facing us over the next few years. Thanks was expressed to Mr Engel and Mrs Rogers by Mrs Sticpewich.

SPECIAL DAYS

1971 Fellowship Day Order of Service had been prepared by West Australia on the theme: "Who is a Christian?" Duplicated copies of the Order of Service were circulated.

It was resolved that the motion recommending that the theme for 1971 World Community Day, "Destination Philippines", passed at the 1970 National Committee Meeting, be rescinded. It was resolved that the Working Committee from Victoria be responsible for an order of service adapted from service prepared by ACC Committee on Racism.

Suggested title "Made in the Likeness of God - Who?".
It was agreed that the Victorian Working Committee be responsible for sending Fellowship Day orders of service direct to the States.

1972:

Fellowship Day: It was resolved that the ACC Executive representatives to the 1971 National Committee, Mesdames Lillian Wells, Norma Loy, Head Deaconess Mary Andrews and Deaconess Cath Ritchie be asked to prepare this service on the theme "The Christian Gospel & Human Development" bearing in mind the emphasis which had been placed on the 'quality of life' in so many of our sessions. Convener: Mrs Wells.

World Community Day: It was resolved to ask the Committee on co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family & Society to prepare the order of service for 1972 on some aspects of the issues raised by their session.

The "issue" for a change of date for the Fellowship of the Least Coin offering brought forward by West Australia was discussed. It was decided to receive this offering still at World Community Day service.

VENUE FOR 1972 NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

It was resolved that the meeting be held in the second week in February 1972 provided that this does not clash with the ACC Annual meeting. The meeting to be held in the same State as the ACC meeting. This was to be considered by the Queensland Working Committee as soon as date and place of ACC meeting is known.

VENUE of WORKING COMMITTEE 1973-74.

This was mentioned as Working Committee is to be in Queensland for 1971-72. This matter will be raised at 1972 National Committee

ISSUES

Reports were given of discussion held in buzz groups to consider a theme for 1972 National Committee meetings. Members of the Queensland Working Committee were asked to bear in mind the several suggestions made when they are preparing for National Committee. The general discussions had centred around the possible theme "Mission and Ministry of Women in the '70's".

The issue raised by New South Wales in their report on page 17 of the Working Documents on the preparation of a document of policies of A.C.W. which could be passed on to States and added to as alterations to policies occurred, was committed to N.S.W.W.I.C.C. for implementation.

Issues raised by South Australia - it was recommended to the Queensland Working Committee that they should consider the appointment of an assistant secretary from within the Working Committee.

Re posters - it was decided that posters for Special Days should be produced.

Re W.W.D.P. - No move could come from ACW but it was resolved that a greeting be sent to their National Meeting which would be held Saturday & Sunday, 13th & 14th February assuring W.W.D.P. Committee of our interest and participation in this special day.

It was resolved that should a vacancy occur in the Working Committee between National Committee meetings that the Working Committee be given power to fill the vacancy until the next National Committee meeting.

ACTION FOR WORLD DEVELOPMENT

The Rev. Clive Harcourt-Norton, Rector of the Anglican Suburban Parish of St Peter's, Mortdale, led this session on "Development and Aid Programs from the Parish Perspective". After Mr Harcourt-Norton had spoken lively discussion took place with an exchange of ideas and experiences between members.

Adult education programs were emphasised and the necessity for adequate communication.

Mrs Peg Eaton thanked Mr Harcourt-Norton for his leadership during the evening session.

Head Deaconess Mary Andrews raised the matter that reports on the evening news indicated that Australia was considering cutting aid to foreign countries. It was decided to consider this after evening prayers.

Prayers were led by Deaconess Cath Ritchie.

After listening to the 10 o'clock news the following telegram was formulated: "The National Committee of Australian Church Women, representing six states, meeting in Sydney, heard with alarm today's announcement that the Government intends to cut back foreign aid. We request the Government to reverse this decision." Telegrams were sent to the Prime Minister and Mr McMahon. Papers were informed of our concern - Daily & Sunday Telegraph, Sydney Morning Herald and the Daily Mirror.

FRIDAY 12th February
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The Rev. Dr D'Arcy Wood concluded his Bible Study with a study based on Romans 8: 18 - 25. Deaconess Cath Ritchie expressed thanks to Dr Wood for his real teaching that had been given over the course of our three Bible studies.

"Women at Work"

A vote of thanks was expressed to Mrs T.H. Coates and Deaconess Frances McKechnie for their work in preparing this Newssheet. It was commended to Queensland for continuation if possible. A minute of appreciation of the work of Mrs Coates was recorded.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES of A.C.W.

The next National Committee meeting to bear in mind discussion that had taken place as to the content of women's meetings, the role of women etc. and to base the theme on the Mission and Ministry of Women. The actual title is to be left to the Working Committee in Queensland. The action taken insending telegrams and contacting newspapers re proposed cut in foreign aid was reported to the meeting.

The President raised the matter of undesirable publications reaching teenagers in our homes. It was decided that members should take individual action where it was felt that this was necessary.

The President reported that Mrs Wheeler of Raleigh, N.C., U.S.A. would be in Australia in the next few months and that letters of introduction had been received from Miss Margaret Shannon, C.W.U.

POLICY RE TRAVEL FUND

It was resolved that in September the Travel Fund should be reviewed by the Working Committee and if sufficient money is available the following should be offered:

1. One first class return fare each for President, Secretary and Treasurer of A.C.W.
2. One return fare for each State Unit.
3. One half return fare for each Denominational Federal President
4. One half return fare for each other member of the Working Committee.
5. All fares to be first class rail fares except in the cases of West Australia and Tasmania when the fare is agreed by mutual arrangement.

STATEMENT TO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Mrs Eaton presented a draft copy of the Statement by the Sub-committee. After discussion it was agreed that the sub-committee would make certain alterations to the Statement and on completion it would be forwarded to the Queensland Working Committee for duplication and distribution. The committee who had worked on the statement were thanked for their work.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was agreed that Deaconess Mary Andrews be given official recognition as a member of A.C.W. when she attends the C.W.U. Conference to be held at Wichita, Kansas.

It was requested that States send dates of regular meetings to the Working Committee.

Project for Wrld Community Day offering 1971: It was decided to send offering to Asian Christian Service.

Consultants to ACC

It was resolved that if the ACC invited ACW to send a Consultant to the Annual Meeting it should be the President of A.C.W. if available and if a second consultant is requested that it should be the President of the State Unit of the State in which the meetings are held.

It was resolved that expenses connected with the distribution of pens be on the same basis as those of the notepaper viz: expenses be taken before forwarding returns from sales.

Statement for Church Press: Deaconess Frances McKechnie and Deaconess Alfred agreed to prepare this.

Mrs Bloore, Churches of Christ asked permission to take a greeting from ACW to the Churches of Christ conference in W.A.

It was resolved that the text of Rev. E. Arblaster's opening address and the recommendations of A.C.W.C. be included with the Minutes.

Mrs Bailey expressed the appreciation of C.W.F. of Australia to the National Committee meeting. Mrs Rayner also expressed thanks that she had been able to be present as observer from Tasmania.

ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS and WORKING COMMITTEE

The President announced the result of the election as follows:

President: Mrs J. Dennis

Vice Presidents: Mesdames C. Muschamp and Mrs C.J. Miller

Secretary: Mrs C. Connell

Treasurer: Mrs D. Eldershaw

Working Committee: Mesdames G. Pope, E. Dingle, Brig. J. Geddes, G. Haigh and G. Clarke.

Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church Family & Society: Mrs F.R. Ashton and Mrs A.W. Burton were nominated as ACW representatives to this Committee.

THANKS:

Mrs E.H. Winter expressed the thanks of the National Committee in the following terms: "Madame President and ladies, it gives me great pleasure to move a vote of thanks to all those who have made this conference possible. In this conference there has been a thought that work is a privilege and a necessity to give meaning to life. And although we know the following people know this, we desire to say a public thank you. St to Deaconess Mary Adreus and her staff, for looking after us so well as to the inner man; to Margaret Ralph for her assistance to the Secretary; to Eugenie John for playing for our devotions; to the scrutineers; to those who took prayers; to those who

wrote the statements; to our speakers, and Ilma Rogers and Rev. Frank Engel for their report and last but not least we all wish to say a big thank you to our outgoing Working Committee President, Secretary and Treasurer for all they have contributed to A.C.W. especially at this conference time."

CLOSING PRAYERS:

The National Conference was concluded with prayers in the chapel led by Mrs F.R. Ashton with members of the Working Committee (outgoing) and Working Committee-elect taking part in an act of dedication. The service was based on the concluding service of A.C.W.C. held at Sukabumi, in September 1970.

CONFIRMED

J. Dennis
(PRESIDENT)

12.

DATE

8/6. Feb. 1972

REPORT OF WORKING COMMITTEE FOR 1970

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The Working Committee has met each month throughout the year. We would like to express our thanks to the A.C.C.E. for the use of the Board Room, 100 Flinders Street, Melbourne for most of our meetings. We have also met in the Assembly Hall Buildings of the Presbyterian Church and the Drawing Room of the Independent Church, Collins Street, Melbourne. We are grateful to these two churches for extending the use of these facilities. To the V.C.C. staff we would also pass on our sincere appreciation for their co-operation and help at all times.

SPECIAL DAYS

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Fellowship Day 1970:

12,000 Orders of Service distributed

Theme: "Communication"

Prepared by the Women's Inter Church Council of South Australia

World Community Day 1970:

8,500 Orders of Service distributed

Theme: "It's a Small World"

Prepared by The Salvation Army

Orders of Service for 1971 are being prepared and printed.

Fellowship day 1971:

Prepared by West Australia Unit of A.C.W.

World Community Day 1971:

Prepared by Working Community using ACC Youth Project as the theme.

The Working Committee expresses thanks to all who have assisted in the preparation of the Orders of Service. Many helpful comments were made on services prepared for 1970.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN (Convener: Mrs J.A. Strack)

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A steady increase in interest in this project has been evident. Gifts have been received from all over Australia and T.P.N.G. Details of projects assisted in Australia during the years were forwarded to Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam prior to the 4th Asian Church Women's Conference in Djakarta in September 1970.

Two projects were suggested for assistance: The Institute for Aboriginal Development in Alice Springs and help with training wives of ministers-in-training at the Theological Colleges of the United Church in Rabaul and the Lutheran College in Lae.

Volume III of the Circle of Prayer was distributed and also a new promotional leaflet which was prepared towards the end of 1969.

(For further information see separate report of F.L.C. at the end of the Working Committee Report).

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP (Convener: Mrs A.W. Burton)

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The holder of this Scholarship for 1970 was Miss Veronica Kafa, Anglican teacher from the British Solomon Islands. Miss Kafa undertook her training with the Education Department of Victoria from February to August. Teaching English as a foreign language was her main course of study. Visits to Tasmania, South Australia, N.S.W., Canberra and Queensland stimulated interest in the Scholarship and gave valuable experience to Miss Kafa.

WORKING COMMITTEE REPORT (cont.)

The Committee received 18 applications for consideration and the Scholarship has been offered to Miss Violet Sampa of Zambia for 1971.
Age: 20 years

Occupation: In training as a minister of religion.

Languages: English, Bemba, studying Greek.

Academic Record: Senior Secondary Certificate.

UNITED CHURCHES (Converence: Mrs N. Faichney)

Mrs Faichney again kept in contact with women of the United Churches at Woomers, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Darwin, Nightcliff, Batchelor and Kununurra. Approaches were made to Mrs Maisie McKenzie regarding the possibility of forming a Northern Territory Unit of Australian Church Women. Groups from these places support Special Days and Offerings.

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION of MEN & WOMEN in CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY

Representation: ACW has been represented by Mrs E. Stephens and Mrs K. Jago. We were pleased to have the Chairman, the Rev. Bruce Reddrop join us in meeting Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam.

PUBLICITY and PUBLICATIONS

During the absence of Mrs T.H. Coates overseas, Deaconess Frances McKechnie prepared 'Women at Work' during 1970. We are indebted to Mrs Jean Yule for her contributions to 'Australian Presbyterian Life' for matters of concern to ACW and this material has been reprinted in other Church papers.

Orders of Service for Special Days have been handled by Mrs H.T. Rogers. A Brochure on ACW was produced and printed during the year as were leaflets on the Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, Miss Veronica Kafa.

Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders again had a busy year distributing Ball Point Pens.

Notepaper: At the 1970 National Committee Meeting, South Australia undertook the handling and distribution of ACW notepaper. This was a new venture and the Working Committee is grateful to S.A. for handling this project.

Profits from both the Ball Point Pens and the Notepaper are for the Travel Pool and distribution will be considered at the National Committee Meeting.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Visitors to our meetings included Miss Veronica Kafa (Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder), Mrs Maisie McKenzie, wife of the Rev. D. McKenzie of the United Church, Alice Springs and Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam, who until September was Chairman of Asian Church Women's Conf. & Fellowship the Least Coin. Mrs Selvaratnam was able to visit Women's Inter-Church Councils in all States of Australia except Tasmania when she was in Australia for the Churches of Christ World Assembly.

Australian representatives to the 4th Asian Church Women's Conference at Djakarta in September 1970, were chosen at the National Committee Meeting in February, 1970. Delegates were Mrs Doreen Strack (Victoria), and Mrs Frances Bailey (S.A.); observers were Mrs Eileen Dingle (Qld.) and Mrs Heather Crosby (S.A.). Prior to the Conference Mrs Crosby indicated that she would be unable to go to Djakarta and Mrs Elizabeth Ashton (Vic.) took her place. Mrs Olga Badger (N.S.W.) was present as a member of the Planning Committee. Mrs Jill Perkins (N.S.W.) was invited by A.C.W.C. to handle reporting.

WORKING COMMITTEE REPORT (cont.)

A.C.W. was represented at the Australian Council of Churches Annual Meeting by Mrs Marjorie Stanhope (President N.E.W.W.I.C.C.O and by the Secretary of the Working Committee.

The President, Mrs Elizabeth Ashton, has visited N.S.W. (in 1969), S.A., W.A., Queensland and Victoria (1970).

We wish to thank all members of the Working Committee over the past four years, especially Deaconess Cath Ritchie who was President during 1967 and 1968. We are indebted to Mrs Enid Stephens for her meticulous work as Treasurer over the four years. Mrs Lila Williams and Mrs Madge Anderson were members of the Working Committee in 1967 and 1968 and to them and the present members of the Working Committee we record our sincere thanks for their hard work and loyal support. We wish the Queensland Working Committee, to be chosen at the National Committee 1971, joy and satisfaction in the work and as much co-operation and fellowship as we have enjoyed in Melbourne.

ELIZABETH ASHTON
(President)

SHEILA DUKE
(Secretary)

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FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN REPORT

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The new information leaflet which was printed early in 1970 has been widely distributed, together with labels and "Gifts of Prayer" - which contains lists of allocations. The "Blue" Allocation book is also available, this contains details of allocations during 1967, 68, 69 & 70.

Circle of Prayer Volume IV has been eagerly awaited all the year and will be ready for distribution in 1971. The contributors to this booklet are from 24 different countries, with the theme "Who is my Neighbour?"

In September 1970 the Asian Church Women's Conference was held in Indonesia. Here again it was emphasised that the coin offering was a prayer token so that it was important that all members of the fellowship give the same token which is their least coin - the cent. The Conference decided that an Executive Secretary of the Fellowship of the Least Coin be appointed to administer and promote this movement, working in close co-operation with the East Asian Christian Conference.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Shanti Solomon, the founder of F.L.C., has been appointed to this position.

The highlight of 1970 was the visit of Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam of Ceylon who is immediate Past President of the Asian Church Women's Conference and Chairman of the Central Committee of F.L.C. She has done much to promote the Fellowship as she has travelled extensively, as well as producing literature and handling allocations and was an inspiration to meet and listen to while here in Australia. She came to Australia as the guest speaker to the World Christian Women's Fellowship at their World Assembly in Adelaide in October. She was able to visit Perth, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney also, where special meetings were arranged for her.

A film strip showing projects helped by F.L.C. is now available to be shown to groups.

F.L.C. are sponsoring the booklet "Fragments of War" written by Mrs Jill Perkins about the work of Asian Christian Service and are available from State Council of Churches for sale at 60 cents each - proceeds are for Asian Christian Service.

I wish to record my appreciation of the work done by all State Conveners who have been diligent in their service every year and also thank all for the privilege of my term of office. This has been an experience which has enriched my life in many ways and I pray that all have found blessing in this fellowship of prayer and reconciliation.

DOREEN STRACK
CONVENER.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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The holder of the Scholarship in 1970 was Miss Veronica Kafa of the Solomon Islands. Miss Kafa's chief area of study was the teaching of English as a foreign language, as there are 26 different languages in the Solomons and English is the common language. Miss Kafa was accepted as a trainee migrant teacher by the Victorian Education Department and her studies were supervised by Mr Alan Humphries, Co-ordinator and Consultant of Migrant Education. Her training course included teaching primary school children in schools in suburban areas of high density migrant population. Mr Humphries also instructed her in the teaching of the new mathematics, as this is greatly needed in the Solomons.

At the end of July Miss Kafa was admitted with 35 selected teachers from all States to the first four week intensive course for migrant teachers to be held in Australia. For the remaining three months Miss Kafa travelled to Tasmania, South Australia, Victoria, N.S.W., A.C.T. and Queensland, as the guest of the State Units, who arranged for her to meet women's groups and youth groups both denominational and ecumenical. This was most valuable both to Miss Kafa in learning about the work of the Churches in Australia, and to Church women in learning of the work of the Church in the Solomons.

Miss Jean Beglin, Director of Education in the Diocese of Melanesia writes "Thank you so much for all you have done for Veronica and so for us. I shall be using her as an instructor for boys and girls leaving school this year who will have to teach. I am most grateful to Mr Humphries and his Department and would like to be able to send more teachers to him."

Miss Kafa's deep Christian commitment was apparent to all who knew her, and her application to her studies and growth in maturity and independence made her a worthy holder of the Scholarship.

The Committee would like to express its gratitude to
Hon. L.H.S. Thompson, Minister for Education (Vic.) for accepting Miss Kafa as a trainee teacher at no charge.
Mr Allan Humphries, Co-ordinator and Consultant in Migrant Education (Vic.) for supervision of her studies.
The Sisters of the Church (Vic.) who took Miss Kafa as their guest during her stay for the period of study.
T.A.A. who provided a free return fare between Sydney and Canberra.
Australian Church Women in the Eastern States who provided hospitality during her travels.

The holder of the Scholarship for 1971 is Miss Violet Sampa, who is the first woman candidate for the ministry in the United Church of Zambia. Miss Sampa, who was nominated by the Congregational Council for World Mission, will undertake a course of study with the Joint Faculty of Theology in Brisbane. She has successfully completed the first year of training at the Ministerial Training College at Kituru in Kenya. The A.C.C. Division of Inter Church Aid has contributed her fare in excess of \$500, which has enabled us to bring her to Australia. The Commonwealth Department of Immigration has arranged her passport and entry through the Australian High Commissioner in Tanzania. Mr S.H. Amisah, General Secretary All Africa Conference of Churches writes "I feel sure that her visit to Australia will broaden and deepen her Christian experience and prepare her more fully for service on return to her country."

I would like to express my gratitude to the representatives of the Church Mission Boards who served on the Scholarship Committee. They provided a most useful link with the Council of Churches in the sending countries and gave practical assistance in the planning of the courses of study in Australia.

BETTY BURTON

CONVENER.

A REPORT FROM MISS KAFA 1970 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER

First I wish to thank you all Australian Inter-Church Women's Councils. I thank you all warmly and sincerely for making the Scholarship possible. It's a wonderful "gift" to have. "How can I repay your people, God, for their great deeds, love and prayers for other lands and nations?" My year in Australia has provided me a wider background of my past experiences and future aim.

I enjoyed my year in Australia very much, that I will never forget. The knowledge I gained will be a help to my home country by increasing our numbers of educated and trained people in places of special need. Indirectly it has helped me to good relations and understanding between Australia and it will be, to my own country.

During my course, visits and travels to schools, friends' homes and other states of Australia I found that Australians are very friendly and showed a greater appreciation of their country and their aspirations. My part I returned to the Solomon Islands with a clearer perception of Australia and of the Australian people.

My first impression when I arrived in Melbourne was the heavy traffic, second the people and then the colourful lights of the city. A very busy rushing life. But I managed to be one.

Accommodation arranged was suitable.

Financial arrangements. Very good

Clothes (Winter ones)

Training course - satisfied

Programme or Group Activity: Extension to study another subject could be done. e.g. Night School

Visit to other States. Very good idea

There are many things to be mentioned but I have written the main points I thought.

I wish all good and successful year 1971. May it bring you happiness through your fellowships.

With my love and prayers and with gratitude for friendship and help and all that it has meant to me and to you.

Wishing all the best

VERONICA KAFA

NOTE: Miss Kafa has attended a Course for teachers at Tenaru, about 10 miles from Honiara. It was arranged by the Education Department for teachers on Guadalcanal Island. 84 teachers were present coming from village and District schools. Miss Kafa attended as an observer but was asked to take charge of the 25 female teachers. Miss Kafa is to join the staff at the Training College for Teachers. Two six month courses will have 24 students in each course.

REPORT ON UNITED CHURCH GROUPS

As the correspondent with the women in the United Churches of Central Australia - Woomera, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Darwin, Nightcliff, Yirrkala and the United Church in New Guinea at Port Moresby, Rabaul and Boroko, it has been an exciting experience. For the first 2 years, the Minutes of the monthly meetings of the Working Committee were sent to these groups. I also wrote letters asking for information about their work and received some interesting reports. There have been a number of changes in the office bearers as many people go to these isolated places for short terms.

Since the printing of the News Sheet I have sent this and it has proved more interesting than the Minutes. I was fortunate to be able to visit all the United Churches in Central Australia in 1969, and had informal meetings with the groups of women and others in very small places. We went to Andamooka from Woomera and had family tea and service at the Hospital. I met the women with their families who work on the opal fields and live under rather primitive conditions. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and loyalty of the women of the inland who are so isolated from central organizations, but who make their lives so important. I found the groups particularly interested in the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and the Fellowship of the Least Coin. After telling them of the Australian women's effort to raise \$200,000 for the Hall of residence for women students at the University of Papua and New Guinea, some groups sent substantial donations.

One of our desires was that these women should be able to have a representative at our National Committee each year. This is now becoming possible as Inter-Church groups are being formed in Alice Springs and Darwin, thus a unit of A.C.W. could be formed. When the United Church conference is held each year, usually in Darwin or Alice Springs, the women could meet as a Unit.

I am sure that the next correspondent will find great satisfaction in this work, and if she or some other member of the Working Committee is able to visit these groups it will be invaluable.

GRACE FAICHNEY.

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION of MEN & WOMEN in CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY

During 1970 the committee on co-operation has had some very interesting meetings. Mrs Kiek has been in touch, writing letters and sending some old material for study and filing.

CONCERN FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

The session at National Committee meetings in February proved most stimulating and Dr Stamp's material is being converted into a study leaflet about the needs of young children.

ASIAN TRAINEE IN MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNSELLING

We were very disappointed this year that the plans made for training a Ceylonese man had to be abonded. However steps have been taken to find another suitable person to study here under the allocation made to us last year from the funds of the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

OVERSEAS VISITORS

Members of the committee were delighted to meet Dr Quiamao, EACC Secretary on Men-Women Co-operation, in September when he came to Australia from Djakarta, and Mrs Selveratnam in October. Mrs Coates, convener of the committee was greatly missed during her trip overseas and was welcomed home at the November meeting.

TOPICS DISCUSSED

In May Mrs A.W. Burton outlined to the committee significant features of the report on "Immigration and the Balance of the sexes in Australia", which was prepared in 1969 for the Federal Immigration Advisory Council by its committee on migrant women, of which she is a member.

In July Mr Bill Armstrong, Victorian secretary of the Christina Family Movement, came to tell us about the "see, judge and act" program which the Roman Catholic Church uses to involve a particular group of lay people in action in community and world affairs. The study booklets used are very good.

The discussion at the September meeting of reports of the ACC Annual meeting, especially about Professor Charles Birch's address to the WCC Exploratory Conference in Geneva in July, led to the committee's decision to follow up this question of the moral issues arising with scientific development. It was agreed that the subject should be opened up at the ACW National Committee Meeting in February 1971 and developed at a one-day symposium later in the year. The general title of the topic would be Man's genetic future, with special reference to marriage and family.

ILMA ROGERS

ACTING CONVENER
Committee on Co-operation.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN FINANCIAL STATEMENT for year ended 31/12/1970

RECEIPTS

Fellowship of the Least Coin

Balance bt. fwd.	3565.12	
Donations	<u>3180.08</u>	6745.20

Circle of Prayer Volume III

	<u>21.60</u>	21.60
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Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund

Balance bt. fwd.	1245.64	
Transfer from Fellowship Day Offerings	800.00	
Donations	225.76	
Bond Interest Bal. Int. 1968/69 \$7.13	21.38	
Interest 1969/70 \$14.25		2292.78
Refund from Sister Marguerite	<u>19.00</u>	19.00

Fellowship Day

Orders of Service	137.00	
Offerings	<u>1255.69</u>	1392.69

World Community Day

Balance bt. fwd. 1/1/70	600.00	
Offerings	957.43	
Orders of Service	<u>14.30</u>	1571.73

General and Administration

Balance bt. fwd.	763.14	
Transfer from F'ship Day 1/1/70	190.91	
" " World Comm. Day	277.47	
Bank Interest	149.31	
Donations	<u>27.11</u>	1407.94

Scribal Pens & Notelets

Btw. fwd. 1/1/70	522.28	
Sales - Pens	1043.45	
" - Profit Notelets from S.A.	<u>260.00</u>	1825.73

National Meeting

Accommodation	672.80	
Registration	<u>141.00</u>	813.80

Overseas Fund

Bt. fwd. 1/1/70	132.02	
W.I.C.C. of Victoria	180.00	
W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	<u>15.00</u>	327.02

\$16417.49 \$16417.49

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN FINANCIAL STATEMENT for year ended 31/12.70

EXPENDITURE

Fellowship of the Least Coin

Donation to Geneva	3000.00	
Printing W.&J. Barr 2000 leaflets	48.00	
" " " 5000 folders	60.00	
Part fare Mrs Selveratnam	36.00	
Petty Cash	5.00	3149.00

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund

Investment C.W. Stock	100.00	
Tape W.K. Interview	2.59	
T.A.A. Air fare 299.90)		
205.50)	505.40	
Printing 12,000 leaflets	72.00	
Allowance V. Kafa \$24 per month 8 mths.	192.00	
Y.W.C.A. Camp fee	27.00	
Hosp. B.A.	25.44	
Clothing etc. 50.00)		
29.78)		
14.21)	93.99	
Sister Marguerite	20.00	
Petty Cash - postage	5.00	1043.42

FELLOWSHIP DAY

Orders of Service	160.00	
Delivery & Postage	12.80	172.80

World Community Day

Project Hong Kong Rooftop Reset.	600.00	
Orders of Service	120.00	
Delivery & Postage	10.36	730.36

General & Administration

Printing 10,000 booklets W.&J. Barr	182.00	
Duplicating Ellams Pty. Ltd.	21.74	
Delegates to ACC Ann. Mtg.	36.00	
Secretary's fare	35.00	
Petty Cash Secretary 20.00		
30.00	50.00	
Petty Cash Treasurer	10.00	334.74

Scribal Pens Pty. Ltd.

State Delegates fares to Nat. Mtg. (six)	337.15	
Petty Cash & Postage	15.00	748.57

Overseas Fund

Acc. 2 Observers A.C.W.C.	100.00	
Reg. & part fare 2 Delegates	270.00	370.00

National Comm. Meeting at St Hilda's

Accommodation & Booking fee	663.20	
½ Acc. For 3 Office bearers	36.00	
Secretarial requirements	77.73	776.93
Bank Balance 31st Dec. 1970	9091.67	9091.67

\$ 16417.49 \$16417.49

ENID STEPHENS
(Hon. Treasurer)

Examined and found correct

ELEANOR A. GRIEVE

13th January, 1971.

STATEMENT FELLOWSHIP DAY

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	Orders of ser	offerings	Total
W.I.C.C. of S.A.	35.00	230.00	265.00
W.I.C.C. of Queensland	18.75	51.54	70.29
N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	62.50	192.75	255.25
Woomera United Ch. F'ship	1.25		1.25
United Ch. Ladies Guild Darwin	.75		.75
Canberra Church Women	2.50	40.00	42.50
United Ch. F'ship Nightcliff	1.25		1.25
Katherine United Ch. F'ship	1.25		1.25
W.A. W.I.C.C.	1.25		1.25
United Ch. L. F'ship Woomera S.A.		11.40	11.40
W.I.C.C. Tasmania	12.50	30.00	42.50
W.I.C.C. Victoria		700.00	700.00
	\$137.00	\$1255.69	\$1392.69

STATEMENT WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

<u>RECEIPTS</u>			
Canberra Church Women	1.80	17.00	18.80
W.I.C.C. Tasmania	12.50	18.40	30.90
ACW W.A. Unit		30.20	30.20
W.I.C.C. Victoria		500.00	500.00
N.S.W. W.I.C.C.		193.30	193.30
W.I.C.C. S.A.		90.00	90.00
Women's F'ship Nightcliff		20.00	20.00
W.I.C.C. Queensland		88.53	88.53
Balance Bt fwd. 1/1/70		600.00	600.00
	\$40.30	\$1557.43	\$1571.73

SUMMARY OF BALANCE

Fellowship of the Least Coin Fund	3596.20
Circle of Prayer Booklets	21.60
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	1268.36
Fellowship Day Service	1219.89
World Community Day Service	841.37
National Meeting	36.87
Scribal Pens	817.16
Notelets	260.00
General & Administration	1030.22
	<u>\$ 9091.67</u>

Overseas Fund shows a Debit of \$42.98 at present paid from General Fund.

STATEMENT OF FELLOWSHIP DAYEXPENDITURE

Orders of Service 12,000 6 page	160.00	160.00
Delivery	2.80	2.80
Petty Cash - postage	10.00	10.00
Balance	1219.89	1219.89

₱ 1392.69	₱ 1392.69
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STATEMENT WORLD COMMUNITY DAYEXPENDITURE

Orders of Service 8000 6 page	120.00	120.00
Delivery	5.36	
Postage & Petty Cash	<u>5.00</u>	10.36
Project Hong Kong Roof Top Resettlement	600.00	600.00
Balance	841.37	841.37

₱1571.73	₱1571.73
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ADDRESS TO AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN by THE REV. E. AREBLASTER

I have been asked to introduce the theme of your National Committee Meeting "Action for World Development". Thank you for asking me. I count it a privilege.

I have chosen as a sub-title - if you are easily shocked - don't listen! - "Let the Church go to Hell". Let me explain:

There is an ancient Talmudic story about a man who lived such a righteous life that the angels of the Lord gave him a choice no other man had ever yet been given: "Will you go to heaven or hell?" they said. He paused, and thought, and asked, "Is there any love in hell?" "Love in hell! Hell! No! - it's hell". "Then", said the man "I shall go to hell and take some love there."

Hell is wherever love is denied, wherever life is wasted, wherever mind or spirit is polluted, wherever mind or body is stunted, wherever man is confined, deprived or exploited, and there the Church has a mandate, an authoritative requirement, a command to go.

"He has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed."

"And the Father has sent me so I send you."

"Go. Go teach. Do preach. Go heal."

"The Church is the only society," William Temple said, "that exists for the sake of those who are not its members."

To get into the hell where people live, and are in torment, and die, is the task, the destiny of those who would be like Christ, of those who would follow Christ.

To see more clearly the nature of this hell - and to try to see what action practical love requires of Australians, particularly of Australian Christians, motivated some 200 laymen and women and clergy of Protestant, Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican Churches to gather together in a National Conference on Action for World Development in February, 1970.

They had with them four specially prepared study books or background documents - and these are available for you or any Church people or other citizens. Order from A.C.C. and help us to conserve profits - order through bookshops to stimulate them to carry and spread the word.

The four books are:

- Rich and Poor Nations (Examining Australia's responsibilities)
- Development Through Trade (Comments on Australia's Trade)
- What Does Theology Tell? (The Church and missions in development)
- Politics and Education (Some Political factors)

In due course the four were joined by a 5th, "Challenge to Action" - the official report of the 1970 National Conference on Action for World Development. The report contains not only the detailed resolutions, a declaration of what Action for World Development means, and practical recommendations to Government, the Churches, other groups and individuals. It also in a very readable style indicates something of the life of the conference itself. For instance, a young journalist, Nicholas Kerr, commenting on the conference in this report quoted Dr Devanesen as saying in the opening service his expectation of the conference:

"I am a bit sceptical about conferences - especially church conferences - just as I am sceptical about the Indian rope trick", he said during the service. "The rope disappears into thin air - and often so does the recollection of many conferences we have attended. But God can do something to each of us who has come to attend this conference. We are the organization men of the Church. We love activity. We love structures. We love ideas. We love talk and discussion. We love cyclo-styled sheets of paper. But do we really love God?"

At the end of the conference, Dr Devaneseen is recorded as saying: "But I think there are many people who are beginning to question some of their previous presuppositions. Some of the older people came out with statements about even Asians being intelligent, and that sort of thing. It showed that even the more conservative types were at least shaken a bit".

Youth made an impact on the conference. Mr Kerr reports: "One young delegate told me" 'There's no such thing as boundaries. Australia in some of its elements, is underdeveloped. Look at the place of Aborigines in our society. And at some of the migrants. If we're going to work for world development, we must remember Australia's part of the world.

I felt pretty much from the first day, that we were talking about development overseas. No one mentioned Aborigines. I mentioned it to people in the corridors, people who sat next to me at meals. They were saying the same sort of thing - that if we were to look at the total thing, we should look at the problems at home. It was pointed out pretty forcibly there wasn't a single Aborigine here".

Professor Appleyard told us, "There is really a great deal of nonsense spoken about aid programmes". Objections to support are hung on the most unlikely pegs - buses which fell to pieces in Djakarta, the tractor which rusted away in the field, the abuse of funds. It is our job to set the record straight."

"What is the Church's objective?" he asked. "How much aid is necessary before per capita incomes in developing countries become acceptable? What level does the Christian consider acceptable?"

"Is it," he asked, "a level at which development and equity of distribution within the countries is sufficient to break the shackles of poverty and, hopefully, give all men a chance to develop their full personality?"

"If that's our objectives, we would need to amass a great deal more resources for aid than we have so far shown inclination to do. Is our objective a level which the politically viable 1 per cent of GNP could achieve? Or will the Church preach equality for all and, perforce, revolution? Well, what's it to be? Are you prepared to go all the way or, like a cautious lover, stop at a kiss?"

If you feel you and your group can only manage one of these study books start with volume 5, but I believe that some one in the group would often want to refer back to the earlier books as resource quarries,

Together in a short space they touch on most of the things related to the subjects you'll want to ask about and to talk about:

The difference between being poor and being destitute,
The rich growing richer and the poor growing poorer - comparatively speaking.

By 2000 A.D. progress will have gone on to the extent that whereas now, average wages are as follows:

In the Developed Countries \$1,675 p.a. Developing countries \$135 p.a. and in fact the average in the richest country, America, is expected to be nearly \$9,000 against \$150 in the poorest.

Australia's present per capita income is 22½ times that of India. In the year 2000 at the same rate of growth it will be 60 times.

A picture of today's world in microcosm is quoted from Dr Richard Dickenson, (Vol. 1. p.10).

"If all the world were a community of 1,000 people, 330 would be affluent (developed) and 670 would be poor (developing) with tremendous variations in this affluence and poverty. Very generally, 63 would earn over \$2,000 per year with another 82 earning between \$1,000 and \$2,000 per year. But the vast majority of people (855) would earn

less than \$1,000 per year, and almost half (495) would earn less than \$100 per year. 670 people would earn less than \$300 per year.

Almost all of these high-income people would be white and many would be Christians. Further complicating the poverty of the 670 people is the fact that they have more children than the more affluent 330. Children of the richer 330 would enjoy much higher educational advantages. With three times the number of children, the poorer families will have only one third the number of university graduates as the more materially advantaged group.

The poor are also at a disadvantage in health matters. Many major diseases - which attack and cripple the children of the poorer segments of the community never appear among the children of the rich. Perhaps more shocking is the undernourishment and malnutrition of the 670, which affects several hundred of them, permanently damaging their development and making them more susceptible to infectious and other diseases. Perhaps equally important is the damage done on the psychological level. As many as 300 to 400 people in the community may have less than the requisite 2200 calories per day.

There are ten times as many doctors available among the 330 as among the 670; they have 15 times as many qualified nurses available; they have about 12 times as many hospital beds per person. Availability of medications is not easily measurable, but it is abundantly clear that while the rich spend vast amounts of money on medicines, the poor have almost no medicine available, and many fewer doctors and nurses.

There may be economic and other causes and they are touched on,
capital and technology,
aid and trade, industry and agriculture,
social studies,
Population.

But more than economics involved in this question of development. To quote Dickenson again, he maintains that a full definition of development would need to include at least the following aspects:

1. Physical and material necessities of life more and more adequately met ... To be developing a society must be progressively eradicating hunger, disease, and physical deprivation.
2. Increasing education and cultural opportunities.
3. Movement toward equity of opportunity. On the economic level this means, among other things, toward equity of distribution; on the political plane toward increased participation in, and responsibility for, public policy. This does not presuppose however, that a society can or should be completely egalitarian.
4. Increasing dominance of reason... An organisational consequence ... is the growing dominance of merit and achievement values ... in the determination of social roles and functions...
5. Increasing justice, constantly informed by the human and the humane ... Justice also implies progressively enlarged freedom in the context of the needs and rights of others...
6. Movement towards a harmonisation of values and a coherent political ethos.
7. A growing capacity of a society to incorporate change, even fundamental change, without chaos."

Some ideas are expressed in an actual charter adopted by a developing country: by the President of Tanzania, Julius Nyerere:

"Inherent in the Arusha Declaration, therefore, is a rejection of the concept of national grandeur as distinct from the well-being of its citizens, and a rejection, too, of material wealth for its own sake.

It is a commitment to the belief that there are more important things in life than the amassing of riches, and that if the pursuit of wealth clashes with things like human dignity and social equality then the latter will be given priority ... With our present level of economic activity, and our present poverty, this may seem to be an academic point; but in reality it is very fundamental. So it means that there are certain things which we shall refuse to do or to accept, whether as individuals or as a nation, even if the result of them would give a surge forward in our economic development."

Human dignity, worth and value are vital and fundamental. Three things Race, Unity Tourism are basic to racial issues of Africa.

Today, Europeans make their own decisions, Americans make decisions for America but Europeans make decisions for Africa.

Justice and human dignity are fundamental to the Middle East. The migrant minority is supported by the West and make decisions for original inhabitants (or drive them out). The basic Middle East issue is not Egypt v. Israel, or Jordan v. Israel, not the Suez, the basic issue is Justice. Inviting us to put the plumbline of Love over our ideas of Biblical prophecy, calling into question our ideas of how God deals with men and wants us to deal with each other.

Against an underlying background of our common humanity,
the respect and care God has for us all
and we ought to have for each other
national organisations of small groupings of people
like Nazi Germany, Apartheid South Africa, and race
conscious Israel (set up in our life time)
are an anachronism and an affront to God and man made in His image.

1971 is the United Nations Year against Racism and Racial Discrimination. To implement its part of the program the Australian Council of Churches has set up its Commission on Race Relations. March 21st, the fourth Sunday in Lent has been designated by the U.N. as a special day of prayer. It has special significance for many in that it is the anniversary of the Sharpsville massacre, and the ACC Commission has prepared a special order of service and sermon notes for the occasion. As it was known that your Committee this week would be preparing material for the World Community Day and other Days of Prayer I was asked by the Commission to ask you especially if you would remember this Year as you arrange your services.

We will be talking later in your meetings about racism and its relationship to development and how it hinders it.

Mankind is one in His Son and His redemption.

Rich and poor, strong and weak are bound together will nilly for exploitation or 'edification', for destruction or development.

We need new expressions of our unity on a universal scale: the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, World Health Organisation, UNESCO, UNICEF, FAO, FFHC, ILO, UNHCR and a host of others under the umbrella of the United Nations.

How long since your Church organisation has taken a serious look at all that is accomplished through the U.N. organisation Is its membership amongst those that rubbish it or those that try to strengthen it?

What of Tourism?

People ... or temples?
Holy Places or people?
Pyramids or people?

In these days of increasing numbers of Australians going overseas, they and we as a community have an opportunity of making a contribution

in this way towards an understanding of world development and its problems. How many of our people in going to Bangkok are more concerned with temples than the people and their problems. How many people going to the Holy Land are more concerned with the historic holy places than with the peoples of the Middle East and the contemporary meaning of the Incarnation.

Rome was not built in a day.

These books provide practical suggestions for individuals, for the churches of which we are part, for the governments responsible to us in our ordering of national life and in some measure susceptible to our wishes if we use the appropriate strategies.

What needs to be done and some suggestions as to how to go about doing the things that need to be done are clearly set out. I won't spoil your voyage of discovery by quoting them. Start at volume 5 and work back as questions arise.

The Churches themselves following a recommendation from the Conference have set up a Joint Secretariat for Action for World Development. It has taken a little while: the governing bodies of the sponsoring organisations did not meet until August. Then having made the decision there had to follow the appointment of a representative Committee. Applications have now been called for a full time Executive Officer. It is likely that the work of the Secretariat will be mainly educational of the Australian church and community.

While it goes on, our commitment to World Christian Action (what we used to call Inter-Church Aid,) must go on :

Churches initiatives at local level

Sometimes with significant help in planning from WCC and other 'secular' international expertise, as for instance in the \$750,000 scheme in East Pakistan, the occasion of the scheme was an emergency caused through cyclone damage, but the effect is a real new development proposal.

Similar new special proposals without the emergency stimulus are being implemented in West Irian and the Philippines.

I must share with you now the sad fact in relation to World Christian Action that our Christmas Bowl receipts this year would seem to be down 20% on the January receipts for last year. If any of you can help us to understand why this might have happened please share your ideas with us.

Part of the World Christian Action program which is continuing to grow slowly but needs all the support we can give it, is Force 10, a special monthly program of individual membership of people who both learn of our projects and give towards their support.

While education for development goes on support for the development of people through World Christian Action must go on.

If I may return to our text, Dr Chullikal, an Adviser to Pope Paul on aspects of development, said to us at the National Conference last year:

"You're playing a secular game", he said, "I have the impression that Christians in Australia are very cautious about their commitment. They're not very sure about how far they can go, how far they can press their Government, how far they can influence its policy. They seem to be playing a very prudent, a very safe game."

"I'll speak frankly", he said, "Maybe this is the first step. But prudence can be virtue and sometimes, it can be a vice, too. It can be a vice in an explosive world situation of growing world misery, of growing disparity, of growing ill-feeling. The problems of world development should mean a deeper engagement at every level."

"You're playing a secular game", he said. "You're trying to be very cautious and to keep the security you've acquired. But maybe the security you've acquired, if you want to keep it too much, becomes insecure. I've always believed that, unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it won't grow. I think we're afraid to die."

The Church will go to Hell - either deliberately in response to our Lord's clear call to love the loveless and the unlovely, or by default, by leaving undone things we ought to do, by concern for our own structures, our own life as churches, ourselves.

Some one has said "If you're not part of the cure you're part of the disease." Collectively speaking, human life on this planet is diseased - God's image in man is blotted out by man - in Vietnam, in the system of which Sharpville was only one single especially unpleasant expression, in our infringements of Aboriginal rights, in the slums of cities in East and West, in the careless, callous recreational (so-called) pursuits of so many affluent people.

We do not see human life as one over all the earth with an imperative to order a common life in justice for all. We do not meet people different from ourselves as persons to be respected and honoured.

Human life is loveless - hellish.

Go to Hell we must - the question is how we go.

Poem quoted by Mrs Jill Perkins:

Lord, I have listened.....

To the resolutions,
the affirmations,
the manifestos.

I have submerged myself
In the plethora of words -
Often struggling in the morass
Of verbose sound,
To hear the heart-beat of Man
In all his dialogue.

I have listened to the pronouncements
the cultivated verbage
the noise of words.

And oh, Lord,

I hope I have heard
the noises of mankind

Violently demanding justice, not charity
Passionately pleading for dignity, not gratuity
Quietly seeking true love, man for man ...
NOT disembowled care.

Lord, through the discord of Man's noise
Let me hear the harmony
of your directive voice.
In all the urgency for activity
Let me be still to listen,
And to really hear
Your Will, Pronouncement, Command -
To revolutionize myself
And all of life.

A.C.W.C. RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend that:

1. Church women should be instrumental in helping all women to become more economically productive by sponsoring classes on cottage industry, back-yard gardening, agriculture etc.
2. Church women should initiate a review of the curriculum and methods of the educational system, so as to make it more relevant to the needs of the time.
3. This A.C.W.C. should call upon Christian women everywhere to shake off their indifference and to take an active interest in the political life of their countries, to exercise their suffrage, to run for office if necessary, in order to influence the processes of decision making. Women should sponsor forums and discussions on political and social issues affecting the community where they are and serve as a medium of dialogue between citizens and government officials.
4. Church women should be instrumental in interpreting what is done and can be done together with people of other faiths in social action programme, and joint participation in study sessions.
5. Church women should be instrumental in helping young people to become aware of what is happening around the world, and to their neighbours, to develop in the young a capacity for discernment.
6. Church women should first of all understand the true meaning of "neighbour", that it exists not for itself, but for the whole world. They need to re-examine the priorities in terms of their responsibilities towards their neighbours. They should be instrumental in helping the church to reconstruct itself to make it more relevant to the whole society.
7. Every delegate should make a detailed report of the conference to her National Council and/or Women's organisation and continue her study of the theme and share it with others.
8. Church women should be instrumental in initiating and promoting adult education, such as literacy.
9. The A.C.W.C. should be an instrument of change, by taking a stand or issuing a statement of policy on basic and controversial issues.
10. A.C.W.C. should seek deeper involvement in the life of Asian Christian Service in Vietnam and Laos by:
 - a. prayer support of the Administration,
 - b. financial support to continue the work and send such support to ICA Secretary, 24 Foxall Street, Elanora Heights, N.S.W. Australia 2101
 3. reading and becoming knowledgeable about Vietnam and Laos.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, 1970.

Bible Study on John 15 and 17 was led by Deaconess Young. Opportunity was taken to thank Deaconess Young for her varied and thoughtful approach to the Bible Study sessions. In expressing our thanks Mrs Macneil voiced the very real appreciation of members present for the studies.

The morning session commenced with consideration being given to future activities of A.C.W. Constructive criticism was offered on the planning for the National Committee meeting.

It was recommended that the Working Committee consider using the A.C.C. theme 'Action for World Development' as a possible centre for our thinking. Criticism was levelled that no action has issued from this National Committee. It was claimed however that attitudes had been created towards the various areas of Christian Concern considered. Considerable discussion took place on methods which might be used at future committee meetings. These were noted and would be used by the Working Committee in its planning.

SESSION 8.

At the beginning of the Session the President welcomed Mrs Charlotte Browne-Mayers and her husband who were visiting Australia briefly. Mrs Browne-Mayers brought a greeting from the Church Women United and spoke briefly of her work both in America and with the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Mrs Browne-Mayer had worked with the Division of Inter-Church Aid and World Refugee Service.

Mrs Howie presented a draft copy of the Statement and Recommendations to be issued to member organizations. She and her committee were thanked for the long and late hours they had given to the preparation of the statement. The final draft to be sent to the Secretary for inclusion with the Minutes at the end of the meeting.

SESSION 9:

Election of Officers and Working Committee:

The Scrutineers reported the result as follows:

PRESIDENT: Mrs F.R. Ashton,

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Mrs T.H. Coates, Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders

SECRETARY: Mrs G.I. Duke

TREASURER: Mrs Enid Stephens

WORKING COMMITTEE: Messdames A.W. Burton, N. Faichney, Deaconess F. Mc Kechnie, Mrs H.T. Rogers, J.A. Strack, plus above Office Bearers.

RELATED COMMITTEE:

Mrs Enid Stephens and Mrs K. Jago were appointed as A.C.W. representatives to the Committee on Co-operation.

FOURTH ASIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:

Representatives: Mrs D. Bailey and Mrs J.A. Strack

Observers: Mrs R.W.L. Crosby and Mrs E. Dingle.

It was resolved that we pay US\$150 for each delegate and the cost of the two Observers at the Conference.

If A.C.W. is asked for a Consultatnt to attend the A.C.C. Annual Meeting it was moved that Mrs Ashton represent A.C.W. or if unable to do so a substitute to be appointed by Working Committee and her fare to be met from the Travel Fund.

Thanks wre extended to all who had helped in so many ways and Mrs Howie expressed the thanks of all members present. St Hilda's College, the Principal and Council, Mrs Johns, pianist; Mrs Cooper and Mrs Downes for provision of Hymn books were included in this thank you. The National Meeting closed with prayer led by the President, Mrs Ashton, in the Chapel.

GENESIS 1: 26-31a

(Bible Study for National Committee of Australian Church Women,
Deaconess House, Newtown, N.S.W., 10th February, 1971.)

Preliminary: This is sophisticated theology, not primitive. It is the product of a long tradition of thinking and writing called "priestly" or "P".

The writers are anxious to distinguish their teaching on God, man and creation from the teachings of other religions, although the framework of much of Genesis 1 is borrowed.

MAN IS PART OF CREATION

(a) He belongs in the sequence of the six days of God's creation.

(b) He is therefore dependent on God. *for everything*

(c) He exists in relation to the rest of creation (cf. the other creation story beginning Gen. 2:4). *(made out some sort of material)*

(d) Man is one human family; differences of race and nation are secondary. *(made in common)*

2. MAN IS THE CROWN OF CREATION

(a) He is the last and therefore highest of created things.

(b) Only after Day Six is creation called very good. *(re)*

(c) Only man is made in God's image. *()*

(d) Only man is given power of ruling (dominion, mastery).

3. MAN IS CREATED WITH A RELATION TO GOD

v. 26

Man is made in God's image (tselem) and likeness (demuth). This is not lost or neutralised by the Fall in the "P" story. For them the image remained, despite man's sin (cf. Gen. 9:6). Man is even a representative of God in some respects (9:6).

What is the image?

image = likeness (can't be understood the same way)

The original use of "image" was of a physical resemblance and some say "P" still has this in mind. (I think this unlikely.) What is the alternative?

Many suggestions have been made (such as moral, intellectual, cultural, religious capacities, or a combination of these).

Probably we should think not of a particular capacity but of personhood, which man shares with God. Man is a responding creature. He responds to God's address, to his fellow men and to his environment. (Animals merely react to environment.)

Feshly religion - opposed to the this sexuality
God's purpose is a purpose of fellowship
God created man for fellowship

self determined
freedom in man
Man like God is always a
person - an individual
walk in right of God
each man has a role
response
fellowship
various

- 2 -

The image gives man dignity but also implies his dependence on the full personhood found in God. (In N.T. we find that the image is mirrored perfectly only in Jesus Christ - II Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15. Cf. Rom. 8:29; I Cor. 15:49 where man can be conformed to Christ.)

Man is therefore created for fellowship. Men are inter-dependent.

He is a responding

4.

MAN IS MASTER OF CREATION

to be master
No control over

Man is not maker of his environment; it is a gift to him. But he is called to master it - to control, organise and use the gift in all its richness and complexity (v.28). (Cf. Ps. 8.)

have
to master

Creation is already good, but man is to develop the earth and therefore is a co-worker with God. His work is not a curse but a privilege - not slavery, but mastery (unlike other religious traditions).

primary God
primary
Not slavery
but mastery
something for
man to enjoy

"Fill the earth" (v.28): May refer to the increase of humankind (as in 9:1) but it may imply "replenish" or "develop" the creation, i.e. the bringing out of the potential of created things. If so, here is a justification for technology, not for its own sake but for the service of man's best interest. (not technology uncontrolled)

(Development is not only the increase of total wealth. Nor is it merely re-distributing wealth or goods. It is also bringing out the possibilities in creation and therefore in people and in cultures as well.)

man
God
environment

"Subdue the earth" (= tread down, conquer): This again implies ruling. Man's technology involves struggle. But there is no mandate for plundering earth's resources here. On the contrary, there is a kind of ecology described in vv.29-30, not a scientific description but the idea of inter-dependence and inter-action. (Behind this may lie a Golden Age myth in which harmony prevails over all the earth.)

long together
in a struggle
inter
dependence
interaction

A COMMENT We cannot apply biblical concepts directly to modern development problems. Before applying to our situation we must understand the background against which Scripture was written. However the biblical doctrines of creation and redemption are the starting-point for a theology of development - and because there is creation, redemption and eschatology in Scripture there can be a theology of development.

Tomas

- Ephraim 2

V. 11-16

EPHESIANS 2: 11-16

(Bible Study for National Committee, Australian Church
Women, 11th February, 1971)

Preliminary: Ephesians was written to various Gentile Christians, probably not just Ephesian ones.

The exact purpose of the letter is not very clear. It may have been for the instruction of the newly baptised. Whether written by Paul or not, the writer certainly has the Pauline stress on grace (2:1-10) and on the centrality of Christ.

THE UNCIRCUMCISED (v.11)

This religious difference is a serious one. The use of "so-called" does not imply it is unimportant. The uncircumcised lacked the sign of God's covenant.

THE FOUR-FOLD GAP (v.12)

The Gentiles, apart from the new covenant, are "separate from Christ" (without a deliverer), "strangers to the community of Israel" (i.e. God's people), "outside God's covenants" (which lent identity to Israel), "and the promise that goes with them" (especially the promises to Abraham, e.g. Gen. 12:2; 13:16; 17:8).

The result is lack of hope and alienation from God.

THE GAP NOW CLOSED (v.13)

The Gentiles are "brought near" by a new shedding of blood on the Cross. Gentiles too are "in Christ". There is a reference here to Isaiah 5:19: "peace for all men, both near and far" (originally a reference to the Dispersion "far" from Palestine). Converts to Israelite faith were also spoken of as "brought near". Here in v.13 this serves as an analogy for Christ's shedding blood once and for all.

THE BREAKING DOWN OF THE WALL (v.14)

This deliberately recalls the five foot wall dividing the inner court of the Temple in Jerusalem from the outer court of the Gentiles (cf. Acts 21:28f). Gentiles could not pass through it on pain of death.

This wall is used here as symbol for (a) the gap between Jew and Gentile; (b) sin which separated both Jew and Gentile from God when they lived "in the flesh". It may be taken by us as symbol for all that divides man from God and man from man.

The end of enmity is by the flesh (humanity) and blood (sacrifice) of Christ.

The incorporation of the Gentiles heralds the new age when Law gives way to Spirit (v.18).

THE ONE NEW MAN (v.15)

The new humanity is "in Christ", not in an idea or programme.

The new man is personal, but also corporate in a new life in the Spirit which anticipates the new age. This is God's creation after his own image (Col. 3:10). Entry into the life of the new age is by faith and baptism.

Real peace, individual, social and national is possible only in a single humanity.

RECONCILIATION IN ONE BODY (v.16)

The conversion of the Gentiles is the first sign of God's victory on the Cross. The new age of the Spirit begins (2:18).

Unity in the Church is a further crucial sign of the reconciliation of "all things" (Col. 1:20) - the Church points to a renewal of all men and all creation. The Eucharist is a concrete sign of this unity in the Body (v.18).

"To reconcile" is an intensive form of the verb - it is a decisive act (the historical event of the Cross).

"The body" is the visible Church, which is the sign of all humanity being placed under the Cross. The Church, as microcosm of all humanity, therefore has a mission to all men. We can carry out our mission in the knowledge that the victory is already secured.

ROMANS 8:18-25

(Bible Study for National Committee, Australian Church
Women, 12th February, 1971.)

Preliminary: In N.E.B. Romans 1-8 are headed "The Gospel
according to Paul."

In this book the past, present and future
of Christ are expounded. In this passage hope and the
future are the theme.

THE MEANING OF OUR SUFFERINGS (v.18)

We are not insulated from suffering by
the Spirit. Nor is suffering unreal or unimportant.
It is the way through to the "splendour in store".

In Philippians 1:29 suffering is a
privilege. Here in Rom. 8:22 it is the birth-pangs
of the new creation.

THE UNIVERSE IS TO BE REDEEMED (19-22)

The idea of the Universe "waiting" does
not imply it has a will of its own (19-20). The
future is God's.

The poetic style is appropriate, as we
cannot describe what the material world will become.
But we know it shares in the redemption - the cycle of
decay ends and all things are restored.

Man, as part of creation, is restored in
his whole being. He is not removed from, but saved
with the Universe.

Man and Nature "groan", i.e. strain
forward to the deliverance from sin and decay.
While matter does not feel pain, there is an incom-
pleteness which "waits" for its restoration.

WE ARE SAVED IN HOPE (23-25)

In this expectation we, unlike Nature, have the Spirit as forctaste.

We are "saved only in hope" - our adoption is yet to be signed and sealed publicly. (The word "save" is forward-looking nearly always.)

Knowledge of this future redemption is based on the Resurrection and is ours by faith. Christ's new life beyond death is the sign of our own - new life in a renewed body (v.23). The whole man is redeemed.

Faith is anticipation. The future-facing character of N.T. cannot be removed without destroying the message. Faith is also hope, that what we now anticipate will come to pass even more fully than we can imagine.

This is no justification for "sitting back". No, our hope means that change is possible in man and society and that it has real point. "Endure" in 24-25 is not just passive; it is "capacity to withstand and still to act".

The Spirit is our first instalment on the new creation. Faith, hope and love all "abide" - we live by them. We are not given a plan of the future but "faith is our guide" and sustenance (II Cor. 5:7).

We know by faith our death is behind us, nailed to the Cross (Eph. 2:16). The victory is already achieved but is not yet fully seen. By "faith active in love" we can live out this hope in all dimensions of living.

[illegible]

(Australian Church Women, National Committee, 10th Feb. 1971)

GREETING

Leader: Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father,
and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (I Cor. 1:3)

PRAYER

Leader: O God of peace, who hast taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength; by the might of thy Spirit lift us, we pray thee, to thy presence, where we may be still and know that thou art God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God.

All:

- For not thinking deeply;
- For being inattentive to the word of God;
- For thinking we have the whole truth;
- For lack of feeling for the needs of our families,
the oppressed, the hungry, those in tempta-
tion and those without hope;
- For an uncritical attitude to our membership in
a society of affluence;
- For failure to think and pray and act for the
mission and unity of the Church;

O Lord, forgive what we have been, sanctify what we are, and order what we shall be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

PSALM 8 (said in unison, all standing)

O Lord our sovereign,
how glorious is thy name in all the earth!
Thy majesty is praised high as the heavens.
Out of the mouths of babes, of infants at the breast,
 thou hast rebuked the mighty,
silencing enmity and vengeance to teach thy foes a lesson.
When I look up at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers,
 the moon and the stars set in their place by thee,
 what is man that thou shouldst remember him,
 mortal man that thou shouldst care for him?
Yet thou hast made him little less than a god,
crowning him with glory and honour.
Thou makest him master over all thy creatures;
thou hast put everything under his feet:
all sheep and oxen, all the wild beasts,
 the birds in the air and the fish in the sea,
 and all that moves along the paths of ocean.
O Lord our sovereign,
how glorious is thy name in all the earth!

(N.E.B.)

GLORIA PATRI (standing)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Colossians 1:9b-20.

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

M O R N I N G W O R S H I P

(Australian Church Women, National Committee, 11th Feb. 1971)

ASCRPTION

Leader: Glory be to thee, O Father everlasting, who didst send thine only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, who hast brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.
Glory be to thee, O Holy Spirit of God, who dost quicken us together with Christ, and dost shed abroad his love in our hearts.
Blessed be thou, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God; and blessed by thy glorious name for ever.

All: Amen.

PRAYER

Leader: Let us give thanks.

All: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men.

We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour & glory, world without end. Amen.

HYMN

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 14: 15-21

CONFESSION

Leader: Let us together confess our sins, in the words of the Psalmist.

All: Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when you judge
O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom
O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed may thrill.
From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
not deprive me of your holy spirit.

God me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you

Amen.

(Psalm 50 (51), Gelineau)

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

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(Australian Church Women, National Committee, 12th Feb. 1971)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the Lord our God: that he may
teach us his ways, and that we may walk in his
paths. (Isaiah 2:3)

HYMN

PSALM 98 (said together)

Sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has done marvellous deeds;
his right hand and holy arm have won him victory.
The Lord has made his victory known;
he has displayed his righteousness to all the nations,
He has remembered his constancy,
his love for the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Acclaim the Lord, all men on earth,
break into songs of joy, sing psalms.
Sing psalms in the Lord's honour with the harp,
with the harp and with the music of the psaltery.
With trumpet and echoing horn
acclaim the presence of the Lord our king.
Let the sea roar and all its creatures,
the world and those who dwell in it.
Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the hills sing aloud together
before the Lord; for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples in justice.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 13: 1-8, 21-27.

CONFESSION OF FAITH (said together)

The Lord's true love is surely not spent,
nor has his compassion failed;
they are new every morning,
so great is his constancy.
The Lord, I say, is all that I have;
therefore I will wait for him patiently.
The Lord is good to those who look for him,
to all who seek him;
it is good to wait in patience and sigh
for deliverance by the Lord.

(Lamentations 3: 22-26)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

BENEDICTION.