



Australian Church Women

"Women at work"

No. 2

APRIL, 1973

WORKING COMMITTEE

Our second meeting was off to a good start with all members being present including Mrs. Alder Hall who is to be the Convenor of the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Alder was an Observer at the National Conference, so is a very able person to join the Working Committee.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING FOR 1974 will be held in Adelaide from Tuesday 12th February to Friday the 15th. Lincoln College, in North Adelaide, will be the venue.

BELETED GOOD WISHES TELEGRAM from Mrs. Fran Bailey which should have arrived at Deaconess House at the time of the last National Committee meeting was received in recent days - goodness knows what happened to it.

From the World Council of Churches in Geneva came a letter of thanks and a receipt for \$4000 from Australia for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. In credit in Geneva there is Str. 17827.30. to be administered and distributed to very worthwhile projects in many parts of the world.

Mention was made in the first newsletter of Mrs. Lt. Col. Marion and her new responsibility in Indonesia. She writes of her new appointment with her husband of The Salvation Army operations in Indonesia with over 50,000 adult membership, 212 evangelical and community centres, 26 hospitals and institutions and 73 schools. Working with the women will claim a great deal of Mrs. Marion's time as she will oversight all Salvation Army Women's activities. The assignment seems very great when the population is nearly 130,000,000 in a Republic spread over 3000 islands and islets.

Mrs. Brigadier Macintyre has replaced Mrs. Marion as Victorian President for W.I.C.C. for the remaining months of this year.

CANBERRA CHURCH WOMEN have published their new Office Bearers and we welcome as President, Mrs. L.K. Gower, as Vice President, Mrs. H.S. Taylor Rogers, and as Secretary Mrs. E.R. Goudie.

Extracts of a letter from Deaconess Terani Aisake the 1972 Winifred Kiek Scholar. I am sure many are interested in this news.

(She apologises for not sending the report as requested on her year - because of pressure of work)

"I would just like to say that I was quite happy with the programme as a whole. I felt that I have gained tremendously from the training programme at the Methodist Training College, and the different places I had been to, especially at various meetings of the different denominations. I have in fact tried some of the ideas in here and they work fine!!

I also feel that flexibility in the training programme as a whole should be retained at all times. The type of programme given to the scholarship holder must also be at the holder's interest and ability. Some scholars may find that there is too much public speaking and less observations/participation on a particular subject of interest e.g. sometimes in the course of my travelling I included in the programme some of my interests; visit to some voluntary organisation, gaol, rehabilitation centres, etc. I know that the freedom to choose is given, at least to me, but there is always the one shy person who may be just adjusting to a new culture. She will surely find it difficult to express her thoughts, let alone in another language.

Finally, I would like to again, extend my very deep gratitude and thanks to the Working Committee who untiringly and promptly looked into my welfare, the Scholarship Committee who took such an interest in me and the progress of the course, all Inter-church Committees in all places I visited, all hosts and hostesses, and A.C.W. as a whole. I am proud to think of you all as christian friends and co-workers in His kingdom. My prayers and kind thoughts remain with you all at times.

My work here is very interesting. There are nine students in training - 7 in residence, 1 at the South Pacific Commission Education Training Centre and 1 to return to residence at the beginning of the second term. All Theological lectures are taken at Methodist Theological College from Monday to Thursday and all other parts of the training plus lectures here are in my hands. I have 25 (45 min) periods here at Deaconess House in the week, and four (45 min) periods at the Theological College. All students are keen on the work, and I hope with the training programme, and I am sure that after this arduous time of preparation, they will become better workmen and women in His service. I was the speaker in one of the Anglican Churches (St. Christopher Home) where about 40 people attended at the Women's World Day of Prayer. I thought of Brisbane. The weather here is usually hot and wet. I am used to it again. All the flowers I planted in my flower garden are beautiful and green, and there are a few buds coming up which I am sure will come into bloom soon. I wish I had some of your pretty flowers to plant in my garden. I sometimes help the girls to weed the vegetable garden. Guess who puffs out first ...!!

Another past Winifred Kiek Scholar, Jacki Kini, is back in Australia - in Canberra. She arrived at the end of February with seven others from Papua New Guinea, all Teachers' College Lecturers and a Primary School teacher, each to study special areas selected by P.N.G. Education Department. Jacki herself is studying Planning and Administration at Teachers' College level plus some special short courses.

In a letter received from this year's Scholarship winner's father, he says, "Kalpana was also very much impressed by the friendliness of the members of the Australian Church Women. She has made several friends and has found the Deaconess House a very hospitable place indeed. Kalpana's programme for the rest of her time is a fascinating one and she has already begun to think in terms of implementation of what she is learning and seeing in Australia. Our little school is doing very well but all of us including the children and their parents are looking forward to Kalpana's return to Satara with new ideas and renewed zeal."

I would just like to finish with part of the prayer we used at the meeting of the Working Committee.

O God
who by the resurrection of Thy Son Jesus Christ,
binds the cross to us,
give us grace to die to self,
that, hearing the call of strange new demands,
we may give ourselves in obedience
and make sacrifices for others. Amen.

Capt. Beryl Golding
for
The Working Committee . S.A.