

Newsletter

NEW SOUTH WALES WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL (State Unit of Australian Church Women)

No. 3

June 1967

Pres. Mrs. S.G.C. Cowled, 5/13 Cranbrook Ave. Cremorne 90 8707
Sec. Mrs. R. H. Dougherty, 56 Mabel St. Willoughby 41 2453
Treas. Mrs. C. A. Perriam, 6/37 Ormond St. Ashfield 71 1481

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

At the Annual Rally on May 29th at Wesley Chapel, a detailed account of the beginnings and the development of the hostel "Wybalena" was given by Mrs. Briggs, and all present realised what an amount of hard work had been accomplished over a long period by the members of the Hostel Committees and their friends. I am sure there are quite a number of girls who have resided in the hostel since 1952 who look back on their stay there with gratefulness and happy memories.

Like the Roman god for the New Year, we are two-faced, looking to the past and also to the future. From the sale of the Wybalena property we have a capital which can be the nucleus of a project representing a joint effort in the name of the Women's Inter-Church Council and a memorial to all those who have worked so arduously. Mrs. Millar responded to the appreciation expressed by Mrs. Briggs to all the workers.

Several of the ladies at the Rally took with them some of the attractive folders describing the origin and purpose of the Fellowship of the Least Coin and we hope for new interest by both individuals and groups of this prayer circle. The purpose is "to make concrete the world-wide fellowship of Christian women and this covenant of prayer and world fellowship outweighs the importance of the amount of money raised." The definitely limited individual donation means equality from east to west.

As the new President, I would like to thank those who attended the Rally and also those who were with us in spirit although unable to be present. Especially may I mention the Past President, Mrs. D. G. Badger, for her appropriate and beautifully worded dedication prayer. With the support of all the officers and also the prayer support of the denominations represented in the W.I.C.C. I hope we may find true fellowship and together unitedly serve the Kingdom of God.

During the year ahead of us may we be brought to realise what thoughts, ideas and gifts we can share by working together and worshipping together at the Special Day services. By studying the work already accomplished and what is being organised by the Women's Inter-Church Council, and by understanding the work of peace-time organisations connected with the United Nations, we realise what a number of devoted and often self-sacrificing people from all branches of the Christian Church we have working with us in the desire to promote friendship and co-operation and inter-church fellowship.

This is a prayer published nearly three hundred years ago in England. Could we in our modern language improve very much on this:

Help us this day, O God, to serve Thee devoutly and the world busily. May we do our work wisely, give succour secretly, go to our meat appetitely, sit thereat discreetly, arise temperately, please our friends duly, go to our bed merrily and sleep surely: for the joy of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

I. Grace Cowled.

Ed. Note.

On behalf of the others present at the Rally, I thank Mrs. Cowled for her address to us. In mentioning her many years in the Methodist Mission field in Fiji, the significance to the women there of the Women's World Day of Prayer, the story of the hand (illustrating the power of unity when fingers and thumb work together), she made herself known to us and pointed us to the way we should go.

We pray God's blessing on her as she leads us in the year ahead.

M.R.

OUR PROJECTS

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Wybalena

The proceeds of the sale of Wybalena Hostel (\$27,600) are earning interest, pending the selection of a suitable project. Mrs. Millar's dream of an inter-church women's college at Macquarie University does not seem possible, so we are open to suggestions. Remember the funds were raised for an inter-church hostel.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship

The 1967 Scholarship has been awarded to Miss Anna Busina of the Y.W.C.A. Port Moresby. She has not yet arrived in Australia, but it is expected that her training, in leadership etc. will be with the Y.W.C.A. in Adelaide.

The offering on Fellowship Day is for the Scholarship fund. Other donations may be sent to our Treasurer, made payable to N.S.W. WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL, with a note earmarking the donation for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

Fellowship of the Least Coin

Leaflets and labels are obtainable from our F.L.C. Convener, Mrs. H.J. Lilley, 206 Eastern Valley Way, Willoughby, 95 3381. A tape recording made for the women of Australia by Mrs. Shanti Solomon of India is available on loan from our Secretary. Mrs. Solomon, who originated the Fellowship of the Least Coin describes its purpose and achievements.

Individuals and groups belonging to the Fellowship will appreciate the monthly devotionals (24 in all) prepared by women of different nations, in the little book "Circle of Prayer." Vol. 3 has been printed and should be available in Australia soon. Enquire at A.C.C. Bookshop, 3rd Floor, 511 Kent St. Sydney or through Mrs. Lilley - the cost will be about 35c plus postage.

NEW SECRETARY

We announce with pleasure that Mrs. R.H. Dougherty, a Methodist, has been appointed honorary Secretary of the Council. Her experience and vision will undoubtedly further our work. We bid her welcome and hope that her association with us is a very happy one.

SPECIAL DAYS

Plans are in hand for Fellowship Day at Epping, North Ryde, Parramatta, Fairfield, Strathfield, Northbridge, Wahroonga, Mosman and Padstow in the metropolitan area and at Taralga, Bega, Delegate, Coctamundra, Boorawa, Narooma, Armidale and Wagga. The Order of Service was prepared by Canberra Church Women on "Let the Church be the Church in Daily Living."

World Community Day will be observed in the last week in October, preferably Friday 27th. The theme will be "World Community through the United Nations" and the Australasian Federation of Methodist Women are arranging for the order of service and discussion questions.

STUDY BOOK

Following the popular "Saints Alive", another study book has been issued by Australian Church Women. "Church Worship" by the Rev. A. and Mrs. Dougan contains an introduction and five studies. Copies are 20c ea. (or 15c ea. for 50 or more) plus postage, from A.C.C. 3rd Floor, 511 Kent St. Sydney.

PROMOTION

At the Annual Meeting a Promotion Committee was appointed to cater for all aspects of promotion, including publicity and extension. Mrs. D.J.A. Verco is the Convener and Mrs. A.G. Ralph, 22 Skenes Ave. Eastwood 85 6507, is the secretary.

Please contact Mrs. Ralph, giving names and addresses if possible, if you know of districts or local areas where there is inter-church activity or close co-operation where Branches of the W.I.C.C. might be formed or where Special Days might be introduced. We would also be glad to know of enthusiastic ecumeniacs who might help in districts other than their own.

NEED A SPEAKER?

How about one of our Council members? Topics include F' ship L.Coin, W. Kick Scholarship, Fellowship and World Community Days, Local Inter-Church Groups, Australian Church Women & W.I.C.C. itself. Contact our Secretary, who can also put you in touch with Inter-Church Aid, Good Neighbour Council, Wm's World Day of Prayer, etc. with whom we are affiliated.