

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL
COMMITTEE - 1972

".....for
such a time
as this"

WORKING DOCUMENTS

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING, 1972

GREETINGS

From

(Mrs.) JEAN LAWS - Chairman, WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES,
NEW ZEALAND:

Dear Friends,

"My Committee sends you warmest greetings as you assemble in Sydney in February and prays that the inspiration gained from your meeting will shine through the year's work at every level.

"Amid all the successes and difficulties may we know that God is with us and in loving selfless service may we make Him known.

Yours most sincerely,

(JEAN LAWS)"

17 Merivale Lane,
CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND.

GREETINGS
from
OVERSEAS

From
(Mrs.) ESTHER T. BAUTISTA - Chairman, ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:

"On behalf of the Asian Church Women's Conference and on my own, I wish to greet the Australian Church Women on the occasion of their National Committee Meeting.

In the Old Testament times, especially in Genesis, the role of women had been recognized. The power of woman was manifested in Eve, and altho' it was said that the fall of man was due to woman, yet in the New Testament, the Bride, which is the Church, has the dominant role of bringing together in unity, understanding and love, its members. The liberation of women is due to the redeeming love of Christ in recognizing the role of women in the light of the Home, the Community and the World.

It is my sincere wish that at this National Meeting every woman present may understand the role she is to play in this great drama of life - to spread the Gospel, to share with great sincerity their concern for the needy and the oppressed, and to radiate the love and the warmth of Him whom we all love and serve.

May God richly shower His blessings upon this meeting that it may prove successful and fruitful to the end that each one may feel that she is called upon to join the ranks of other women to prepare the Church to serve with love.

Prayerfully yours,

(ESTHER T. BAUTISTA)"

San Fernando, La Union, PHILIPPINES B-515.

From
(Mrs.) KATHLEEN DAVIES - Secretary, ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

"It was a joy to receive the Christmas Greetings of Australian Church Women sent to Asian Church Women through me. On their behalf I rejoice to send Christmas Greetings to you all, and pray that 1972 may be a year of reconciliation across barriers of all kinds in our personal and national lives.

Only today we heard that war has broken out between India and Pakistan. PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE SUFFERING PEOPLES, AND ESPECIALLY REMEMBER SHANTI SOLOMON AND OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR PLANNING AND WORKING COMMITTEES OF THE A.C.W.C. WHO ARE NATIONALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

I expect to be in Britain at the time of your National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women, but I will ask our Chairman, Mrs. Esther Bautista of the Philippines, to send greetings from Asian Church Women. I trust you will have a fruitful meeting and experience true unity of spirit.

Yours with love and prayer,

(KATHLEEN DAVIES)"

Avonside Vicarage,
CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND.

GREETINGS

From

CLARIE COLLINS HARVEY - President, CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, U.S.A.

"Dear Friends,

Today we are reaching out to our many Christian sisters in Australia to include them in the 30th Anniversary celebration of the movement of Church Women United. There are so many of you over the last number of years who have "starred the dark," and reflected the light of inspiration and wisdom that we wish to invite you to complete the global circle.

On this special occasion here in Washington, D.C., we sense through all seven presidents the strength and conviction of those church women who came together in December, 1941, during Pearl Harbor week. Then called United Church Women, they re-affirmed their belief that "God reigns and that ultimately His will will prevail" ... wherever.

We sense, too, the joyous occasion when the women of the Constituting Convention called on the "women of the churches to enter into the suffering and sacrifice of the human family" - the human family in Australia as well.

The women of Australia have responded in dedication and prayer to the extent that now there is a spiritual network of support that girds women and their concerns over the face of the earth. There is even a new and great hope of kinship in the Christian community in the 1970's.

In appreciation for your constant caring and well-wishing in all your words and letters, we send our warmest greetings to you all. We thank God for the benefits of these three decades of association in His name and ask that He grant us the time to continue our efforts together with the women of Australia.

Sincerely yours,

(CLARIE COLLINS HARVEY)

Box 134, MANHATTANVILLE STATION, NEW YORK, N Y 10027.

From

GLADYS NAYLOR - CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, U.S.A.

"Thank you for a lovely greeting from Australia. ..

The newsletter is most interesting and speaks to us directly since we know so many of the women in Australia: Eileen Dingle, Deaconess Mary Andrews, Mrs. Ashton and Mrs. Strack. We will have to admit that Australia came alive when Myrna Bushmeyer relayed something of your activities to us and the fact that we met so many of your women in Indonesia last year.

Please accept a packet of material encompassing the three special days of Church Women United in the United States. These celebrations start with World Day of Prayer and then go on through May Fellowship and World Community Day in November. Even though you already have the service from the International Committee of the World Day of Prayer, I thought it would be interesting to follow through on the materials that Church Women United use here.

Thank you again for your joyous greeting. We will have a greeting to you for your meeting in Sydney on February 8th. I shall ask our President and/or Executive Director to have something in the mail for you after the first of the year.

Please accept our warmest greetings to the Women of Australia. We continue to enjoy God's blessings, but we need your prayers as each country takes its rightful place in the family of nations.

In Christian Love,

(GLADYS NAYLOR)".

Box 134, MANHATTANVILLE STATION, NEW YORK, N Y 10027.

From

NORMA GRAVES - RARONGO THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, NEW GUINEA (now of DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND).

"I have not heard yet who is to take my place at Rarongo for 1972. Mrs. H. Taylor and other staff wives will certainly be continuing with the work there.

The women's classroom has been completed. .. This new building was made possible by the grant which A.C.W. recommended to the Fellowship of the Least Coin, plus some smaller gifts from New Zealand. Again I would like to thank you very much. .. Please convey my greetings to the National Committee Meeting .. May you all be richly blessed as you begin another year of fellowship and service.

(NORMA GRAVES)"

WORKING DOCUMENTS

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THEME: "FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"

A G E N D A

TUESDAY,
8th February, 1972

- 11.45 a.m. Introductory Session - Welcome, Roll Call, Apologies, Greetings, Announcements.
- 12.30 p.m. LUNCH
- 2.00 p.m. OPENING WORSHIP & ADDRESS (In Chapel) - "For Such A Time As This"
Speaker: MISS JEAN SKUSE (Secretary for World Christian Action)
- 3.00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION: Procedural Arrangements
1971 National Meeting Minutes & Business Arising.
- 3.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
- 4.00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION: REPORTS - Working Committee; C'tee on Co-operation; Financial Statement; State Units; Federal Denominational Organizations.
- 6.00 p.m. EVENING MEAL
- 7.30 p.m. "OVERSEAS WITH DEACONESS ANDREWS"
- 9.00 p.m. EVENING PRAYERS - Pastor S. SIMPSON, President, Congregational Women's Fellowship of Australia.
- 9.15 p.m. SUPPER
- 9.30 p.m. Extension of Deaconess Andrews' Session if necessary.

WEDNESDAY,
9th February, 1972

- 7.15 a.m. MORNING PRAYER & MEDITATION in Chapel (Attendance optional)
- 8.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
- 9.00 a.m. BIBLE STUDY: "The Biblical view of women and the Church's view"
- The O.T. view of women compared with the Church's view.
- The woman in the New Testament.
- 'The theology of woman'.
-- MRS. BARBARA THIERING (University of Sydney)
- 10.00 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION: REPORTS - UNITED CHURCHES ✓
FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN ✓
"WOMEN AT WORK" NEWSLETTER
GREETINGS & REMARKS: Liaison Officer, W.W.D.P., MRS. DOREEN STRACK.
- 10.40 a.m. MORNING TEA
- 11.00 a.m. A.C.C. SESSION - "Conflict - Constructive and Destructive"
-- REV. GORDON BEATTY (C. of E. Marriage Guidance Centre).
- 12.30 p.m. LUNCH
- 2.00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION: REPORT - WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP
ELECTION OF WORKING COMMITTEE, 1972
NOTICES OF MOTION
LOCATION OF WORKING COMMITTEE, 1973-4.
NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING VENUE, 1973.
GREETINGS & REMARKS: A.C.W.C. Planning C'tee member - comment re venue of next Asian Church Women's Conference.
- 3.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
- 4.00 p.m. INTER-STATE INTERVIEW (A.C.T. & VICTORIA: N.S.W. & SOUTH AUSTRALIA)
- 4.30 p.m. DISCUSSION SESSION: Group Discussion - Introduction to topic circulated with Working Documents.
- 6.00 p.m. EVENING MEAL
- 7.30 p.m. A.C.C. SESSION: "The Future of Man" - REV. DR. D'ARCY WOOD (Secretary, Studies and Communication)
- 9.00 p.m. EVENING PRAYERS - MRS. PEDERICK, President, Methodist Women's Federation of Australia.
- 9.15 p.m. SUPPER
- 9.30 p.m. A.C.W. PICTORIAL HISTORY - Slides and Tape prepared by Mrs. COATES (approximately 20 minutes).

A G E N D A

THURSDAY,
10th February, 1972

- 7.15 a.m. MORNING PRAYER & MEDITATION in Chapel (Attendance optional)
- 8.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
- 9.00 a.m. BIBLE STUDY - MRS. BARBARA THIERING
- 10.00 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION: SPECIAL DAYS - Themes & Preparation:
FELLOWSHIP DAY, 1973
WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, 1973
OFFERING PROJECT - WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, 1972
PROMOTION MATERIAL.
- 10.40 a.m. MORNING TEA
- 11.00 a.m. A.C.C. SESSION - MISS JEAN SKUSE
- 12.30 p.m. LUNCH
- 2.00 p.m. BUSINESS SESSION: REPORT & COMMENT - SALES of PENS & NOTELETS.
REPORTS: SPECIAL COMMITTEES -
1. Summaries F.L.C., W.K.Schlp., A.C.W.C.
2. A.C.W. POLICIES
DISCUSSION & DECISION - PERMANENT REPOSITORY FOR
EARLY RECORDS OF A.C.W.
- 3.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
- 4.00 p.m. PROBLEM TIME - Open Discussion problems raised by State Units (Extract
contained in Wallet supplied on arrival). 15 mins. approx.
INTER-STATE INTERVIEW (VICTORIA & TASMANIA: WEST.AUSTRALIA & N.S.W.:
SOUTH AUS. & A.C.T.) 15 mins. each approx.
- 5.00 p.m. GROUP DISCUSSION (Continued from previous session).
- 6.00 p.m. EVENING MEAL
- 7.30 p.m. A.C.C. SESSION: "Women's Liberation" - MISS PAMELA GRUBER (W.C.C.
currently with A.C.C.)
- 9.00 p.m. EVENING PRAYERS - MRS. GROAT, Secretary, Presbyterian Women's
Association of Australia.
- 9.30 p.m. Brief selection coloured slides - VIOLET SAMPA in Australia;
MRS. DINGLE in New Guinea; Mrs. DENNIS in Queensland.

FRIDAY,
11th February, 1972

- 7.15 a.m. MORNING PRAYER & MEDITATION (Attendance optional)
- 8.00 a.m. BREAKFAST
- 9.00 a.m. BIBLE STUDY - MRS. BARBARA THIERING
- 10.00 a.m. BUSINESS SESSION: PROJECT FOR SUBMISSION FOR MONETARY ASSISTANCE F.L.C.
THEME - 1973 NATIONAL MEETING.
INTER-STATE INTERVIEWS (TASMANIA & QUEENSLAND: QUEENSLAND & WEST. AUST.)
- 10.40 a.m. MORNING TEA
- 11.00 a.m. GROUP DISCUSSION - FINAL SESSION - SUMMARISED CONCLUSIONS.
RECORDED STATEMENT - NATIONAL MEETING - GENERAL REPORT, CHURCH PAPERS
APPOINTMENTS: Representatives to A.C.C. General Meeting (Ratification)
" A.C.C. C'ttee on Co-operation.
- 12.30 p.m. LUNCH
- 2.00 p.m. SPECIAL BUSINESS SESSION: MEMORIAL TRIBUTE
OTHER BUSINESS - Directions to Working Committee
- 3.30 p.m. AFTERNOON TEA
- 4.00 p.m. CLOSING PRAYERS

PARTICIPANTS

<p><u>WORKING COMMITTEE:</u> (OFFICE BEARERS + COMMITTEE MEMBERS)</p>	<p><u>REPRESENTATIVES</u> Mrs. Jessie DENNIS (President) Mrs. Lorna MILLER (Vice President) Mrs. Eileen DINGLE (Actg. Vice Pres.) Mrs. Merle ELDERSHAW (Treasurer) Mrs. Cora CONNELL (Secretary)</p>	<p><u>OBSERVERS</u> Mrs. Joyce POPE Mrs. Ruby HAIGH Mrs. Ruth LANE. * Mrs. Gwyn. CLARKE (Pres. Qld. Unit)</p>
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<p><u>STATE UNITS:</u> AUS. CAPITAL TERRITORY.. NEW SOUTH WALES VICTORIA TASMANIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA WESTERN AUSTRALIA QUEENSLAND</p>	<p>Mrs. Gwyneth ROWE Mrs. Edna WINTER Mrs. Audrey BELL Mrs. Nancy PFEIFFER Mrs. Elsa WARNER Mrs. Lt. Col. Mavis MARION Mrs. Rachel COCKS Mrs. Pauline HANN Mrs. Jillian WILKINS Mrs. Kath HOWIE Rev. Dorothy WACKER Mrs. Gwyn. CLARKE * Mrs. Edna GRAMB</p>	<p>Mrs. Joyce GILBERT Mrs. M. MARSDEN-SMEDLEY or Mrs. Joan CURTIN Mrs. Doreen STRACK Mrs. Margaret MACNEIL Mrs. Dawn RHODES Mrs. Reta FARR Mrs. Joy SMITH Mrs. Elizabeth McCHESNEY CLARK</p>
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FEDERAL ORGANIZATIONS:

<p>ANGLICAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST PRESBYTERIAN SALVATION ARMY Y.W.C.A.</p>	<p>Miss Doris MITCHELL Mrs. Sheila BLOORE (proxy for President) Pastor Sylvia SIMPSON Mrs. Dorothy PEDERICK Mrs. Connie Groat Mrs. Lt. Col. Olive CARPENTER * Mrs. Col. Florence SAUNDERS</p>	<p><i>seamstress Lynn Gigg</i> Mrs. CUTHRISS Mrs. Linda PERRIAM <i>Mary. Jones</i> Mrs. Frances DOWNES Mrs. Bessie ATKINSON Mrs. M. JARMAN <i>axine</i></p>
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A.C.C. EXECUTIVE C'TEE: 1. Deaconess Mary ANDREWS
X 2. Mrs. Olga BADGER
3. Mrs. Margaret RALPH
4. *Mrs. Norma Day*

A.C.C. C'TEE ON CO-OP..... Mrs. Enid STEPHENS
* Mrs. Col. Florence SAUNDERS

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

(Liaison Officer) *Ø* Mrs. Doreen STRACK

A.C.W.C. PLANNING COMMITTEE: X Mrs. Olga BADGER

N.S.W. ORGANIZATIONS:

<p>ANGLICAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST PRESBYTERIAN SALVATION ARMY Y.W.C.A.</p>	<p><i>Miss Wells, MacLennan</i> <i>Mrs. Stanhope</i> <i>Mrs. Cath King</i> Mrs. Win. DOUGHERTY Mrs. Lois MILES Miss Muriel HARDING</p>
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SPEAKERS & STUDY LEADERS:

Miss Jean SKUSE (Secretary for World Christian Action, A.C.C.)
Miss Pamela GRUBER (W.C.C. - currently with A.C.C.)
Mrs. Barbara THIERING (University of Sydney)
Rev. Gordon BEATTY (Church of England Marriage Guidance Centre)
Rev. Dr. D'arcy WOOD (Secretary, Studies and Communication, A.C.C.)

<p><u>RECORDERS:</u> (N.S.W.) Mrs. L. WELLS Mrs. J. HAVENHAND <i>the Kenzie</i> Mrs. LEAN <i>hance.</i></p>	<p>(Qld.) Mrs. J. POPE Mrs. G. CLARKE Mrs. E. McCHESNEY CLARK</p>
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REPORTS

WORKING COMMITTEE

Ten regular monthly meetings of the Working Committee were held during 1971. Except where special circumstances necessitated other arrangements, these were held on the fourth Monday of each month. Grateful acknowledgment is made of the kindly generosity of the Queensland P.W.M.U. whose Room and its facilities were available to the Working Committee throughout the year for regular meetings. Attendance of committee members at meetings was most consistent: all applied themselves enthusiastically to that particular area of responsibility allocated to them, in an endeavour to give expression to the stated aims and purposes of Australian Church Women.

Aims and purposes of A.C.W. are set down in four separate statements and a review of the year's activities under the headings of these separate aims reveals the extent to which they are being realised.

UNITING AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN IN THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO THEIR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST -

The CELEBRATION OF SPECIAL DAYS, established and well-attended in some areas is, in part, achieving this aim. However there are many large provincial towns where these special days have yet to be made known as opportunities for united fellowship and Christian witness by Australian church women: this in itself is a challenge. Decreasing attendances are a cause for concern in some areas.

FELLOWSHIP DAY, 1971 -

The order of service on the theme "WHO IS A CHRISTIAN" was prepared by the Western Australian Unit. 12,000 copies of the service folder were printed in Victoria and distributed from there, processing having been undertaken by the 1970 Working Committee.

The accompanying leaflet with biographical notes on the Winifred Kiek Scholar, Miss Violet Sampa, was processed in Queensland by the 1971 Working Committee.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY, 1971 -

10,000 copies of the service folder (as previously agreed upon) were distributed, the order of service being an adaptation of the service produced by the A.C.C. Commission on Race Relations for the United Nations Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. The theme was "ALL ONE IN CHRIST JESUS" and adaption for use by A.C.W. was undertaken by the late Mrs. F. R. Ashton (immediate past-president of A.C.W.).

Reports to hand indicate that both of these Orders of Service proved stimulating and thought-provoking, and A.C.W. acknowledges its debt of gratitude to all whose time and talent were involved in their production.

As the quantity of printed order-of-service folders for 1971 appears to have exceeded requirements, it has been considered advisable to order lesser quantities for 1972.

Reports from State Units and United Church Groups on the celebration of these days and the participation at local levels have been encouraging and it would appear that some use was found for bookmarks and posters issued early in the year.

PROMOTING CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN THE CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY -

The far-reaching effect and influence of the work being done by the A.C.C. COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION cannot be estimated.

The death of Mrs. Ashton early in the year and the absence overseas of Mrs. Burton left A.C.W. without active representation on this committee: we are therefore most appreciative of the efforts of the Convenor (MRS. JOAN COATES) and the Officer in Charge of Distribution (MRS. ENID STEPHENS) who kept A.C.W. well-informed of literature being prepared and published. Copies of two excellent Questions Papers, "Parents and the Teenage Revolution" and "Children are People", were forwarded to the Working Committee with resultant publicity among State Units, member groups and newsletter readers.

Special appreciation is expressed to the convenor of the COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION for the very fine Order of Service which the Committee has produced for use by A.C.W. on World Community Day, 1972, on the theme, "THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT".

HELPING CHRISTIAN WOMEN TO TAKE A MORE EFFECTIVE PLACE IN THE TOTAL LIFE AND MISSION OF THE CHURCH -

Fulfilment of this aim is being attempted in a variety of activities at national and local community levels. However, a broader interpretation is seen in the endeavour to provide, through an expression of loving concern, a fulfilment of it in the lives of

WORKING COMMITTEE (Contd.)

some women from countries outside Australia, in A.C.W.'s OWN SPECIAL PROJECT,

THE WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP -

(Convenor, Scholarship Committee, Mrs. K. POPE)

The 1971 scholar was MISS VIOLET SAMPA from ZAMBIA and her scholarship year has been spent in study with the Joint Faculty of Theological Studies in Queensland, her ultimate aim being a full-time ministry with the United Church in Zambia. The course provided her with many opportunities to meet and mix with young people of her own age at camps and youth functions. Thoughtfully planned visits arranged by the various State Units gave ample opportunities for observing work among Australian Church Women. These have considerably enriched her experience and added to her knowledge. She has, without deliberate design, been quite a stimulus to support for the scholarship scheme.

Evidence of the desire of Christian women of other countries to study in Australia is seen in the fact that 34 applications were received for the 1972 scholarship; there is indication already of likely applications for 1973.

The successful applicant for the 1972 award is MISS TERANI AISAKE, a deaconess of the Methodist Church in Fiji. Miss Aisake is 28 years old and her aim is to fit herself, through further study in Australia, to supervise deaconess training for her church, on her return to Fiji. She has had 2 years' secondary education, 2 years' deaconess training and 1 year at the South Pacific Education Centre. Her languages are English, Rotoruan, Fijian and Hindustani. Her course of study at the Methodist Training College in Brisbane, commenced on 24th January.

While Offerings received on Fellowship Days have been maintaining the Scholarship, it has greatly concerned the Working Committee, that the vast majority of rank-and-file Australian church women have been very uninformed in regard to it. This award is made in the name of AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN most of whom remain unaware of its aim and purpose, and their own individual right and privilege to share in it as an expression of loving concern. Much thought was given to devising an item of publicity which would not only pay for itself but would, if sold in sufficient quantity, also increase funds. The introduction of the CALENDAR-DIARY, an inexpensive item designed to reach the largest possible number of Church women, resulted from this concern.

It was hoped that denominational representatives could be enthused to accept responsibility for getting an agreed-upon quota out among individual church women whom they represent. Where this was attempted, it is felt that a new awareness has been created. - 500 were distributed by the United Church Women's Fellowship in DARWIN, and smaller quantities in ALICE SPRINGS, MT. GAMBIER and WOOMERA, as well as by some denominational groups in PROVINCIAL TOWNS and areas where there is, as yet, no established inter-church organisation. Some women thus found a new awareness and an opportunity to share not otherwise provided. Desire for wider publicity and increased financial support for the Scholarship Scheme prompted the introduction of the A.C.W. Diary, and while there is not a spectacular financial profit to report, it should be realised that the wider publicity both for A.C.W. and the Scholarship was achieved at no cost to A.C.W.

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF DIFFERENT CHURCHES TO WORSHIP, STUDY AND SERVE TOGETHER -

Special days of celebration provide occasions for shared worship, study and service; so too do many varied avenues exploited by Australian church women at State and local community level. Expression of a shared service at national level is provided through

THE "SPECIAL PROJECT OFFERING" received on World Community Day. As directed by the 1971 National Committee, the 1971 offering will be donated to ASIAN CHRISTIAN SERVICE.

ENCOURAGING FELLOWSHIP ACROSS ALL BARRIERS -

Interpretation in-part of this aim is achieved through

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN -

(Convenor, Mrs. G. HAIGH)

The gradual comprehension of the real meaning and purpose of the Fellowship has played an important part in its increasing appeal to Australian church women. Insistence on the setting aside of ONE CENT ONLY (our least coin) as the monthly "token" contribution from each woman has underlined its existence as primarily a Fellowship of Prayer. Use of the "Circle of Prayer" by local groups has also presented an appreciation of "barriers crossed" through the shared devotional thoughts and

WORKING COMMITTEE (Contd.)

prayers of women from countries around the world.

Information on the proposed project for submission for assistance from F.L.C. Funds (The Institute for Aboriginal Development in Alice Springs) was collected by the Convenor and forwarded with the official application form.

It was an unexpected pleasure for the Working Committee to be given the privilege of passing on to the Colleges at Rarongo and Lae the F.L.C. grant of US \$1,000 for the training of wives of pastors-in-training. The personal presentation of the cheque to the Rarongo College by Mrs. Dingle (Working Committee member) gave particular significance to the fact that these projects had been nominated by A.C.W. to receive assistance from F.L.C. Funds.

UNITED CHURCH GROUPS -

A measure of fellowship across the barriers of distance has been achieved with UNITED CHURCH GROUPS through correspondence. MRS. MUSCHAMP has maintained contact with groups in remote areas and has in turn, converted items from letters received in reply, into an interchange of news and views for others to share. The participation of these groups in the days of celebration and special projects also became shared fellowship across the barrier of distance.

"WOMEN AT WORK" NEWSLETTER -

An extension of the fellowship which may be achieved across distance barriers was provided through the newsletter compiled by MRS. EILEEN DINGLE. This has been most enthusiastically received and with its wide distribution has proved, in addition, to be a most valuable medium for publicity. Deliberate endeavour was made by Mrs. Dingle to keep the content up-to-date and informative in an easy, readable, conversational style. Eight issues of "Women at Work" were circulated during 1971.

ACROSS ALL BARRIERS --

DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS represented A.C.W. at the 1971 Assembly of CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, Wichita U.S.A., her personal account of this experience being an anticipated highlight of the 1972 N.C.W. ... Decision in regard to A.C.W.'s invitation to Asian Church Women to hold the next conference in Australia is still awaited.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS -

Opportunities to publicise A.C.W. - its aims and purposes - through the distribution of A.C.W. brochures and other literature, has been put to good purpose as the President and committee members have accepted invitations to visit and speak at special functions within the State of Queensland. The President of A.C.W., in her capacity of President of Queensland P.W.M.U. has travelled from Charleville in western Queensland to Atherton Tableland in north Queensland, using the excellent opportunity this presented to enlarge knowledge of A.C.W. matters and quicken awareness among many church women.

SCRIBAL PENS - Supervision of the sale of pens has been undertaken by MRS. L. MILLER. Demand for pens has been good and it is hoped that the TRAVEL FUND will eventually reflect her diligence in this area in a worthwhile balance to assist in the payment of travelling expenses.

A.C.W. NOTELETS - Sale of notelets was directed by MRS. R. GRAY from South Australia where printing and packaging was carried out. She expressed great concern at the slow rate of returns from sales: it is therefore hoped that final figures will reveal that a stimulus to their promotion produced good results.

The treasurer has underlined the chief disadvantage associated with the sale of these items, in that there is no workable credit available - funds being used as they come in!

Oversight of the receipt and distribution of printed Orders of Service and Calendar-Diaries was the particular concern of BRIGADIER GEDDES, her city office proving a most convenient asset in the receipt and prompt despatch of printed matter.

CONCLUSION -

It would be most remiss to omit mention in this report of the stimulus to local interest in A.C.W. and support for its projects which the location of the Working Committee in Queensland has generated. As States, in turn, experience this, so will the original concept of A.C.W. be appreciated, with resultant growth and development.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -

State Units and member groups, with their ready co-operation and kindly comments, have greatly encouraged the Working Committee during the year: gratitude is expressed to all who thus provided incentive to greater effort.

The Working Committee is also deeply sensitive of indebtedness to the Australian Council of Churches and records its sincere appreciation of the ready assistance, advice and financial help so generously given at important points in A.C.W. programming.

Members of the Working Committee humbly acknowledge dependence at all times and in all things on the direction, inspiration and strength supplied by our loving and most merciful Father, Almighty God, Creator of us all.

JESSIE DENNIS - President
CORA CONNELL - Secretary.

R E P O R T S

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Interest in this Fellowship continues to grow and it is most encouraging as Convenor, to receive letters from new women's groups, seeking information about F.L.C. and also asking for copies of our Prayer Booklet.

"CIRCLE OF PRAYER"

The 2,000 copies of "Circle of Prayer", Vol. IV, which we had awaited so long, finally arrived in Melbourne from Ceylon after much letter-writing and contact with our G.P.O.

Good stocks of this booklet are still on hand, and it is hoped that demand for it during 1972 will be much heavier. As this booklet is designed to cover a two-year period, the co-operation of all State Units is sought to enthusiastically promote sales, and thus avoid having stocks left at the end of the year.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

Stocks of the promotional leaflet printed in early 1970 are almost cleared, and a leaflet is in the course of preparation for issue during 1972.

Concern has been expressed that the prayer aspect of the Fellowship needs to be stressed more; this is being kept in mind in the preparation of new supplies.

MONETARY ASSISTANCE FROM F.L.C. FUNDS

During 1971 a cheque was received from Geneva for the previous year's submitted project, namely, the training of wives of pastors-in-training at the Theological College of the United Church in Rabaul and the Lutheran College at Lae. Letters of appreciation on receipt of their cheques from the two colleges concerned were thrilling and heart-warming, showing as they did, how our God knows the needs of His people before they even ask.

The Institute for Aboriginal Development in Alice Springs has been re-submitted this year as a project for assistance, valuable data having been received from the Rev. D. McKenzie of the United Church in Alice Springs.

REQUESTS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY, F.L.C.

I have been in contact with the newly-appointed secretary of F.L.C., Mrs. Shanti Solomon, during the year, and she is anxious to receive samples of promotional literature prepared in each country, and also some short accounts of personal interest, of what the F.L.C. has meant to some individuals. I would be most happy to receive anything of this nature which could be passed on to her.

The FILM STRIP featuring projects which have been helped by F.L.C. is still available for use by interested groups.

At the close of this, my first year as National Convenor, I would like to thank State Convenors for their continued interest and co-operation, and to record my appreciation of the opportunity to share through this Fellowship with so many in our Australian Churches.

RUBY M. HAIGH

(CONVENOR).

Let of take to Mrs. Dingle

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

1971 SCHOLAR

It has been a joy to have Miss Violet Sampa, the 1971 Winifred Kiek Scholar studying in Brisbane with the Joint Faculty of Theology. Her quiet, sincere devotion to her chosen calling has been an inspiration to many of us who have met her.

Miss Sampa has visited all the Australian States and through these visits has given wonderful publicity to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. I am sure that financial contributions to the Fund have greatly increased because the Winifred Kiek Scholars have been able to visit various States and meet the women (and men) throughout Australia. Miss Sampa has visited Women's Fellowship Groups, Youth Groups, attended an Easter Youth Venture Camp and some Denominational and Inter-church gatherings, as well as being interviewed on radio and T.V.

FUTURE PLANS

The United Church of Zambia has been sufficiently impressed with Miss Sampa's studies in Australia to request Australian Church Women and the Joint Faculty of Theology to suggest ways in which her studies could be continued in Australia to enable her to complete her full ministerial training course here. Following many weeks of discussion and correspondence, it was decided that Miss Sampa should apply to the Queensland Congregational Theological Hall for admission as a full-time student. She has now been accepted by the Theological Hall and will spend a further three years studying with the Joint Faculty supported by the United Church of Zambia, the Queensland Congregational Theological Hall and the Congregational Women's Fellowship of Australia.

APPRECIATION

Mrs. Smollen with whom Violet Sampa boarded during 1971 has been a wonderful help to me as Convenor, keeping an eye on Violet's personal requirements - medical and dental care, etc. - and generally acting as Mother to her. Thanks are also due to Mrs. D. E. Ure who looked after bookings for Violet's engagements for us.

In addition, gratitude is expressed to the Congregationalists of Queensland for donating \$212.00 towards Miss Sampa's board and to the Australian Council of Churches for providing \$500 towards fares from Zambia.

During the year Violet celebrated her twenty-first birthday. The W.I.C.C. of Queensland helped her to celebrate it - Australian fashion.

1972 SCHOLARSHIP

The Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee met on two occasions to process applications for the 1972 scholarship. In May the application forms were given to representatives of various Overseas Mission Boards of the Churches for despatch to their representatives overseas; forms were also sent to the Girls' Brigade, Y.W.C.A., A.C.C.E., A.C.C. D.W.C.A., and to several overseas Churches who had specially requested forms.

The Committee met again in September to select from 34 applications, a scholar for 1972.

Applications were received from 23 different countries.

Finally it was agreed that the Award for 1972 be offered to Miss TERAMI AISAKE as the successful applicant. Miss Aisake, who is 28 years of age, is a Methodist Deaconess working with the Methodist Church in Fiji. She is coming to Australia to do further training at the Methodist Training College and Bible School at Kangaroo Point to enable her to return to Suva equipped to take over the supervision of deaconess training in Fiji. Her course will be a combination of the Deaconess Training Course and the Lay Institute Training Course, specialising in those subjects particularly requested by the Methodist Church in Fiji.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Opportunity is taken here to express thanks to the Overseas Scholarship Board of the Methodist Church for offers of assistance to the extent of \$150.00 for board for Miss Aisake, to the Methodist Church in Fiji for providing pocket money and to the A.C.C. D.W.C.A. for \$100 towards interstate fares for Miss Aisake's visits later in the year. I should also to thank the Working Committee for their help in processing applications for 1972.

RECOMMENDATION

Because of the numbers of applications received from African countries (16 in a total of 34) and the high cost of fares from these countries, the Scholarship Committee recommends to A.C.W. that in future the All Africa Christian Council be asked to process all applications from Africa and only forward to the Committee those from applicants of outstanding ability. It must be very disappointing for so many to have so little chance of consideration because of the high cost of fares. Also it is probably cheaper for Africa to send students to Great Britain, e.g. to Selly Oakes for further training.

JOYCE POPE
(CONVENOR)

REPORTS

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIPSPECIAL REPORT FROMJOINT FACULTY OF THEOLOGY - BRISBANE

During 1971 Violet attended classes in most subjects of the Joint Faculty Year I course. In the case of the courses in New Testament and Applied Theology she completed a number of class assignments and tests. In other classes she was classified as an auditor and did not complete assignments. This was made necessary because of initial difficulty in ascertaining how much work she had completed in Zambia and at what standard.

In view of work completed satisfactorily it is clear that in 1972 Violet will have to complete only the section in exegesis to obtain credit for New Testament I. She has credit already for the following sections of Applied Theology I:

- (a) Foundation of Christian Education
- (b) Preaching
- (c) Stages of Human Development,

and would be exempted from these in 1972.

In all 1971 has been a valuable and necessary orientation year for Violet, and she is now better-fitted to be able to begin the full Joint Faculty course in 1972. The faculty has a real measure of confidence that she will be able to complete the course upon which she is about to embark.

IAN GILLMAN

(Secretary)

TO ALL FRIENDS OF THE A.C.W. -

I have come to the close of the term of my scholarship. I feel very sad to see that in a few days' time, I will no longer be your scholar, physically, but I am sure, in spirit, I will always be among you.

I would like to express my deepest and sincere thanks and great appreciation to the Australian Church Women, and to other members who have been associated with this organization. My year's stay in this country has been one of the everlasting memories. This has been a very great privilege and most beneficial. In this one year, I have learnt many things both spiritually and academically.

I have come to witness with my own eyes what true servants of God the A.C.W. are. I have seen a great example of good neighbours, the good neighbours that Jesus Christ our Lord is talking about. In great love, you have brought me from a very long distance, all the way from Zambia, to help me.

ACCOMMODATION:

With Mrs. Smollen, Suzy Varughese (Indian) and myself lived happily together as a family. Mrs. Smollen took the responsibility of a real mother. She did every little thing for me. She encouraged me with my work whenever I wanted to be too negligent. I was very happy in Mrs. Smollen's home and at this stage, I thank her most sincerely and all the ladies who in the first place found such a wonderful home for me.

FINANCIAL POSITION:

I was very satisfied with the pocket money: I found it quite sufficient - I never ran bankrupt. In the end I found myself with some savings in the book. People were very kind to me everywhere I went; they gave me some money which I mostly used for buying slides or films for the camera, so that I will be able to show Zambian friends something about Australia. Winter clothes were given to me by various people and a few were bought for me. I never lacked anything - even an electric blanket and a coat were given to me.

VISITS TO OTHER STATES:

Here, something new happened - that of flying! It is not so often that I could go by plane in Zambia, perhaps only once in so many years. All my trips here have been by plane. The first trip took me to Canberra. There I found good people. The place was very cold already in May, but the warm-hearted ladies made me warm. I had variety of all sorts from meeting different church groups to going to a sheep property for the first time: I saw a farmer giving medicine to the sheep.

SYDNEY:

From Canberra, I flew to Sydney. I found Mrs. R. M. Stanhope, the lady who first saw me when I came from Africa. I enjoyed my stay with the ladies in Sydney. I was given a wonderful opportunity of visiting several colleges and talking to the students. I made friends at the Salvation Army College, Church of Christ, and Church of England Deaconess House. I also attended several women's fellowship groups. The ladies were very kind and most loving. With Mrs. Stanhope, my hostess, I travelled several times across the harbour in the ferry, and once we went in the hydrofoil. Imagine how excited I was to go in a ship. (Zambia, my friends, is a land-locked country, many miles away from the sea.)

AUGUST HOLIDAY:

It was another great adventure again. The August trips took me to Townsville, Mackay and Rockhampton. I had a quiet and enjoyable short stay in Townsville. I visited Magnetic Island and had my first swim in the ocean. I discovered the saltiness of the water - Oh! I will never swim again!! From Townsville I came to Mackay. The ladies gave me a very happy time. I visited the sugar mill and several sugar plantations. My next stop was at Rockhampton. I spent a few days with happy people: I met and spent some time with a group of interesting W.I.C.C. friends. I returned quietly back to Brisbane, with my heart full of precious memories.

NAMBOUR AND TOOWOOMBA:

It was a great chance to be able to visit Nambour and Toowoomba. The ladies in both cities were very pleasant and keen to learn something about Zambia. I spent only half of the day with these ladies of Nambour and Toowoomba, but all the same, I feel I know them just as well as those I have spent many days with.

TASMANIA:

I was terrified when the time drew nearer to going to Tasmania. You know what that means - the COLD weather we hear about!! Mrs. Pope made sure that I took my winter things so that I would be able to meet that weather face to face. In Hobart, I met the most exciting people, both young and old. I had a wonderful time going round places and meeting different church group. While in Tasmania, I visited Queenstown, Burnie and Launceston. In all places the ladies were very kind and very anxious to know something

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIPREPORT ON THE SCHOLARSHIP YEAR, 1971 (Contd.)

about Zambia.

I thank you all, ladies of Tasmania, especially those I had the chance to stay with and travel with.

MELBOURNE:

A journey of two hours above the misty grey sky brought me to Melbourne from Launceston. There, I found Mrs. Ackland waiting anxiously - the plane was late on arrival. Any way, the important thing is that I got in safely!

Melbourne, like the other places, was full of joy and exciting trips out and in. I went to Geelong and met the wonderful ladies there. On another day I went to Rosebud and spent the morning with the kind ladies there too. I did many exciting things there, like going out to various meetings, and seeing something of the 'Broadmeadows' Child Care Centre, too.

ADELAIDE:

My visit to this city was very good. Apart from being in Adelaide for some time, it was arranged for me to go out and spend some days in other places like Port Pirie, and Whyalla. In Pirie, one morning I had an adventure going through a huge wheat farm. Mr. Jones, the farmer, was most kind. He explained everything to me about the ongoings of his farm. I copied the style; I think we shall start a wheat farm when I go back to Zambia!!

In Adelaide, I spent some profitable time with the honourably lady, "The Rev. Winifred Kiek". She is as bright as she was twenty years ago. I feel very blessed to have the chance of meeting Mrs. Kiek.

PERTH:

Landing in Perth, crowded me with several Christmas invitation cards. The first two weeks were full of Christmas break-up parties. I went from one corner of Perth to another. After eating so much, I began to wonder whether my people in Zambia and places like India-Pakistan, had any. I met many interesting ladies. Perth is really a very beautiful place, though isolated from other eastern cities. It was a privilege again for me to visit other southern towns like Busselton, Augusta and Cowaramup.

Rev. Dorothy Wacker and I have had good fun going all over the place to parties and meetings. Once we visited Fremantle - the sight of the Indian Ocean was just enough to make me homesick for a while. I looked carefully to see if I could spot Africa, but didn't!!

On Christmas, a family from the Congregational Church put me up. I had a happy Christmas like I have never had before. I learnt some Australian customs about "Father Christmas". I never went to sleep on Christmas eve, I was waiting to see Father Christmas come in my room to deliver parcels!! How about that??

My sincere thanks to the Harris family for looking after me so well at Christmas.

STUDY:

I found great fellowship and help among other students. I quickly settled down in my work. When I first came, I spoke very little English and found it hard to understand many lecturers, but these people were very kind, they explained things clearly to me. I must thank them all.

CONCLUSION:

I once more thank the A.C.W. and all people who have extended their hospitality to me. I believe the Almighty God will work wonders through you for this great work you have established. I shall be able to use this gift in any way that would extend God's work among His people. I will, by the help of God, create a city in which God lives among men of all creeds.

I wish you all God's blessings and good fellowship with one another, to continue creating a God-centred society where our Lord will work out His miracles.

"Shalenipo bonse".

Your servant,

VIOLET SAMPA.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR 1972 AWARD

(Listed in order of receipt)

NO.	NAME	AGE	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS	CHURCH AFFILIATION
1	MISS JANE KARUNA SINGHAM	25	Teacher	Singapore	Anglican
2	MRS. IRIS SULUMBA	35	Poultry Farmer	Malawi	Presbyterian
3	MRS. CATHERINE NGWA	31	Teacher	West Cameroon	Presbyterian
4	MISS OFORI ATTA	31	Medical Student	Ghana	Eden Revival Church
5	MISS EUNICE BAUTSI	23	Teacher	Ghana	Evangelical Presbyterian
6	MISS LUCY LING	26	Organiser Girls' Brig.	Malaysia	Wesley Methodist
7	MISS D. ALEXANDRA	28	Diocesan Women's Wkr.	South India	Church of Sth. India
8	MISS NEI UA ERITAI	31	Community Worker	Gilbert Is.	G. Is. Protestant Ch.
9	MRS. PEACE ABLA TAY	35	Teacher	Accra	African Meth. Episcoaal
10	MRS. ALICE TORIMIRO	41	Soc. & Welfare Wkr.	West Africa	Pres. Ch. W. Cameroon
11	MRS. NEREAH WAMUYU GITHEKO	34	School Teacher	Kenya	Pres. Cn. of E. Africa
12	MRS. OLUREMI WILLIAMS	27	Teacher	Nigeria	Methodist Ch. Nigeria
13	MISS MARIA ADAWUDE AGYEMAN	25	Teacher	Cape C. Ghana	Anglican
14	MISS SARAH OSIABU	25	Teacher	Br. Solomon Is.	Anglican
15	MISS ELENISE T. SEMISI	23	Teacher	W. Samoa	Methodist
16	MISS REBECCA JOYCE CHIBANDI	23	Asst. Diocesan Chemist	Tanzania	Anglican
17	MISS DORA OFORI OWUSU	33	Deaconess	Ghana	Presbyterian
18	MISS IRENE S. SELVARATNAM	20	Stenographer	Ceylon	Anglican
* 19	MISS BIBHA SANGMA	35	Principal, High School	East Pakistan	Baptist
20	MRS. MARY MDINISO	47	Senator, Guild Leader	Swaziland	Evangelical Lutheran
21	MISS EVA HORTON	26	Accounts Clerk	Sierra Leone	Anglican
22	MISS MARY UNEKO KABASHIMA	29	Teacher	Japan	Anglican
23	MRS. MARY CHIE KAWASAKI	34	Eng. & Music Teacher	Japan	Anglican
24	MISS (DEBORAH) N. EGUCHI	26	Counselling therapist	Japan	Anglican
25	MISS NG CHWEE POH	33	Teacher	Singapore	Wesley Methodist
26	MISS ILA VEOLI	19	Christian Educ. Wkr.	Port Moresby	U.C.P.N.G.S.I.
27	MISS TERANI AISAKE	28	Deaconess	Fiji	Methodist
28	MISS ELIZABETH L. DONGRE	31	Trained Nurse	India	Church of Christ
29	MISS MANMYAK L. LAISER	32	Teacher	Tanzania	Lutheran
30	MRS. LIUMITUPOU LAVOLO	32	Kindergarten Teacher	Tonga	Methodist
31	MRS. VICTORIA McC. JOHNSON	26	Secretary	Liberia	Presbyterian
32	MISS HARRIETA KAMIALOA	23	Primary Sch. Teacher	Salamo	U.N.C.P.N.G.S.I.
33	MISS SEMMY MARI EKOL	26	Teacher	Uganda	(Not stated)
34	MISS PEPE MATAVAI	28	Teacher	Samoa	Congregational
35	MISS TALAI TALI	23		Samoa	Congregational

* application withdrawn.

R E P O R T S

UNITED CHURCH GROUPS

During the year monthly letters have been written to ten representatives of the United Church Groups at

Woomera, S.A.; Alice Springs, N.T.; Yirrkala, N.T.; Rapid Creek, N.T.; Port Moresby, Rabaul, Goroko and Lae, T.P.N.G.

Included with each letter was a copy of the interesting newsletter, "Women at Work", written by Mrs. Eileen Dingle.

Unlike my predecessor, unfortunately I have not been able to visit any of these centres during the year. However, Mrs. Dingle had a short time at Rabaul and New Britain, and brought back news of those centres.

"NEWS AND VIEWS"

Mrs. McKenzie of ALICE SPRINGS wrote of a meeting held in June, at which there were representatives of the Salvation Army, Anglican, Roman Catholic and the United Churches together with the Y.W.C.A. At this gathering, it was decided to hold two services together annually, on Fellowship Day and World Community Day. Mrs. McKenzie feels that this was a definite achievement, as everything there is so much more difficult than in most other places. We sent our congratulations and good wishes to Mrs. McKenzie.

From YIRRKALA we heard from Mrs. Matthews of much activity in many centres; of the first cargo of bauxite and the new alumina refinery, and the growth of that town and at Nhulunbuy. There are many problems with the aboriginals, who are now confronted with all the temptations of a multiple industrial civilization.

According to Mrs. Johnston in LAE, you stay there and the world comes to you; they have had so many visitors. The town is now like any provincial one in Australia with many industries, together with a School of Technology and a Technical College. There is a High School and a hospital which has an excellent School of Nursing. There are two United Church congregations, Papuan and European, and also an active inter-denominational women's group with an average attendance of from 40 to 50.

INTER-REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Of great interest to all members of A.C.W. was the news from Mrs. Bache of an Inter-Regional Conference arranged during November of members of the Women's Fellowships of the United Church of Papua, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. Three women from each of the seven regions planned to attend the week-long seminar, and six other women had been co-opted for special reasons. These included only three European women. The report now to hand tells of the discussions and the decisions that were the outcome of all this; certainly a great step forward for the women of that area.

There has been no news from seven other centres contacted by correspondence, but I hope that all have enjoyed and benefited from "Women at Work": it has kept us in touch with each other and with so many activities and achievements of women throughout the Commonwealth.

I hope that this year, all centres will write telling us of their activities, so that we may be joined in a stronger link of mutual interest and in prayer.

PEGGY MUSCHAMP.

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY

REPORT 1970-1971

WHAT NEXT IN BIOLOGY?

Much of the Committee's work has focussed on problems raised by recent developments in biology and genetics. In February, 1971, during the National Committee of Australian Church Women, the Committee arranged a session under the chairmanship of Rev. F. G. Engel, General Secretary of the Australian Council of Churches. Mrs. Ilma Rogers presented some of the issues raised by Professor Charles Birch at the Exploratory Conference on the Future of Man and Society (Geneva, July, 1970), under the title "Moral Issues of Man's Genetic Future". A tape-recording was played of part of Professor Birch's address to the General Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches in August, 1970, and representatives were referred to the Report of the Geneva Conference, entitled "From Here to Where?".

THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

As a result of interest aroused by this session, the Committee on Co-operation agreed to prepare the order of service for World Community Day, 1972, (organized by Australian Church Women), under the title "The Human Environment".

SYMPOSIUM

During the year the Committee has met every second month, and a good deal of time has been spent developing the theme, Moral Issues of Man's Genetic Future, as the subject of a symposium. The Chairman gathered together a group of experts, theological and scientific, who gave it further thought. They agreed that the topic was so complex and demanding that it would be wise to postpone the symposium until 1972, and to attempt to link it with some medical congress or similar gathering.

MIXED MARRIAGES

In May the Chairman attended a meeting of the A.C.C.-R.C.C. Working Group, on Christian Marriage and Pastoral Responsibility, contributing a paper on "Pastoral Problems in the Care of Mixed Couples".

YOUNG CHILDREN

During 1971 the Committee produced a discussion leaflet entitled "Children Are People", based on an address by Dr. Isla Stamp at the A.C.W. National Committee in February, 1970. Copies of this leaflet are available from the Treasurer, Mrs. E. Stephens, 4/24 St. John's Avenue, Mont Albert, Victoria. 3127. The cost is \$1.20 a dozen.

ASIAN VISITORS

In September, 1970, Dr. Jacob Quiambao was in Melbourne for a brief visit, and some of the Committee were able to meet him informally at the home of the Chairman. Dr. Quiambao is the E.A.C.C. Secretary for Man-Woman Co-operation. In October there was an opportunity to meet another member of the E.A.C.C. Committee when Mrs. Rathie Selvaratnam visited Melbourne.

DEATH OF MRS. BETTY ASHTON

Mrs. Ashton was appointed to this Committee in February, 1971, and was able to attend one meeting only. Her tragic death in May, 1971, left the Committee with a deep sense of loss.

SCHOLARSHIP

Following on the withdrawal of Rev. J. Ratnanayagam of Ceylon, enquiries were made in Ceylon and elsewhere to find another suitable applicant. An alternative means of meeting the need for training in marriage counselling in the developing countries has been suggested to the Fellowship of the Least Coin, through whom the grant was made available.

FUTURE PLANS

In planning for the future the Committee is thinking of a series of symposia to explore important topics related to family and society. With this in mind it is seeking to recruit professional workers in the fields of social work and marriage guidance counselling.

Chairman B. H. Reddrop
Convenor Joan G. Coates

REPORTS
STATE UNITS

CANBERRA CHURCH WOMEN

1971 was perhaps our best and most exciting year.

SPECIAL DAYS

We have, as in the past, observed both Fellowship Day and World Community Day Services. We were very pleased with the attendances at both these Special Day Services. Following a very inspiring Service held in St. Paul's Church of England, Manuka, on Fellowship Day, we had a "soup and sandwich" luncheon at \$1.00 per head. We were more than pleased with the number of ladies who remained and so were able to forward \$95.00 towards our Special Effort for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

The attendance at World Community Day was the best yet, for which we were very pleased.

It has been very encouraging to the Committee to see the interest growing among the new areas of the A.C.T., which are springing up so rapidly. We feel that slowly but surely these Special Days are beginning to make some impact on the women of the A.C.T.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Particularly were we pleased with the response received in regard to the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Several new groups participated in the collection this year, as well as some individual members and one old folks' group, who meet regularly in a private home.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR

We did appreciate, and were thrilled to be able to welcome, VIOLET SAMPA, this year's Winifred Kiek Scholar, and to entertain her both in our homes and at afternoon tea. After hearing her tell us of life in her own country and of her studies while in Australia, the ladies present spontaneously collected enough money to give Violet a set of slides of Canberra to take home with her. We are very pleased to hear that Violet has been granted extra time in Australia to carry on her studies.

"JOINT CONGREGATIONS"

Because of the rapid growth in the A.C.T. and in the new areas, the different denominations are combining to form what are known as "Joint Congregations"; we are finding it difficult to contact the women of the churches and to interest them in Canberra Church Women. But as results have shown this year, we have made a little progress and hope to do better next year.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

There has been a very good response to the request to sell ball point pens and notelets. So far we have had no interest shown in the calendars and book marks.

Two Women's World Day of Prayer Services were held in the A.C.T. in March and were also very well attended.

As a Church Women's group we feel very privileged and give thanks to God that church women are finding they need the activities of Canberra Church Women, so we go into the New Year with hope for the future.

MAY GOUDIE

Secretary.

STATE UNITS
NEW SOUTH WALES

PERSONALITIES

The A.C.W. delegate to the Church Women United Conference in Wichita, Kansas, U.S.A. in May '71 was DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS, a past president of our Council. The report of the Conference was received at the June Council meeting. In October "a social occasion" was arranged at Deaconess House for the showing of transparencies of the Conference and highlights of the visit. The Overseas Travel Fund benefitted from the afternoon.

MRS. LT. COLONEL D. CARPENTER (President) represented A.C.W. at the World Christian Action Consultation held in Wesley College of the University of Sydney from 20th-22nd August '71.

MRS. CARPENTER and MRS. A. BELL (Secretary) attended by invitation the Presentation Evening of Letters of Acknowledgment to members of the Aboriginal Family Education Centres (the Van Leer project) by the Chancellor, University of Sydney, Dr. H. D. Black on 24th November '71.

MRS. G. H. BRIGGS has accepted life membership of the Council. A beloved foundation member, and also a life member of the Council, MRS. A. E. WALKER, has passed away in her 91st year. Members of the Executive were able to join with members of the W.C.T.U. and the N.S.W. Methodist Women's Federation to form a guard of honour at her funeral service on September 27th '71. We thank God on every remembrance of Mrs. A. E. Walker.

MRS. C. BUTLER, State Convenor of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, with Mr. Butler, is leaving Sydney in the New Year to live in Gosford. There has been a marked increase in the number of individual churches and church groups who are linked with us through the Fellowship. Our sincere appreciation has been expressed to Mrs. Butler for her quiet friendliness and enthusiasm. We are sorry to have to say goodbye.

MISS VIOLET SAMPA (Winifred Kiek Scholar for '71) visited N.S.W. during her May vacation. During the six days' visit Violet met members of the N.S.W. Methodist Women's Federation, the P.W.A., the Executive of the Council, visited the Salvation Army Officers' Training College, Petersham, Deaconess House, Newtown, and the Churches of Christ Bible College, Woolwich. On a free day Mrs. Stanhope took Violet to the Jenolan Caves and on a Harbour cruise. On the Sunday Violet shared in worship at Congregational and Churches of Christ services. Later in the month Violet was a guest speaker at the Council's Annual Rally held in the Salvation Army's Congress Hall in the City.

MISS HO LAY KUM of Ipoh, Malaya, was the guest speaker at our September Council meeting. Her Christian radiance and personal witness inspired us all.

The legal decision concerning the Trust monies of Wybalena totalling over \$36,700 was in favour of the Y.W.C.A. Hostel 'Tremayne' at Kirribilli. The new wing is to be named 'Wybalena'.

ACHIEVEMENTS

BRANCHES DAY was held in February '71. The main feature was an informal discussion, during which members from four somewhat different branches chatted with Mrs. L. Wells about the significant activities of their groups; much information was presented to the meeting. Three metropolitan groups and one country group were able to report in a different way about worshipping together on the Special Days, study groups, service projects (caring for ex-mental patients in the Strathfield 'day hospitals'), regular co-operation with an inter-church men's group (Kiama/Gerringong), social occasions and other facets of shared life in different circumstances. There are now 18 inter-church groups affiliated with the Council. The latest member to be welcomed is the City Inter-Church Fellowship formed from church women from the inner city churches.

SPECIAL DAYS - There has been an increase in the number of services held, and the attendances, especially for World Community Day services. Reports received give us the following information -

<u>FELLOWSHIP DAY</u>	30 services held	- attendance 1200 (approx.)	Collection \$460.
<u>WORLD COMMUNITY DAY</u>	26 " " "	1000 " "	\$310 (for Asian Christian Ser.)

Members of the Executive and Promotions Committee represented the Council at every city and suburban service. A greeting was brought and in several instances members made valuable contributions to the local services. This was much appreciated by the branches.

NEWSLETTER - No. 8 was produced and sent out all over the State during the first half of the year. This has been followed up by a personal letter from the Promotions Committee to branches and centres holding Special Days, giving news of Fellowship Day and promoting World Community Day and the Calendar Diaries.

SOCIAL CONCERN re undesirable publications reaching teenagers in our homes - a Council member has accepted the responsibility of 'watching' the magazine "Dolly".

W.I.C. STUDY GROUP - At the September Council meeting it was unanimously agreed to form a Council Study Group. Twenty were present at the first meeting. Mrs. L. Wells is the Study Group leader. Study material to be used includes Jean Skuse's book, "Don't Just Stand There"

STATE UNITS
NEW SOUTH WALES

(Contd.)

and Challenge to Action, the official report of the 1970 National Conference on Action for World Development. Reports received from organisations the Council is affiliated with, will be studied. The Council is affiliated with the W.W.D. of P. Committee, N.C.W., W.C.T.U., G.N.C., Children's Films and T.V. and N.S.W. State Council of A.C.C.

CALENDAR DIARIES - Anticipating an overall order of 10,000, the Council agreed to accept their quota of 2,500. Each Council member was asked to be responsible for at least 30. Their response was good. At the time of writing we have still 300 in hand. We expect to sell out.

COUNCIL MEETINGS - 7 have been held this year. In order to help council members to participate and be better informed the following features have been introduced -

- A denominational segment in each Council meeting.
- The Fellowship of the Least Coin Circle of Prayer in each Council meeting.
- Talk-ins with findings for implementation by Executive and council members.
- Publicity Kits for new members.
- A bread and cheese meal together following a World Christian Action film.

PLANS

1. Change of date for the Council meetings to encourage a wider State representation of member bodies, from the fourth Friday of the month to the third Monday of the month - the trial period to be the first three meetings of 1972.
2. Branches' Day '72 to be held in March. Theme: A.C.W. - Where and How it all Began; The Need for A.C.W. - The A.C.W. Pictorial History in slides and on tape will be used.
3. We expect to welcome church women of different racial backgrounds as representatives to the Council from our member bodies.
4. To encourage church women promoting the Special Days to form inter-church fellowships and so strengthen their link with the Council and its projects.
5. To plan Morning Coffee Hours to promote Inter-Church fellowship in the eastern suburbs of Sydney.
6. To link existing inter-church groups with the Council. Visitation teams comprised of council members are available for this purpose.

PROBLEMS

1. To further the aims of the Council with our changing membership.
2. The publicity of Special Days and A.C.W. projects in a metropolitan area.
3. The danger of the image of the Council becoming a fund raising one.
4. A break-through in country areas of the State.
5. Maintaining the sale of the notelets.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That it is desirable to include an aboriginal woman in the delegation from Australia to future meetings of the Asian Church Women's Conference.
2. That efforts to find such a person begin immediately, so that when names of delegates to the 1974 meeting are called for, the Working Committee will be prepared and able to act accordingly.

For and on behalf of the Council,

AUDREY M. BELL

Hon. Secretary.

STATE UNITS

VICTORIA

The year 1971 completed three decades in the life and service of the Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria - providing a fitting occasion for the printing and distribution of its history to date as compiled by Mrs. D. H. Peart, the Council's first secretary.

In her preface to the record, Mrs. Peart stated: "Much progress has been made over the years and we thank the women who have devoted their time and given of their wisdom and understanding."

The Council sustained a sad loss in the death of Mrs. F. R. Ashton, a Congregational representative known and loved beyond our circle for her dedication to so many causes. A 'memorial tribute', prepared by Mrs. Coates, was placed upon the books and a donation was made to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund to honour her memory.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

It has been our privilege to enjoy a succession of fine leadership and at the Annual Meeting in June, Deaconess E. Alfred was elected President for the ensuing year with Mrs. Lieut. Col. E. Marion and Mrs. J. A. Strack as Vice-Presidents.

Advice was received from the Ecumenical Affairs Commission of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne of the appointment of an additional seven ladies from Catholic women's organisations to complete their representation on the Council. Executive members were pleased to meet the new appointees at an informal gathering arranged by Sister Shirley Sedawie - prior to their welcome at the August Council meeting.

The Girls' Brigade appointed the State Commissioner as representative and the number of local Inter-Church Councils affiliated at observer level has increased to twenty-eight.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Attendances at bi-monthly Council meetings were fairly well maintained with an average of 45 members. Special features included:

- February - A comprehensive report by delegates at the 1971 A.C.W. meetings with tape-recorded extracts of addresses.
- April "Partners in Progress" - illustrating projects of World Christian Action visited by Mrs. Coates in 1970.
- June An excellent address by Senator Margaret Guilfoyle on "Christian Responsibility in a Changing World" emphasised the need for positive action.
- August A discussion on the "Programme Content of Women's Meetings", conducted by Mrs. Anderson, produced helpful suggestions later recorded for future reference. The Constitution of A.C.W. was also studied by members.
- October Deaconess F. McKechnie recounted experiences and impressions gained on a recent visit to Northern Territory.

CONFERENCE DAY in November - using the theme, "Christians Stepping into the World of Affairs" was notably successful. Violet Sampa impressed all present with her opening devotional period and participation in following sessions of the day.

TALK BACK on the subject of "Communications" as presented by Rev. Alex. Kenworthy provoked questions from the audience. The theme was particularly demonstrated at the practical level in the accounts of the outreach in local Councils as their Community Day effort. Another group had conducted a survey of their district to see where the needs were not being met, and as a result of their influence, the Municipal Council had established a Social Worker at the Town Hall and a Community Service Bureau is to be launched. The 17 churches comprising this local Council have sponsored study groups to discuss the question - "What does it mean to be a Christian in the world where you work?" - encouraged housewives to become interested in community affairs and have helped bridge the gap from hospitalisation by offering discharged patients week-end vacations or outings.

Opportunity was taken during the Conference programme to introduce the set of slides on the history of A.C.W. graciously presented to the W.I.C.C. of Victoria by Mrs. Coates.

STATE UNITSVICTORIA

(Contd.)

FELLOWSHIP DAY

Although observed in fewer centres, the Day this year was marked by considerable interest in the theme, many groups finding profit from discussion in place of an address. Offerings showed an increase on 1970 giving.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

also suffered a reduction in the number of gatherings - twenty suburban and eleven country groups meeting in 1971 (34 in 1970). Some members seem to want to restrict their interest to belonging to the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

NEWSLETTER

Two issues of 1000 copies were circulated during the year. The publication is a valuable media for promotion of the Council's aims.

THE PROMOTION COMMITTEE

under the convenorship of Mrs. H. A. Downes meets regularly to consider all aspects of the work and recommend any changes.

VIOLET SAMPA'S ITINERARY

for her week in Victoria was planned by Mesdames Ackland and Anderson to cover as wide a range as possible of contacts - including informal youth gatherings, Coffee Shop ministry, visits to Community Centres.

PLANS

To consider further means of promotion of the Special Days.

To encourage local Councils to continue efforts in community care and interest in migrants. A need exists for help in the teaching of English - particularly to Turkish women.

CONCERNS

The retention of specific interest in A.C.W. Special Days within local Councils which have combined with the existing body (men and women meeting at night). Not all have managed as successfully as the Heidelberg group quoted earlier.

Too advanced preparation of Orders of Service may eliminate use of a more current application.

APPRECIATION of the enthusiasm, enterprise and thorough execution of duties assigned to the A.C.W. Working Committee is expressed -

On behalf of the W.I.C.C. of Victoria.

ELSA M. WARNER

Secretary.

STATE UNITS

TASMANIA

ACHIEVEMENTS

Last year, in her presentation of the report of the W.I.C.C.T. the President, Mrs. Dorothy Hartam, spoke of the exodus of office bearers and Executive Committee members from the State, creating an apparently insurmountable problem. She enlisted the prayers of those present at the Annual Meeting of A.C.W. asking that God's guidance be sought in order that the work of A.C.W. in Tasmania may not only continue but grow. It is with deep thankfulness to God and to all those who participated in prayer that the Council reports God's answer to the petition offered on its behalf. At the Annual Meeting in May of this year two women, until that day completely ignorant of A.C.W., were led willingly to accept the offices of Treasurer and Secretary and to become increasingly interested in the work as knowledge progressed.

Great joy was felt when the Catholic Women's League of Tasmania, who in most areas throughout the State were already participating in and contributing to Special Days and Projects, decided at their Annual Meeting in October to seek affiliation with the Council. This means that the Anglican Women's Fellowship is now the only major denominational group not affiliated.

The Northern Branch of the Council, active and able, has conducted a most successful Hospital Visitation and Home Visiting Service. Initially four comprehensive training sessions were held and forty women are engaged in this continuing programme.

A new branch of the Council has been formed at Burnie on the North-West Coast. Keen interest has been shown at two other large towns where it is hoped that branches will be formed. It has been possible for the Secretary to visit these areas where the personal contact made has been most valuable.

FELLOWSHIP DAY

was held in Hobart, Ulverstone, Burnie and Launceston. In the latter city the sixty-five ladies present were led delightfully by some forty-five small choir boys from St. Patrick's Preparatory School under the baton of their choir master, Brother McGrade. Total offerings from Fellowship Day were \$56.71.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

was observed at several centres. In Hobart the Rev. Norman F. Cocks, Secretary to the Tasmanian Council of Churches, inspiringly developed the theme "All One in Christ Jesus"; at Launceston where 90 ladies gathered, all organisation and leadership was arranged by Catholic women. The Guest Speaker was Miss Loris Russell, Chairman of the Aboriginal Advancement League, who spoke on many aspects of our Aboriginal people. The total offerings for Asian Christian Service were \$29.68.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

continues to be well supported, \$288.16 having been received to date. An interesting discussion took place between the Secretary and a woman interested in and sympathetic to the F.L.C. but who was deeply disturbed by the emphasis placed on the Least coin to be given to God. Much food for thought was shared between the two.

HIGHLIGHT

Quite the highlight of the year was the visit of MISS VIOLET SAMPA. This proved to be not only most enjoyable and interesting, but emphasised clearly the value of such deputation. Violet's excellent and well-expressed knowledge of her country and its affairs; her church, its people and its pattern; her own faith and well ordered mind, combined with her own engaging personality made her an excellent ambassador for her country and the Faith. To all whom she met, particularly to those newly-introduced to A.C.W., she made the Special Project of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship a vital reality. Meetings were arranged in Hobart, Launceston, Rosebery, Burnie, and Queenstown. Schools, Inter-Church groups, Churches, a Youth Rally and quiet social occasions were included in her itinerary, and had time and Violet's constitution permitted, more meetings could have been arranged and more areas visited. The Youth Rally was completely organised by the Tasmanian Council of Churches with whom the Council enjoys a close fellowship.

PLANS

for the future include the presence of three members of the Council at the Annual Meeting; the formation of new branches, and making more widely known the work of Australian Church Women as a vehicle of God's Spirit in this exciting age.

RACHEL H. COCKS

Hon. Secretary.

STATE UNITS
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ACHIEVEMENTS

1971 has been a year of consolidation. . We have increased the areas of work in which we are involved; which apart from the projects sponsored by A.C.W. means our work in Home and Hospital visiting and our hearing from member groups of their particular spheres of work.

Another suburban group has affiliated with us - this seems to be slow, only one group in a year, but the ecumenical climate is healthier than it was a few years ago, so we are hopeful of more affiliations. There are many centres of ecumenical activity but at present they prefer to remain as they are - a loosely knit group of church people working together to study and to serve.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN with its appealing story continues to win members.

THE HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITING has grown. The achievements this year have been the successful establishment of courses in simple remedial therapy. Approximately 150 people have been trained and are currently engaged in hospitals helping patients to use their hands and their minds. There is continued need for basic courses and plans have been made for special courses for visitors to Geriatric and Ex-mental hospitals. The course is on 'movement through music'. This course is being run in conjunction with the Council of the Ageing.

Perhaps our most exciting achievement has been the placing of a Supervisor of Volunteers in two major hospitals; the Royal Adelaide and the Glenside Mental. These women co-ordinate the work of volunteers and are part of the staff of the hospital. The work done includes playing games such as ludo, monopoly, writing letters, walking patients, sorting linen, arranging flowers and generally helping with the work that is neither 'domestic' nor 'medical!'

As a result of the success of these two women placed by W.I.C.C. of S.A., Hillcrest Mental Hospital is seeking such an appointment.

PLANS

Our plans include continuing the work described above and holding a Dedication Service early in 1972 for all those associated with this work.

We have found that our weakest area is with the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. Whilst we have sent the scholarship holder into town and country, we find this work is still not well known, nor well supported.

We have accepted the privilege of promoting the sale of Hong Kong goods, made by refugees; the small profit from these sales will go to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

We hope to co-operate with the S.A.C.C. in understanding our responsibility to Aborigines.

PROBLEMS

For many years now, our two major problems have been 'communication' and 'co-operation of men and women'.

We are sure that communication, being a problem shared by most organisations, can only be adequately achieved by continual application - particularly at the local level.

Regarding Co-operation between men and women - It is felt that whatever is arranged by men is presumed to be for men and women unless otherwise stated: BUT whatever is arranged by women is presumed to be for women only, even if otherwise stated.

So, we are bold to suggest that consideration be given to closer co-operation with A.C.C. For instance, could the administration of A.C.W. be done through say, the A.C.C. Committee on Church and Society.

KATHLEEN HOWIE

Secretary.

R E P O R T S

STATE UNITSWESTERN AUSTRALIA

Four Council meetings were held during the year, attended by delegates from Anglican, Churches of Christ, Congregational, Methodist, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Salvation Army and Y.W.C.A. women's groups, a member of the Society of Friends and several Associate members.

As we have been without a President during 1971, Mesdames Eaton, Couche, Rock and Miss Locke have shared the responsibility of presiding at meetings and services. At the March meeting Miss D. Wacker led a study on "The Changing Role of Women in Church and Society". Thirty six women's groups in W.A. participated in this study prepared by the Joint Committee of Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian in W.A., between February and May this year.

FELLOWSHIP DAY

was held on the 30th July, the programme for this service having been prepared by a committee of the W.A. Council for use throughout Australia. Approximately 80 women attended, over 60 participating in the Communion. After lunch Mr. K. Dowding spoke on the theme, "Who is a Christian?".

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

was observed on the 26th October, the attendance being approximately 60. The panel of speakers - Dr. Ruth Johnston, an economist from the W.A. University, Mr. Don Farmer of the Department of Native Welfare and Mr. Richard Cleaver, former M.H.R. and Methodist local preacher - spoke on various aspects of the theme "All One in Christ Jesus", and answered a number of questions from the congregation.

It is encouraging to note that attendances indicate that there is a growing interest in both Fellowship Day and World Community Day.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Interest in this Fellowship is being maintained and the offering of Least Coins for this year was \$140.28.

PENS AND NOTELETS

are continuing to be sold, and the pens especially are proving to be very popular.

DIARIES

200 Diaries were also received for sale.

Sincere thanks were expressed to St. Alban's Anglican and Ross Memorial Presbyterian Churches for so willingly allowing us to use their Churches and Halls and to the Y.W.C.A. for making their Meeting Room available to us on several occasions during the year.

As the year draws to a close we look forward to meeting MISS VIOLET SAMPA, 1971 Winifred Kiek Scholarship winner, who will be visiting W.A. from December 4th to 31st.

VERA WILSON

Secretary.

STATE UNITS

QUEENSLAND

Gratitude is expressed to God for added achievements each year.

President for the ensuing year is MRS. G. CLARKE. In addition to other office bearers, four convenors were appointed to cover the following areas - Fellowship of the Least Coin, Winifred Kiek Scholarship, Publicity Press & Radio and Branch Liaison Work.

ACTIVITIES

Four general meetings were held during the year with an average attendance of 26. The Council was represented at the Annual Meetings of various denominational groups and it was encouraging to see so much being done by these women's groups in their own particular churches.

OPEN MEETING

The annual 'open meeting' was held in March, when the President and Secretary of the denominational groups represented on our Council are invited to attend. These meetings are usually very well attended.

SPECIAL FUNCTION

An annual fund-raising function is held in February, its purpose being to assist in the payment of travelling expenses of representatives to the A.C.W. National Committee Meeting. 1971 function was a Devonshire Tea followed by a Travel Talk with coloured slides.

TALKABOUT SERIES

During February and March of each year the Methodist Women's Federation conducts a "Talkabout" series. Women of other denominations respond well to the invitation to share this special activity, joining in the services and the discussions held during the series.

WARANA THANKSGIVING SERVICE

At the prompting of the W.I.C.C. this service is included in the Warana festivities. It is prepared each year by one of our Council members and a very good standard is being maintained.

SPECIAL DAYS

FELLOWSHIP DAY, held in St. John's Cathedral in the city, was well attended. Mrs. Arnott, wife of the Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane was guest speaker.

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY was held in the City Congregational Church, again with a large attendance. The speaker on this occasion was Mrs. Wendy Rose, President of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Council of Churches.

Services were also held in the suburbs and some near country areas.

BRANCHES

Branches in country areas are still being maintained. We have received very good reports from them on their 'Special Days' and they seem to be able to keep women interested. It is hoped that there will be opportunity to organize a branch at Toowoomba in the near future.

NEW GUINEA VISIT

During the year, Mrs. Dingle (Retiring president) attended the Women's Fellowship meeting of 40 wives now in residence at the Rarongo Theological College. Her visit provided special opportunity for the presentation of the cheque from the Fellowship of the Least Coin which is to be applied to the training of the wives of theological students.

MISS VIOLET SAMPA

We have been fortunate to have had the Winifred Kiek Scholar studying in Brisbane this year. Many happy times have been spent with Violet and all who have met her have appreciated her charming Christian personality. She particularly enjoyed her "Birthday Barbecue" when she was thrilled to have so much love shown her all at once. She showed slides of her native Zambia as well as others taken whilst touring Australia.

PLANS FOR 1972 including the opening of more branches particularly in and around Brisbane itself. With God's help in arousing the interest of women in local churches, we anticipate being able to do this.

EDNA M. CRAMB - Secretary.

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONS

ANGLICAN WOMEN

In 1971 more Anglican Women became involved in the work of Australian Church Women on the National and State levels.

"ANGLICAN WOMEN"

The Anglican Women's Secretariat produced the second issue of "ANGLICAN WOMEN" which was distributed to all the Dioceses, which contained a report of the National Committee Meeting in February, 1971, and news of activities in different dioceses.

THE ALL AUSTRALIAN DEACONESS CONFERENCE met in Melbourne in February, 1971, and was given a report of the activities of Australian Church Women - DEACONESS ELIZABETH ALFRED was the President of the Victorian Women's Inter-Church Council in 1971.

MRS. MUSCHAMP, wife of the assistant Bishop of Brisbane, served as a member of the National Working Committee.

WOMEN AND MINISTRY -

At the Conference on the Mission and Ministry of the Church, which was held in Canberra in August, 1971, a good deal of time was given to discussing Women and the Ministry - the result of which has been to challenge the Church to look more seriously at the great potential for ministry that Anglican women could provide in the Church.

The National Evangelical Australian Congress in Melbourne in August also discussed the question of women in the Ministry and the following statement was agreed to by the Congress:

"We believe that the gifts of the Spirit are given to men and women alike within the Church, and that both men and women are called to exercise their gifts for the building up of the body of Christ. We believe that these gifts and their exercise should be appropriately recognised by the Church. We believe a shared Team Ministry of the Presbyterate or of the Diaconate in the Biblical sense is acceptable for men and women alike."

The Chairman of the Executive Committee, Dr. Leon Morris, in assessing the Congress, said

"What is clear to all is that the rich reservoir of feminine talent has scarcely been tapped.

I believe that the future role that Anglican women will be called upon to play in the Church will involve many more people and develop many latent talents which will in turn, I trust, strengthen the cause of Australian Church Women.

Since my visit to U.S.A. to attend the Church Women United Assembly, I have had many opportunities of addressing Women's groups including Anglican Women's Groups and sharing news of the activities of Australian Church Women.

I would personally like to thank Australian Church Women and Church Women United for giving me the opportunity and the honour of being present at the Wichita Assembly and the Overseas Consultation which followed it. It was a very enriching experience. Some of its challenges and insights I look forward to sharing with the members of the National Committee of A.C.W. in February.

MARY M. ANDREWS

On behalf of Anglican Women.

REPORTS

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONSCHURCHES OF CHRIST - AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

I have much pleasure in presenting the report from the Federal Women's Conference of the Churches of Christ. We give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His guidance and strength, and pray that He will continue to bless us all as we endeavour to serve Him during our term of office.

ACTIVITIESVIETNAM

It was agreed at the World Convention in Adelaide 1970, that for the next five years the Service Project for the World Christian Women's Fellowship of our churches would be relief and rehabilitation work in Vietnam. This project will be under the supervision of the Asian Christian Service and Church World Service.

HOSPITAL VISITATION

Through the ministry of our women in all states regular visitation of the sick in hospitals is made. All States also arrange visitation and special meetings at our State Guest Homes and Lodges which provide accommodation for the aged persons. Some members also share in supplying finance for special projects for these homes.

MISSIONS

The women of our States share in the support of a woman missionary on the Aborigines Mission Field at Carnarvon, Western Australia. New clothing parcels are also supplied to children on our missions in W.A. at Carnarvon and Norseman and additional gifts are given to Fairhaven teenage girls' Home at Esperance. Many also send Christmas gifts and maintain a personal interest in the children and missionaries. Most States support financially a Living Link, - one of our church missionaries on overseas service. In addition personal gifts for Christmas and useful boxes of items for their area are sent.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE

Our Federal Conference is held biennially, and Perth, W.A., will be the next venue in October, 1972.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Many of our women hold positions of responsibility in A.C.W. activities, and others are involved in preparing for the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

We pray that the National Committee Meeting and the coming year of service will be rich in blessings from the Lord.

B. McILWRAITH

Secretary.

REPORTS

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONSCONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP AUSTRALIA & NAURU"TOGETHERNESS"

It is difficult to give a concise report from a national point of view unless it is related to the work that is going on in each constituent area. Three words from the Tasmanian C.W.F. Annual Report would seem to sum up the atmosphere of C.W.F.A. & Nauru during the past year. In the 1969-70 report, Tasmania foreshadowed a "New Look". The 1970-71 report said that this was being achieved through "TOGETHERNESS", -"Togetherness" among Congregational Fellowships themselves with other denominations and with the community.

This atmosphere was evident during the Biennial Assembly of the Congregational Union of Australia held in Hobart in May. The C.W.F.A., as a department of that Union, held its Biennial Council meeting at that time and new national officers were elected. Under the leadership of the retiring President, Mrs. Frances Bailey, the State Fellowships had been influenced to attempt a new look at their work and the reasons for it. This has been evident in the State reports to the Biennial meeting and in the results noted by the present President as she visits the different States or receives reports from them.

Three items from the States give some indication of this.

In SOUTH AUSTRALIA in 1971, the third residential Women's Conference of Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Women was held. The kind of thinking taking place, thinking that is resulting in action is shown by the titles of the different sessions -

BIBLE STUDY - "Opportunities Unlimited." John 6:15-71; John 17:6-24.

"The Inevitability of Change and An Unchanging Gospel in a Changing World".

"Looking to the Future" - The Uniting Church and Other Changing Patterns.

"The Servant Church" - Guidelines for the Future.

"Preparing for the Future" - Where do we go from here?

The South Australian Executive also held a Conference Day which was spent in quiet study and discussion regarding the future life not only of the State body but also its relationship to the local Church. This day resulted in a decision to spend some time in Sensitivity Training, a wise decision, full of promise.

QUEENSLAND, during 1971, embarked on an experimental period whereby the State Executive will conduct all business and committee work and the former Council meetings now become open meetings of general interest. This experiment could lead to far-reaching Constitutional changes.

N.S.W. and W.A. are also concerned about the need for change within the life of the fellowships and many experiments are taking place.

In VICTORIA, the C.W.F. is a department of the Congregational Union of Victoria and, for the first time, had responsibility for the planning and carrying through of the first session of the Annual Congregational Union Council Meetings. Based on a dialogue called "Walls" (prepared by Rev. Dorothy Wacker of Perth) the session looked at past and present attitudes in the life of the Church and introduced new thoughts and modes of expression that could help to make the gospel relevant for today.

1971 WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR

Through C.W.F.A., we are pleased to have the opportunity of helping to support Miss Violet Sampa the 1971 Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, during the next three years. Miss Sampa has been accepted by our Queensland Theological College for training necessary to complete the requirements for ordination. So that an allowance can be made to Miss Sampa to cover her day by day expenses we are seeking 3000 women in Australia and Nauru who are prepared to contribute 10 cents per year for three years. This project has been received enthusiastically and indications are that it will not in any way affect the support that is given, and always has been, by our constituent bodies for work both overseas and at home.

WOMEN'S PAGE

From the national point of view, the Women's Page in the Australian Congregationalist is being used, as far as possible, to link the local fellowships around Australia more closely. Almost every issue contains some item which could be used as a basis for a local programme. Fellowships have also been asked to tape the words of guest speakers so as to make a variety of tapes available for places where difficulty is found in getting speakers.

"Togetherness" with other denominations is stressed nationally and C.W.F. shares with Methodists and Presbyterians in the current study on women's work.

CONCLUSION

To conclude this report, I would like to share some thoughts from the report to the Biennial Assembly given by Mrs. I. Itsimeu, secretary of C.W.F. Nauru. She says, "One obvious aspect which I should like to mention is the mutual feeling that through such a meeting as this the Christian spirit of fellowship which we all cherish and love is once again reflected as a reality - furthermore our meeting signifies the necessity of our Christian sharing of experience and faith in a much closer co-operation and

REPORTS

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONS

CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP AUSTRALIA & NAURU

(Contd.)

and understanding with one another. In our divided world of today where the struggle for nationalism is most obvious to the eyes and ears of everyone it is the duty of every individual Christian - every Church denomination and organisation - to see to it that "a sharing of one another's burdens" as well as one another's experience of joy and understanding are the only best ways in which people can live happily and peacefully together.

In speaking of the Annual Easter Singing Competition, Mrs. Itsimeu says, "One good thing about such an event is the fact that it always draws in new faces with talent in both singing and acting into the C.W.F., and at the same time revives the interest of those who are just sleeping it off."

One other quote from the report seems also relevant. "Now one other thing which I should like to mention and one which no doubt should prompt the interest of everyone in this Assembly is the way in which we are trying to integrate other women of other communities into the circle and function of our C.W.F. Well, first of all this idea does not work out well, but at least to a certain extent. One of the reasons is the fact that these other women are just as involved in their own circle with their own organisations which are best suited for their surroundings. However, there are times when we all have to get together and really enjoy the atmosphere of a true joint fellowship. One such good time is the "World Prayer Day for Women". This is one memorable day indeed which we all cherish and often look forward to at every turn of the year. Such a time of fellowship will and must continue to be a part of paving the way for a much closer understanding and co-operation among all men and women of goodwill if we are to live closer together as one big family of God". - end of quotes.

A "New Look" is inevitable in all the work of women in every denomination and it is the prayer of the executive of C.W.F.A. that "Togetherness", particularly following the vote on Church Union in 1972, may be the keynote of the future.

SYLVIA L. SIMPSON

President.

REPORTS

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONSAUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMENINTER-DENOMINATIONAL STUDY GROUP

Wherever possible, Methodist women in many States have met together with other denominations, seeking to find the mind of Christ. A special inter-denominational Study Group has been working during the year on changes that might be expected in women's organisations in the Uniting Church. The result of this Study, carried out in the States, is at present being co-ordinated. The thanks of Methodist women are extended to the Secretary of the Committee, Mrs. Joan Bache, of the Congregational Women's Fellowship.

"METHODIST MILLION"

The President of the A.F.M.W., Mrs. A. W. Pederick, in her capacity of Area President, has attended Rallies in Queensland and Western Australia, where she shared with women of these distant States, some of the experiences of the Fiji Seminar, and displayed the beautiful banners, each depicting a State Floral Emblem, which were used in the Religious Drama, "An Australian Vision", by Miss Joyce Trickett. This Drama has now been produced in a Booklet, on sale at 25 cents - the proceeds from which will be used for Overseas Aid. This fund is known as "METHODIST MILLION", and is being supported Australia-wide by women of Methodism.

ASSEMBLY OF WORLD FEDERATION, DENVER, U.S.A.

Australia was ably represented by Mrs. George Nash of Queensland at the Assembly of World Federation of Methodist Women in Denver, in August, 1971. Mrs. Nash was appointed Area President at this Assembly, a position she will hold for 5 years. The Area covers Australia, New Zealand, Tonga, Fiji and Samoa.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY, WORLD FEDERATION

We are very proud of the appointment of MISS JEAN SKUSE of New South Wales, as Secretary of the World Federation of Methodist Women.

INTERESTS AND CONCERNS

Women in all States continue to show their interest and concern in the various social issues of the day, including the problem of pollution, and the stress and strain imposed on women by modern living. They continue to work for the under-privileged, Child Care centres, the Elderly, Homeless Men, Unmarried Mothers, and the rehabilitation of the Alcoholic.

As the question of Union with other churches draws near, local church and district study groups are being held to help women use their vote intelligently.

E. ATKINSON

Secretary.

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONS

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

P.W.A. FEDERAL EXECUTIVE

The function of the P.W.A. Federal Executive is to co-ordinate work of the States, to keep them informed and to organize the Conference, which is usually held at the same time as the General Assembly of Australia.

As reported last year, the Executive is in NEW SOUTH WALES for this three year period. This has been a year of settling in to new work for the Executive, implementing work which the Conference directed and generally carrying on the work of the previous Executive.

NATIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE

All States have co-operated in the Study of questions set by the National Study Committee which consists of three members from each of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian women. The response has been very encouraging and collation of the State Reports is expected to be completed soon.

80th ANNIVERSARY of P.W.M.U. in NEW SOUTH WALES

The Federal President, Mrs. J. Sticpewich, took greetings from the Executive to the 80th Anniversary of Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union in N.S.W. in August when a special function was held to commemorate this occasion. The work of dedicated women down through the years was presented through tableau and commentary.

VICTORIA celebrated a similar occasion last year and QUEENSLAND will do so in May, 1972. Arrangements are already being made for this function.

Reports and Minutes from State Units indicate a lively interest in many facets of work from Hospital visitation, Missionary work, etc. to a two-day Joint Women's Conference.

It is very evident too, that SOCIAL SERVICE work is still a very vital interest of all the women of our organisation.

VICTORIA UNIT has in the past year organized P.W.A. Rallies for the first time, in all of its seventeen Presbyteries.

In NEW SOUTH WALES the Annual Presbyterian Market was again a wonderful success - the amazing amount of almost \$11,000 being raised. This has been given to the Presbyterian Board of Missions to erect four classrooms at the new Onesua High School in the New Hebrides. This function is always a highlight of the P.W.A. year in N.S.W.

PRESIDENTIAL VISITS

The Federal President has this year made official visits to South Australia and West Australia and has found this to be both an enlightening and stimulating experience. It was good to hear of the smooth working of P.W.A. in both these States. Their minutes, sent regularly to Executive, tell the story of the hard work and outreach of the P.W.A. in each State.

MRS. STICPEWICH is to visit Victoria in March 1972, and to follow on with her visit to Tasmania where she will spend a week, visiting each Presbytery and taking some Church services. Queensland will also be in the President's itinerary for 1972, with a visit planned for May. N.S.W. will have several opportunities of hearing Mrs. Sticpewich during her term of office.

GUIDING CONSTITUTION

Following a request to N.S.W. State Council, a guiding constitution has been compiled, with approval and assistance of the Congregational and Methodist Executives, to assist women in Joint Parishes. These are sent out as requested by these groups.

.. .. .

The Federal Executive has greatly appreciated the efforts of the A.C.W. Working Committee and commends the Committee for its fine Minutes and Publicity through "Women at Work".

C. GROAT

Secretary.

R E P O R T S

F E D E R A L O R G A N I S A T I O N STHE HOME LEAGUES OF THE SALVATION ARMY (EASTERN TERRITORY)

The fourfold programme of worship, fellowship, education and service has been implemented in Home League meetings and activities throughout the year.

THE ANNUAL WOMEN'S RALLIES

held in the Town Hall, Sydney, the City Hall, Brisbane and in Port Moresby were well attended. At the Rally in Sydney, the Territorial Home League President, Mrs. Commissioner H. Scotney spoke on "A Women's World".

1971 will long be remembered by Home Leaguers as they have celebrated "These Sixty Years" with special devotional meetings, programmes, conferences, and community and missionary projects.

THE ANNUAL HOME LEAGUE WEEKEND

August 7th - 9th, was observed throughout the Territory.

In Sydney "These Sixty Years" weekend included a "Home League Spectacular" programme. The theme for the meetings on Sunday, "Our Heritage" was widely used. 200 State delegates attended a conference and luncheon on the Monday. The conference considered "This Happening Year", what does happen - drugs can destroy, what is happening - reports and discussion, and what can happen - plans and discussion, devotions.

"These Sixty Years" weekends were held in Brisbane, Newcastle and other centres.

HOLIDAY CAMPS

Five holiday camps for women have been held in New South Wales and Queensland.

NEW LEAGUES & FELLOWSHIPS

Six new Home Leagues and four new Evening Fellowships have been registered. A Home League has to have functioned successfully for twelve months before registration.

THE TERRITORIAL H.L. MISSIONARY PROJECT

- to provide adequate accommodation for the Officers in charge of the Salvation Army Mission Station at Boregaina, Papua. The response from Home Leaguers has been very good, remembering that each league is already committed to support their local Self Denial and Red Shield Annual Appeals.

Australian Church Women's projects and Special Days publicity are publicised in the quarterly publication, The Home League Digest.

Home Leagues are promoting A.C.W. Special Days, and including the F.L.C. Circle of Prayer in their programmes.

Outer Circle Correspondents.

1972

Home League Month - April

Home League week - April 17th - 23rd.

Main emphasis - visitation for new members, a women's rally, a family evening, and Home League Sunday in every corps. Theme, "For such a time as this", relating to "Woman and her influence, interest, involvement, and impact".

Territorial H.L. Project - The developing work at Goroka, New Guinea (Youth Welfare and Meeting Hall).

The Home League Digest (October-December '71) "This Happening Year should challenge us all to aim to make our Home League 'A Happening Home League' with a programme that is exciting, an enthusiasm that is contagious, a happy fellowship that blends both age and youth. This is our task. Let us accept it."

OLIVE CARPENTER

Federal Representative.

REPORTS

FEDERAL ORGANISATIONSTHE HOME LEAGUES OF THE SALVATION ARMY (SOUTHERN TERRITORY)

A report on the work of Salvation Army women as it applies to all States in the Southern Australia Territory.

EVANGELICAL

The Salvation Army women officers have equal status with men in the ministry of a Church, to care for the spiritual, moral and physical well-being of people. When there is opportunity they accept the privilege of membership on the local Ministers' Fraternal, and share in co-operative service in the community as required, for example, Christian Education in Schools. Voluntary assistance as teachers, and helpers in this field is given by women.

SOCIAL

Our women staff hospitals, both general and maternity, with special care for unmarried mothers and children in hospitals provided specifically for this purpose. A camp for poor families, especially deserted wives and children, is held annually in Victoria, and is very much appreciated by both mothers and children who not only share in the fun and relaxation, but the mothers receive domestic education, and Christmas gifts are provided for all.

Meals on Wheels service is given assistance as required.

Broken and needy families receive advice and practical help. Women officers are appointed to attend the courts to befriend women and girls, to visit the prisons, and serve as registered Probation officers.

LEAGUE OF MERCY

Regular visitation of the sick in hospitals is made, also in institutions or in their homes, providing gifts and entertainment at Christmas and on other occasions throughout the year. At times making a link with the family, writing a letter, or when necessary attending to domestic duties.

Migrants are helped as opportunity affords.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The Home League directed by women provides an opportunity for helpful fellowship, worship, education, and service for all women. Interchange of visits with other Church guilds, helps to promote a friendly relationship, and a unity of Christian spirit with other Church women.

An interest is shown in Pensioners, on occasions providing entertainment at Club meetings, or inviting the club to a Salvation Army function.

The Outer Circle Home League Secretary maintains a regular correspondence with women living in isolated places, by means of a monthly Newsletter, and personal letters.

The Friendship Club continues to increase in membership, and to prove of real value for hundreds of lonely people.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Involved in community interests and needs, we are represented on most Women's Committees, such as the National Council of Women and many others.

On the local, State and Federal level, Salvationist women work closely with the Inter-Church Council, giving all possible support.

There is a growing participation in the World Community Day of Christian fellowship and worship, and the Community Chest service day.

The organisation of meetings held for the first time at Darwin, was the responsibility of a Salvation Army officer.

Our women are concerned with the spiritual and physical needs of people. Local prayer groups meet regularly, and practical and financial service and support given generously. We desire to serve the Lord according to His will, and by so doing serve His people in the best way possible.

COLONEL BRAMWELL LUCAS

Chief Secretary.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1971

<u>RECEIPTS</u>			<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
	\$	\$		\$
BALANCE as at 1/1/71		9091.67	<u>FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN -</u>	
<u>FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN -</u>			Tfr. to Admin. & General	50.00
Donations	4083.25		Post., P. Cash, Cable	19.30
Circle of Prayer	498.40		W.C.C. Geneva	3000.00
W.C.C. Geneva	<u>881.65</u>	5463.30	C. of P. Booklets	40.12
			F.L.C. allocations	<u>881.65</u>
				3991.07
<u>WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP -</u>			<u>WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP -</u>	
From A.C.W. to open			Open separate W.K. A/c	1270.31
separate W.K. A/c		1270.31	Refund St. Michaels	10.00
Donations	563.00		Commonwealth Bond	100.00
Tfr. Fellowship Day	900.00		Expenditure - V. Sampa	1342.05
U. Ch. Zambia Allce.	186.78		U. Ch. Zambia Allce.	186.78
Air Fares	62.45		Sundry	15.24
Commonwealth Bond Int.	<u>27.43</u>	1739.66	Leaflets	<u>62.00</u>
				1716.07
<u>FELLOWSHIP DAY -</u>			<u>FELLOWSHIP DAY -</u>	
Postage & Posters	17.75		Tfr. to W. Kiek A/c	900.00
Offerings	<u>1648.22</u>	1665.97	" " Admin. & General	319.89
			Postage & Paper	45.78
<u>OVERSEAS TRAVEL FUND -</u>			Orders of Service	<u>168.00</u>
N.S.W. W.I.C.C. Donation		65.00		1433.67
<u>SCRIBAL PENS & NOTELETS -</u>			<u>SCRIBAL PENS & NOTELETS -</u>	
Refund Fares Feb. '71			Fares Feb. '71 N. Meeting	921.57
National Meeting	345.14		Notelets - (South Australia)	400.00
Tfr. from Admin. & Gen.	400.00		Petty Cash	15.00
Scribal Pen Sales	<u>863.20</u>	1608.34	Scribal Pty. Ltd.	<u>501.47</u>
				1838.04
<u>NATIONAL MEETING -</u>			<u>NATIONAL MEETING -</u>	
Accom. Feb. 1971	784.10		Stat., postage, etc.	126.69
Registrations '71/'72	156.00		Accom. Feb. '71 N. Meeting	844.00
Dishonoured P/N rebd.	<u>3.00</u>	943.10	Dishonoured P/N	<u>3.00</u>
				973.69
<u>ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL -</u>			<u>ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL -</u>	
Tfr. Fellowship Day	319.89		Petty Cash & Postage	126.90
" W. Com. Day	50.00		Stationery	68.75
" F.L.C.	50.00		Calendar Diaries	470.36
Sundry	12.50		Tfr. Pens & Notelets	400.00
Bank Interest	137.35		" A.C.C. Air Fare	21.45
A.C.C. Fare - V. Sampa	21.45		Donation - P.W.M.U.	10.00
Calendar Diaries	<u>505.03</u>	1096.22	A.C.C. Gen. Meeting 1972	47.50
			Sundry	<u>13.38</u>
				1158.34
<u>WORLD COMMUNITY DAY -</u>			<u>WORLD COMMUNITY DAY -</u>	
Offerings		1022.64	Life Line Centre Korea	650.00
			Tfr. Admin. & General	50.00
			Postage & Paper	44.67
			Orders of Service	<u>160.00</u>
				904.67
				13,285.86
			BALANCE as at 31/12/71	<u>10,680.35</u>
		<u>\$23,966.21</u>		<u>\$23,966.21</u>

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP INVESTMENT FUND

<u>SPECIAL BONDS -</u>	Series "L" maturing	1/10/1972	\$200.00
	" " " "	1/ 3/1974	\$100.00
	" " " "	1/ 4/1978	\$100.00
	" " " "	1/10/1978	\$100.00
			<u>\$500.00</u>

Lodged with the Commonwealth Savings Bank of Australia, Clayfield, Brisbane.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	\$	\$	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	\$	\$
To Admin. & General		50.00	By Balance as at 1/1/71		3617.80
Cable		5.30	Sundry donations	44.58	
W.C.C. - Geneva		3000.00	U. Church Alice Springs	6.38	
Postage		4.00	U. Church Rabaul, N.G.	60.48	
Petty Cash		10.00	Canberra	206.25	
C. of P. Booklets (America)		40.12	Tasmania	331.04	
Martin Luther			Queensland	960.00	
Seminary, Lae	440.82		Western Australia	145.38	
Rarongo Theological			South Australia	370.00	
College, New Guinea	440.83	881.65	New South Wales	959.14	
		3991.07	Victoria	1000.00	4083.25
			W.C.C. - Geneva		881.65
			Circle of Prayer -		
			Queensland	132.00	
			South Australia	72.00	
			Western Australia	15.30	
			N.S.W.	69.00	
			Tasmania	13.20	
			Canberra	7.80	
			Port Moresby	7.20	
			Victoria	165.00	
			Pennant Hills Congregational	2.50	
			Un. Church Malmaluan, N.G.	3.60	
Balance as at 31/12/71		5090.03	D. Strack	10.80	498.40
					<u>881.65</u>
					<u>\$9081.10</u>

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

To Refund St. Michaels (V. Kafa)	\$10.00		By Balance as at 1/1/71		\$1268.36
Commonwealth Bond		100.00	Tfr. F'ship Day Offering	800.00	
A.C.C. Part Zambie Fare	500.00		Commonwealth Bond	100.00	900.00
Pocket Money V. Sampa	247.00		Refund Air Fare V. Sampa		
Board do.	412.00		from N.S.W.		41.00
Med. Benefits do.	26.52		Un. Church Zambia Women's		
Clothing do.	15.63		Fellowship	61.78	
Fares in Aus. do.	140.90	1342.05	Un. Church Zambia	125.00	186.78
Un. Church Zambia Women's			From A.C.W. to open		
Fellowship	61.78		separate W. Kiek A/c		1270.31
Un. Church Zambia	125.00	186.78	Tfr. A.C.C. Air Fare from		
Open separate W.K. A/c		1270.31	Admin. & General		21.45
Petty Cash		10.00	Donations:-		
Rubber Stamp		1.84	Qld. Congregationalists	243.00	
Aerogrammes		3.40	W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	28.46	
Leaflets		62.00	W.I.C.C. of South Australia	7.00	
		2986.38	Canberra Church Women	95.00	
			A.C.W. - Queensland Unit	142.00	
			N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	5.00	
			Un. Church in North Australia	12.00	
			A.C.W. - W.A. Unit	3.00	
			Sundry Donations	27.54	563.00
Balance as at 31/12/71		1291.95	Commonwealth Bond Interest		27.43
					<u>27.43</u>
					<u>\$4278.33</u>

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

To Balance as at 1/1/71	\$42.98	By Donation N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	\$65.00
Balance as at 31/12/71	22.02		
	<u>\$65.00</u>		<u>\$65.00</u>

FELLOWSHIP DAY

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	\$	\$	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	\$	\$
To Tfr. to W. Kiek A/c		900.00	By Balance as at 1/1/71		1219.89
" " Admin. & General		319.89	Postage & Posters		17.75
Postage - I. Rogers		5.00	Offerings:-		
Poster Paper		16.66	Un. Church Alice Springs	33.43	
Postage	6.06		Port Melbourne Methodist	12.72	
Kwikasair	<u>18.06</u>	24.12	Darwin Un. Church W. F'ship	16.95	
Orders of Service		<u>168.00</u>	W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	34.03	
		1433.67	N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	320.59	
			Un. Church W. F'ship		
			Nightcliff	20.00	
			Canberra Church Women	35.00	
			A.C.W. - Queensland Unit	80.00	
			A.C.W. - W.A. Unit	33.50	
			W.I.C.C. of S.A.	253.00	
			Un. Church Katherine	9.00	
			W.I.C.C. of Victoria	<u>800.00</u>	<u>1648.22</u>
Balance as at 31/12/71		<u>1452.19</u>			<u>\$2885.86</u>
		<u>\$2885.86</u>			

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

To Life Line Centre, Korea		650.00	By Balance as at 1/1/71		841.37
Tfr. to Admin. & General		50.00	Offerings:-		
Poster Paper		16.66	Darwin	29.37	
Kwikasair		28.01	A.C.W. Qld. Unit	55.00	
Orders of Service		<u>160.00</u>	A.C.W. W.A. Unit	25.50	
		<u>904.67</u>	W.I.C.C. of S. Australia	100.00	
			N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	254.97	
			Canberra Church Women	40.00	
			W.I.C.C. of Victoria	500.00	
			W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	<u>17.80</u>	<u>1022.64</u>
Balance as at 31/12/71		<u>959.34</u>			<u>\$1864.01</u>
		<u>\$1864.01</u>			

SCRIBAL PENS & NOTELETS

To Fares Feb. '71 Nat. Mtg.		921.57	By Balance as at 1/1/71		1077.16
Advance - Notelets Sth. Aus.		400.00	Refund Fares Feb. '71 Mtg.		345.14
Petty Cash		15.00	Tfr. from Admin. & General		400.00
Scribal Pty. Ltd.	255.70		Pen Sales:-		
do.	<u>245.77</u>	501.47	F. Saunders	29.40	
		<u>1838.04</u>	W.I.C.C. of Victoria	105.20	
			N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	140.00	
			A.C.W. - Qld. Unit	235.40	
			Canberra Church Women	43.20	
			W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	135.20	
			W.I.C.C. of S.A.	100.80	
			A.C.W. - W.A. Unit	<u>74.00</u>	<u>863.20</u>
Balance as at 31/12/71		<u>847.46</u>			<u>\$2685.50</u>
		<u>\$2685.50</u>			

NATIONAL MEETING

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>RECEIPTS</u>	
	\$		\$
To Duplicating and Stationery Feb. '71 N. Mtg.	64.52	By Balance as at 1/1/71	36.87
Accommodation do. do.	844.00	Accom. Feb. '71 Nat. Mtg.	784.10
Minutes & Postage do. do.	14.73	Regis. do. do.	138.00
Stationery Feb. '72 N. Mtg.	10.53	Regis. Feb. '72 do.	18.00
Folders 1973 & 1973 do.	11.56	Dishonoured P/N rebanked	3.00
Wallets & Envelopes do.	25.35		
Dishonoured P/N	3.00		
	<u>973.69</u>		
Balance as at 31/12/71	6.28		
	<u>\$979.97</u>		<u>\$979.97</u>

ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL

To Kwikasair (Treas. Books)	1.90	By Balance as at 1/1/71	1073.20
Petty Cash & Postage		Tfr. from Fellowship Day	319.89
Secretary	100.00	" " W. Community Day	50.00
Treasurer	10.00	" " F.L.C.	50.00
Un. Church Corres.	5.00	Levy N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	4.00
Publicity	<u>10.00</u>	Bank Interest	137.35
Stationery	68.75	Donation	2.50
Gift - Victorian Auditor	5.00	A.C.C. Air Fare - V. Sampa	21.45
Bond Int. tfr. W.K. A/c	2.38	Dishonoured M/O rebanked	6.00
Calendar Diaries:-		Calendar Diaries:-	
Westminster Press	464.03	A.C.W. - Qld. Unit	219.24
Kwikasair	<u>6.33</u>	Mt. Gambier	12.50
Tfr. to Scribal Pens & Notes	400.00	Alice Springs	4.80
" A.C.C. Fare to W. Kiek A/c	21.45	Woomera	6.00
Dishonoured M/O	6.00	Darwin	60.00
Donation P.W.M.U. (room use)	10.00	N.S.W. W.I.C.C.	182.49
A.C.C. 1972 Gen. Meeting -		W.I.C.C. of Tasmania	<u>20.00</u>
Registrn. J. Dennis	9.00		505.03
" O. Carpenter	9.00		
Accom. J. Dennis	<u>29.50</u>		
	<u>1158.34</u>		
Balance as at 31/12/71	1011.08		
	<u>\$2169.42</u>		<u>\$2169.42</u>

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1971

Fellowship of the Least Coin	\$5,090.03
Winifred Kiek Scholarship	1,291.95
Fellowship Day	1,452.19
World Community Day	959.34
Scribal Pens & Notelets	847.46
National Meeting	6.28
Administration & General	1,011.08
Overseas Travel	<u>22.02</u>
	<u>\$10,680.35</u>

MERLE L. ELDERSHAW - Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the books and records of the Australian Church Women and in my opinion, the Statement of Receipts, Payments and accompanying Accounts are a true summary for the year ended 31st December, 1971.

(Sgd.) J. M. WALLACE, F.A.S.A. (Hon. Auditor).

The constitution mightily defines members but we feel that "observers" need not be so defined. flexibility should be allowed. It would be good if non-member churches (Baptist, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, the various Orthodox churches) appointed observers to NCM's & should be invited to do so. ^(NCM. 1966 p. 4.) If the W.Ctte feels that resolutions of NCM are not sufficient guide in this matter, perhaps it would be more appropriate for a list of by-laws to be drawn up.

W.K.S. I move that the W.K.S. Cttee & the Working Cttee review the policy of the WKS especially in relation to the composition of the WKS committee and in the way applications are sought and the selection of the scholar selected. Now that the scholarship is

fairly widely known it would perhaps be best if the scholarship committee reverted to ^{the composition} that originally

NCM. 1966 p. 35.

said clause - incl. persons who have had experience with overseas students in both academic & institutional life - who can meaningfully understand the problems facing indiv. coming from different cultural backgrounds & at least one

and that regional councils of churches in rotation be invited to submit one or two applications for ACW approval.

W.S.W. undertook the task of indexing & collating the minutes of previous N.C.M's. so that discussions & decisions ^{& practice} can take into account what has already been decided. Mrs. Min Dougherty and I were ~~asked~~ ^{appointed} to do this and we did hope to have a completed draft to present to this meeting. Alas much more work needs to be done & the section on Finance handed out yesterday lists only the resolutions made, seldom giving the reasons why.

— x — very few
not of high priority.

person is co-opted from the same academic field as the scholar who can act as guide philosopher & friend.

NOTICE OF MOTION FROM NEW SOUTH WALES WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL --

New South Wales Women's Inter-Church Council has indicated that it proposes to move an amendment to the motion submitted by Queensland Women's Inter-Church Council dealing with a revision of the A.C.W. Constitution, viz.:

CLAUSE 6. THE WORKING COMMITTEE -

That the following sentence

"The location of the Working Committee shall move biennially and shall be determined by the National Committee"

shall be deleted and the original ^{Sentence} clause in the constitution remain unaltered. *

CLAUSE 7. OBSERVERS and CONSULTANTS -

That an additional section be added -

"(v) one observer from the State Women's Organization - of each church in the State in which the National Committee Meeting is held."

* (The original clause reads:

"The National Committee shall appoint a Working Committee of ten, who shall be resident in one State, and shall include the office bearers. The location of the Working Committee shall be determined by the National Committee. The office bearers shall act on behalf of the Working Committee between meetings.")

NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION -- AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

Submitted by the WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL OF QUEENSLAND. --

"THAT CLAUSES 4 AND 6 BE DELETED FROM THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION AND THE FOLLOWING BE INSERTED IN THEIR PLACE, THAT CLAUSE 7 BECOME "OBSERVERS and CONSULTANTS" AND THAT THE NUMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING CLAUSES BE SUBSEQUENTLY ADJUSTED" -

4. NATIONAL COMMITTEE:

The National Committee shall consist of

- (a) Representatives who shall be appointed annually:
 - (i) one representative of the Federal women's organization of each church, appointed by whatever means is appropriate to the particular church.
 - (ii) two representatives of each and every State Women's Inter-church organization recognized by Australian Church Women as its State Unit.
 - (iii) one representative of the Federal organization of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee.
 - (iv) two representatives appointed by the Australian Council of Churches' Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society.
 - (v) four representatives appointed by the Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Churches.
- (b) the Office Bearers and five other committee members who together shall comprise the Working Committee.

The National Committee shall meet at least annually at a time and place to be determined in consultation with the Australian Council of Churches' Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society. Fifty per cent. of representatives under 4. (i) and (ii) shall constitute a quorum. Alternatives may be appointed for all representatives to the National Committee.

6. THE WORKING COMMITTEE:

The Working Committee shall consist of ten members -

- (a) the office bearers of the National Committee.
- (b) five committee members, one of whom shall be elected annually as the Convenor of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee by the National Committee.

The ten members of the Working Committee shall be

- (i) resident in one State
- (ii) elected annually by the National Committee.

The location of the Working Committee shall move biennially and shall be determined by the National Committee.

The Office Bearers shall act on behalf of the Working Committee between its meetings. In the event of a vacancy on the Working Committee occurring between National Meetings, the Working Committee shall appoint a replacement to fill such vacancy and shall duly notify members of the National Committee of such appointment.

7. OBSERVERS and CONSULTANTS:

Non-voting observers with privilege to speak on any matter raised in conference shall be invited to attend the annual meetings of the National Committee:

- (i) one observer from the Federal women's organization of each church, appointed by whatever means is appropriate to the particular church.
- (ii) two observers from each and every State Women's inter-church organization recognized by Australian Church Women as its State Unit.
- (iii) one observer from the Federal organization of any special interest group which is granted representation by the National Committee.
- (iv) up to eight observers from the new State location, at that National Meeting which will elect a Working Committee from a new State.

Consultants who shall have the same privileges as observers, shall be invited to attend the National Meeting:

- (i) the Federal Liaison Officer, Women's World Day of Prayer.
- (ii) Australian members of the Planning Committee of Asian Church Women's Conference.

R E P O R T
on the
FIRST INTER-REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIPS
of the
UNITED CHURCH IN PAPUA, NEW GUINEA and the SOLOMON ISLANDS

After many months of planning the First Conference of Women's Fellowships of all Regions of the United Church was held at Lae from the 23rd to the 30th October, 1971.

Delegates arrived by plane from the Regions and from Malmaluan and Rarongo Colleges. We were a mixed group: Highland women, still remembering, and still witnessing, the age-old traditions of their people; women from the more isolated islands of Papua New Guinea where sometimes the changes of the outside world have little significance; women from Bougainville where the extent and magnitude of mining activities staggers the world; women from the Urban towns where the rapidity of change and development makes the programme planned yesterday for today, old-fashioned; women who knew the mountains or the open sea, the rivers or the coast; who knew over-crowding or isolation. All these were there as the twenty eight delegates to the Conference, united happily and meaningfully in work, friendship and fellowship.

At the beginning of the Conference each of us was somehow very loyal to her own Region; we told others about what is good in our Region, and carefully skirted around problems and difficulties. As the week progressed we became increasingly more honest with one another as we realised we had so much in common. We are certain that each one of us grew a great deal in understanding, in sympathy and in confidence as we became more aware of the overwhelming possibilities for the future. At the start of the Conference we felt ourselves to be from seven different Regions of the United Church of Papua, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands; at the close of it, we knew that we were women of the whole Church of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

It was a happy, strengthening feeling to know that our families were remembering us, and that our friends in this country and many more throughout Australia were thinking about and praying for us.

The Theme of the Conference was based on the words of Jesus: "I have come in order that they might have life, life in all its fulness."

Miss Susana Karava, a Papuan Christian Education worker expertly led our studies on:-

Jesus Christ and fulness of life,
Jesus Christ and the way we treat each other,
Jesus Christ and the way we do our work, and how we use our time,
Jesus Christ and our doubts, and
Jesus Christ and our family life.

Also, we had sessions when we thought of and planned ways in which others might be helped to find this happy, full life.

The session on Family Planning was led by the Regional Medical Officer at Lae. This was a lively, searching time when many of the taboos, customary practices and new attitudes to family planning were discussed. Although family planning was wholeheartedly accepted in principle, it was obvious that it would take years for the majority of people here to take advantage of it. It was an idea foreign to most; it was against the course of nature; was it, or was it not against God's plan for the people of the world? Were families shirking responsibility? Did we want the right to so plan for ourselves?

Then, we had a discussion on the Status of Women. We commenced with a role play depicting a domestic scene where a wife was made to feel unimportant. It startled some of us when the first comments were definitely in full sympathy with the man because the woman had failed to do that which was expected of her by tradition. The range of thinking was wide and very varied, greatly depending on the stages of intrusion of ideas from the outside world. One pleasing aspect was that within the United Church it was felt women were encouraged to attain full dignity.

The session on the Generation Gap was close to everyone's experience and heart. It was decided that discussion on this should be widely encouraged in the local fellowships in the hope that a greater understanding and worthwhile relationship could be maintained between old and young.

These were just a few of the discussion sessions held throughout the Conference. We all felt that our vision was extended; our understanding and knowledge of one another enlarged; it was a thrilling and intensely interesting experience for us all.

It was agreed that a Continuing Committee to carry on the work of this first U.C.W.F. Conference of all Regions should be formed. There will be one representative from each Region, and most of the communication and planning will be done by correspondence, although it is hoped that occasionally it will be possible for a few to meet in Port Moresby. The cost of calling the full Continuing Committee together would be far too high, approximately \$900. The Continuing Committee is asked to organise and plan the next Conference suggested for 1974.

Our thoughts were very much with all those who had helped to make this 1971 Conference possible:- the people of Lae whose hospitality was unlimited; the Regional Women's Fellowships who had contributed so generously; those who had organised, prepared and presented programmes for the Conference; and last but not least, the Australian Church women who had so willingly and unstintingly encouraged us with their greetings and financial assistance. We pray that God will continue to lead and guide us all, as we confidently go forward into the future with Him.

Conference Chairman: Mrs. Sebea Tamarua.
Conference Secretary: Miss Kala Kila.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN

Summary compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Ashton, March, 1971.

From Report of Working Committee for 1965 (p. 17)

F.L.C. Interest in this Fellowship of Prayer has continued to grow. Officially launched at World Community Day, 1964, F.L.C. offerings were received at World Community Day meetings this year. In addition many contributors have sent their offerings direct to the Working Committee (see Financial Statement).

The Working Committee would like to make two observations:-

- (a) It is apparent, as new ground is broken in establishing centres at which Fellowship Day and World Community Day meetings are held, there are very many still uninformed concerning F.L.C., yet ready to become part of the Fellowship when it is explained.
- (b) In presenting information concerning this Fellowship, it is desirable that emphasis be placed on it being primarily a Fellowship of Prayer, and that the offering desired each month is actually the least coin.

From National Committee Minutes, 1966 (pp. 6 - 7)

"Deaconess M. Andrews introduced this subject and emphasised that part of the programme of A.C.W. was to promote the F.L.C. and the Circle of Prayer. The purpose of the Fellowship is to encourage prayer and the giving of the Least Coin She put forward recommendations for the following organisation to be put in hand: -

- (a) A system for the collection of Least Coin contributions,
- (b) Promotion of the Circle of Prayer,
- (c) The appointment of Convenors in local branches and on State and National levels,
- (d) Production of labels for jars, prayer leaflets and press releases,
- (e) Fellowship with the 5,000 overseas students in Australia, especially women students.

Following discussion

It was resolved that the Working Committee, at the National level, and the State Units at the State level, appoint an officer to be responsible for the promotion of the F.L.C. and for the production of up-to-date information.

It was resolved that £394/7/11, the amount at hand on Dec. 31st, 1965, for the F.L.C., be remitted to Geneva.

National Committee Minutes, February, 1967 (p. 16)

Tape recording of Mrs. Shanti Solomon about F.L.C. used. The work of Mrs. S. M. Barrett, retiring national convenor, was acknowledged.

It was resolved that the working committee deal with the matter of the appointment of a new national Convenor of the F.L.C., and that this person be a Victorian. (The Working Committee moving immediately after this from Sydney to Victoria).

Then followed a discussion concerning future administration costs of F.L.C. The previous Working Committee had given labels free but charged 2 cents for new information folders. It was felt that promotion would be easier if no cost were made.

It was resolved that the newer state units of Tasmania and Western Australia be given free 300 copies of the information folder of the F.L.C.

It was resolved that the future costs of administration of the F.L.C. and future costs of printing be a charge on the F.L.C. fund.

MARCH, 1967 - Mrs. Strack became Convenor of F.L.C.

From Working Committee Minutes of 21st July, 1967 -

"Mrs. Strack reported that in light of replies received from the States, she had asked the A.C.C. to order 450 copies of the Circle of Prayer III.

From National Committee Minutes, February, 1968 (p. 6)

Mrs. Strack reported:-

Increased interest; literature distributed throughout Australia and also N.Z. and Papua.

Leaflets of talk recorded by Mrs. Shanti Solomon distributed.

Circle of Prayer III arrived from Bangkok, available at 31 cents. (800 copies ordered).

Booklet available telling of allocation for projects.

It was resolved that the National Committee emphasize the fellowship of prayer and also the least coin so that the original intention of the fellowship might be honoured.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN Summary

From Working Committee Minutes, 14th June, 1968 -

Mrs. Strack reported:-

She had ordered 200 extra copies of Circle of Prayer. Information had been received via Mrs. Badger that the Circle of Prayer would be issued every 2 years in future. Mrs. Rathie Selvaratnam would continue to promote the fellowship; National Groups were asked to provide film strips or photographs of work being done with grants made.

9th August, 1968 -

Resolved that we order 270 copies of Circle of Prayer.

Resolved that another tape be made of Mrs. Shanti Solomon's record.

(We had been asked to order in multiples of 90 for convenience of packing.)

8th November, 1968 -

Decided to order a further 180 copies of Circle of Prayer. A letter from Mrs. Selvaratnam indicated that a project from Australia would be acceptable.

6th December, 1968 -

Mrs. Strack reported that Mrs. Selvaratnam had asked her to have the printing for the allocation of monies done in Australia to save postage, etc. This would be paid for by the F.L.C.

National Committee, February, 1969 (p. 8)

Mrs. Strack reported:-

1450 copies of Circle of Prayer III had been ordered.

A new list of places which had received grants from F.L.C. from 1958 - 1968 had been printed. In 1968 a grant of US \$1,000 had been received for the European-Australian Christian Fellowship.

Working Committee Minutes, 1969 -

14th March, 1969 -

Mrs. Strack reported that an allocation from the F.L.C. had been made to the Lay Training Programme in New Guinea. Also one was being made to the Committee on Co-operation for the Training of an Asian for marriage counselling.

June, 1969 -

5,000 allocation leaflets printed.

21st November, 1969 -

Mrs. Strack reported that she had received a copy of the book, "In Quest of the Least Coin".

12th December, 1969 -

Mrs. Strack reported that she had received information from A.C.C. as to the disbursement of the £450 received in the original allocation for use among Aboriginal girls. £150 was given to O.P.A.L. for books and uniforms for girls; £150 to S.A. (N.M.C.A.) to purchase a piano; £150 for library books for girls in hostels in other states.

Presbyterian Book Room willing to order 20 - 25 copies of "In Search of the Least Coin".

Institute of Aboriginal Development put forward as a possible project for F.L.C.

National Committee, February, 1970 -

Report of Mrs. Strack:

Gifts of Prayer circulate widely. 2,530 copies of Circle of Prayer III distributed in Australia. Some groups using it as study material. Theme for Circle of Prayer IV, "Who is my Neighbour?"

Mrs. Selvaratnam reported 50 countries affiliated with F.L.C.

Allocations to Australia for 1969 were US\$1,000 for

1. Lay Training Institute in Papua and New Guinea.

2. Marriage Guidance Institute for an Asian to study subject in Australia (original candidate from Ceylon did not eventuate.)

Allocation for 1970: Prahran Methodist Mission and Christian Community Centre.

Session 8: Possibility discussed of bringing Mrs. Selvaratnam to various states on the conclusion of her visit to the Churches of Christ World Meeting in October in Adelaide. It was felt that if Mrs. Selvaratnam is to be used to promote the F.L.C. it would be reasonable to take money from F.L.C. for extra fares within Australia. (Mrs. Selvaratnam visited Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. The extra amount paid for her fare was A\$36. See Treasurer's Report, February, 1971).

Working Committee Minutes, 1970 -

May 15th -

Mrs. Jill Perkins' "Fragments of War" ready. Printing had been paid for by F.L.C., so all receipts could go to Asian Christian Service. (60 cents per copy).

Working Documents, February, 1971 - p. 9

Report of Mrs. Strack.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP

Summary compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Ashton, March, 1971.

National Committee Minutes, Jan., 1966, p. 29.

Report of 1965, Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

"During the planning prior to the calling of the First National Committee of A.C.W., discussion had taken place on the programme and projects of A.C.W. Two projects were suggested:

Fellowship of the Least Coin
Winifred Kiek Scholarship

The suggestion of offering a scholarship was felt by many to be one of the key ways of drawing together the Church women of Australia and linking them with women across national barriers.

The interim committee put forward the name of Miss Connie Tan from Indonesia, with information about her and possible programme outline. This was accepted. The interim committee recognised when suggesting the scholarship in 1965 that in future years the processing of a scholarship should be done through the channels of an N.C.C., the scholarship committee of the A.C.C. and A.C.W.

Organisation: As the preliminary work had been done by this Interim Committee through the office of A.C.C., Miss Skillier was asked to continue to act as secretary. A small committee was brought together which included two social workers who had visited Indonesia in 1964 with the A.C.C. team. Others who had experience in university and institutional life as well as representatives of the women's Interchurch Council were also included on the committee.

Investments: £100 had been received for investment, the interest to be used for the scholarship fund, from Rev. Winifred Kiek. This had been invested by the A.C.C. Association Ltd. in Commonwealth Special Bonds at the current rate of interest.

National Committee Meeting, Jan., 1966, P. 33 Statement on W. Kiek Scholarships Policy -

1. Australian Church Women, as part of its programme, will include the granting of a Scholarship to be known as the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. Where possible a scholarship will be given each academic year.
2. The purpose of the scholarship is to offer supplementary training for a Christian woman who has already received her basic training. The scholarship is intended for those who give leadership in church life and for those who need strengthening as Christians for their work in the world.
3. The scholarship to be tenable for 10 months (one academic year) and part of the year to be spent in a training school or university, part in practical work and observation in church and community institutions, and part in speaking to women's groups and church groups.
4. The scholarship to be part of the Australian Council of Churches' inter-church aid scholarship operation and the Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service to be asked to underwrite the scholarship, Australian Church Women having a funding account, reimbursing

the inter-church aid operations as donations are received through their appeal on Fellowship Day and any other donations given for the scholarship.

5. The terms of the scholarship will be circulated through the national Christian Councils of the East Asia Christian Conference, the All Africa Conference of Churches and the Pacific Conference of Churches. Applications to be received by the Working Committee of Australian Church Women for selection.

The successful application to be forwarded to the scholarship committee of the Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service of the Australian Council of Churches for perusal before going to the Division for adoption. Australian Church Women to be represented on the scholarship committee by two members.

6. The application to be made on the prescribed form used by the scholarship committee, viz.:

Application in triplicate

Academic Record	Appendix A	3 forms
Language Certificate	" B	
Recommendations	" C	3 forms
Health Certificates	" D	
Statement by Church	" E	
Place of Study	" F	

7. Forms to be made available upon request through the Working Committee of Australian Church Women. Application forms to be channelled through the relevant national Christian council whose recommendation will accompany the application.
8. The co-operation of training schools and universities will be sought to provide for places and facilities.
9. The Working Committee of Australian Church Women will be responsible for the arrangements made for the scholarship holder concerning her training; accommodation and personal requirements. The co-operation of State Units of Australian Church Women will be sought in the carrying out of the arrangements.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - Summary Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

Working Documents, Jan. 1966, p. 24 (Report of 1965)

Recommendations concerning the working arrangements for the W.K.S. holder's Programme:

1. The National Committee of A.C.W. shall appoint annually a W.K.S. National Scholarship Committee. This committee shall have general oversight of the programme planned for the scholarship holder.
2. The committee shall be closely associated with the national office of A.C.C. and especially with secretaries of DICARWS and Dept. of Mission.
3. The committee shall include those who have had experience with overseas students in both academic and institutional life and who can readily understand the problems facing individuals coming from different cultural backgrounds.
4. The committee shall present regularly reports to and consult with the Working Committee of A.C.W. on matters of policy and finance.
5. Each state unit be asked to appoint a small sub-committee to work in co-operation with the W.K.S. Committee in matters of publicity programme and accommodation arrangements. Comments on No. 3 above should be kept in mind when appointing the committee.
6. Because of the nature of the W.K.S. there can be no set financial arrangements. Therefore the W.K. National S. Committee shall, in consultation with State Units, prepare a programme and set out the financial requirements for each scholarship.
7. Items such as travel, academic training expenses, pocket money and clothing allowance will vary according to the courses available and the extent of assistance needed by the scholarship holder.
8. It is hoped that the training programme facilities and accommodation will be provided free or made available at nominal fees by churches, universities and welfare academies, etc.
9. In preparing the programme a short orientation period should be provided especially for those coming from non-English speaking countries. The committee should see that at least one person is co-opted to it from the same academic field as the scholarship holder who can act as guide, philosopher and friend.
10. The W.K.S. committee be requested to prepare a small booklet setting out, for the guidance of all who will assist in carrying out the programme, the details of the scholarship holder. These should include
 - full biographical notes
 - cultural background notes, etc.
 - anticipated difficulties likely to be experienced because of our different way of life, e.g. food, clothing, customs, etc.

p. 5 Discussion on Policy and Recommendations

Concerning working arrangements of W.K.S. programme. It was taken into account -

- (a) That the Policy was a document outlining what the W.K.S. is and how it operates, and that the document is sent outside Australia to N.C.Cs. who may nominate scholarship holders, as well as being used within Australia.
- (b) That the Recommendations concerning the working arrangements of scholarship holder's programme applied within Australia.

The main points which emerged in discussion were:

- (a) The need for flexibility and adaptability in planning the scholarship holder's programme.
- (b) That where possible, and exchange does not preclude this, there should be encouragement for the scholarship holder, her family or her church to make some contribution, however small, towards expenses.
- (c) The need to guard against the scholarship holder being harassed by too many invitations to church meetings.

On the recommendation of the Working Committee the W.K.S. Policy was ratified by the National Committee meeting.

It was resolved that the Recommendations concerning working arrangements for the scholarship holder's programme be adopted.

It was resolved that the first undertaking of the W.K. National Scholarship committee be to examine and re-draft, as considered necessary the two documents - the policy and recommendations.

1966: The 50 year old applicant not being deemed suitable, it was not possible for the national committee to make plans concerning the 1966 scholarship holder.

Report of Working Committee for 1965, p. 5 reports on policy of W.K.S. (See p. 4)

Working Documents. National Committee, 1967.

Report of Working Committee for 1966.

P. 9 W.K.S. The decision of the National Committee meeting that a National Scholarship Committee be formed was put into effect following the February meeting of the Working Committee. This was convened by Deaconess M. Andrews and meetings were held regularly.

See pp. 23 - 24 for Scholarship Report.

p. 23 Miss Sabita Swarup of Fiji was selected as scholarship holder for 1966.

p. 24 It is hoped that the scholarship holder for 1967 would come from Papua and the Y.W.C.A. of Port Moresby had asked that Miss Anna Busina be considered.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - Summary Winifred Kiek Scholarship.

A.C.W. Working Committee Minutes

June 1967. It was decided that the President and Secretary of the Working Committee should confer with the Pres. Exec. Director of the Y.W.C.A. of Australia about arrangements for Miss Anna Busina; her time of arrival, accommodation, place and programme of training, finance, publicity, contacts with state units, etc. The Secretary was asked to write to the Y.W.C.A. in Port Moresby reminding them that the sending body is responsible for the bursary holder's pocket money (\$6 per week), and to Rev. F. Byatt to ask if the committee members might each have a copy of the resume he had prepared on Miss Busina.

Brochure: On the suggestion of Deaconess Andrews it was decided to prepare a Brochure on Miss Busina on the same lines as those on Miss Tan and Miss Swarap. *Swarap*

July 1967. Report on plans and programme for Miss Busina.

August 1967. It was reported that the President and Secretary had conferred with the Y.W.C.A. and it was agreed that Miss Busina should return home for health reasons.

It was decided that the question of climatic conditions in relation to the time of year should be considered when the next scholarship holder was chosen.

National Committee, Feb. 1968. Minutes p. 17.

Report of W.K.S. Committee for 1968. Possibility of Girls' Life Brigade trainee raised.

Working Committee. Minutes, June, 1968.

Miss Jackie Kini accepted as the W.K.S. holder for 1968, and outline of programme of training given. 8000 brochures on Miss Kini to be ordered.

National Committee February, 1968.

W.K.S. Report p. 11.

Report on Miss Busina.

Request from Girls' Brigade that application of Miss Jackie Kini be considered.

It was decided to ask the N.S.W. Scholarship committee to continue to act.

It was resolved that the Scholarship Committee be asked to proceed with negotiations for the awarding of the W.K.S. to a member of the Girls' Brigade, Miss Jackie Kini, for the ensuing year in order that she may be trained for youth leadership.

The Scholarship Committee was asked to consider the recommendation of the Working Committee that a scholarship be awarded to a girl to study in her own country. Report back to National Committee in 1969.

National Committee Minutes - W.K.S., February, 1969.

p. 10. The report as presented in the working document p. 8 was commented on by Deaconess Andrews. After careful consideration by the Working Committee of the future of the W.K.S. Committee the following recommendations were presented and carried:

Report of Recommendations of the Working Committee Regarding the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Feb. 1969

The Working Committee has considered the present working arrangements for the operation of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship and after discussion would recommend:

1. That the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee be located in the same state as the Working Committee.
2. That the Convenor of the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee be a member of the Working Committee to provide a direct link between the two bodies.
3. That the Convenor be appointed at each National Committee meeting.
4. That at the first meeting of the Working Committee after the National Committee meeting, one other member of the Working Committee be appointed to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee.
5. That the other members of the W.K.S. Committee be appointed from the same State as the Working Committee as representatives of the following Mission Boards and Fraternal bodies: Anglican: A.B.M., C.M.S.; Congregational: C.C.W.M., Churches of Christ; Methodist: M.O.M.; Presbyterian: A.P.B.M.; Salvation Army, and the Inter-Church Aid and Y.W.C.A., with power to co-opt.
6. That members representing these Christian Groups, working in Asian and Pacific countries be invited to make nominations of candidates through their appropriate agency and the Committee select the most suitable candidate.
7. That each state unit be asked to appoint a Liaison Officer with power to co-opt, to deal with matters of State promotion and concern.

It was resolved that we record our appreciation of the work done by the W.K.S. Committee since its inception and in particular to Deaconess Mary Andrews for her work as convenor. Appreciation was also expressed for the contribution made to the scholarship holders during their residence at Deaconess House.

(Note No. 3 above would need a change in the constitution and has not been implemented. It also was felt that it was better for the selection of the convenor to be in the hands of the Working Committee.)

Report of Working Committee, p. 17

Working Committee Minutes

April 1969. It was resolved that the secretary should duplicate 5,500 copies of a leaflet re W.K.S. Scholarship to be sent out to groups using the Fellowship Day Service. Leaflet to be prepared by convenor W.K.S. Committee and secretary. Deaconess Andrews to be contacted to see if any original documents on W.K.S. were available.

Aug. '69: Mrs. Burton reported that a meeting would be held in August (21st) with representatives of Mission Boards and Inter-church Aid. *Sateral* details would need to be clarified at the next National Committee, e.g. what is meant by the term 'matric'?

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN - Summary Winifred Kiek Scholarship

September, 1969: Following the meeting on 21st, a form was drawn up and duplicated to send to all who had been present seeking nomination for 1970. These to be in the hands of the convenor by November 23rd. It was hoped to make an award for 1970 and that the scholarship holder be able to arrive in time for the national committee meeting.

(See W.K.S. Convenor's file, or President's file for Report on Meeting on 21st August.)

National Committee Minutes February, 1970.

Session 3. Report of Committee.

Full report of Convenor, Mrs. Burton, in report of Working Committee.

Announced winner of scholarship for 1970, Miss Veronica Kafa, and giving Principles and comments discussed by W.K.S. Committee.

Working Committee Minutes.

Feb. 1970 - report on Miss Kafa's arrival, pocket money, accommodation, clothing, etc.

April, 1970: agreed Miss Kafa attend a Y.W.C.A. Leadership Training Course at Mollgrove during May vacation, and \$25 be paid for cost of this.

July, 1970: Mrs. Burton reported that Rev. E. H. Arblaster of I.C.A. had written informing the committee that I.C.A. would be willing to assist in the excess of \$500 fare if the applicant was chosen from a country requiring a fare greater than £500. Application forms had been sent to the All Africa Conference of Churches, the E.A.C.C. and Pacific Conference of Churches.

October, 1970 - The 1971 scholarship had been offered to Miss Violet Sampa of Zambia. I.C.A. will pay her fare in excess of £500.

National Committee Working Documents, February, 1971 -

Report of Working Committee, p. 10.

Report from Miss Kafa, P. 11.

List of 1971 applications for W.K.S., p.12.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Summary compiled by Mrs. Elizabeth Ashton, March, 1971.

From Report of Working Committee for 1965, p. 18 -

Third Asian Church Women's Conference:-

An invitation had been received for A.C.W. to send a delegate to this conference to be held at Tokyo, Japan, from July 15-26, 1966.

The following qualifications were outlined:-

1. Delegates should be actively related to the women's organisation of the church where they hold membership.
2. They should be those who have never had an opportunity of attending an international Christian conference outside their country before.
3. They should be elected representatives of the church's national women's organisation.
4. That in case there is no such national women's organisation in the country, the Church Assembly or their Executive Committee be requested to elect their delegates to the conference.
5. In choosing delegates a reasonable weightage should be given to united churches.
6. There should be a reasonable denominational balance.

Concerning finance the letter said, "The Asian Church Women's Committee anticipates to practice the principle of stewardship and self-support. If the national Council or the Women's organisation within it will contribute U.S. 150 dollars plus passport and visa expenses for each delegate, the conference will pay the balance of the total cost of return air passage (tourist). For those countries where the return air passage expense is less than US\$150 we request the national bodies to be totally responsible. Hospitality will be provided in Japan.

This information was presented to the Working Committee on August 14th, and it was resolved (1) that we write to the A.C.W.C. stating that we hope to send one representative; (2) that we advise State Units of the contents of the letter and invite them to make nominations and suggestions concerning how our share of travel expenses be met; (3) the decision as to who the representative will be should rest with the national committee.

From National Committee Minutes, February, 1966, p. 13.

3rd A.C.W.C.

It was resolved that Mrs. D. G. Badger be appointed to represent A.C.W. at the 3rd A.C.W.C. to be held in Tokyo, July 15 - 26th, 1966.

It was resolved that the Working Committee set up a travel Fund for the purpose of providing finance to send Mrs. Badger to this conference, those to be approached to be:-

- (a) State units of A.C.W., especially N.S.W.;
- (b) N.S.W. State Committee of A.C.C.
- (c) Congregational Women's Fellowship of N.S.W.
- (d) Congregational Church, Epping - Mrs. Badger's church.

Permanent Travel Fund -

It was resolved that the Executive of the Working Committee look into the possibility of establishing a permanent overseas Travel Fund.

(Mrs. Wylie in presenting Working Committee report had said (National Committee Minutes, 1966, p. 3), "It was pointed out that whilst A.C.W. (along with other countries) had only been asked to contribute approx. £75 to cost of travel to Tokyo, yet it had been customary when delegates from Australia and New Zealand had attended Conferences of E.A.C.C. for full travel costs to have been met by those countries.

It was suggested that we should think in terms of contributing more towards travel than that actually stipulated).

National Committee Minutes, 1967, p. 15 - Mrs. Badger reported on A.C.W.C. A full report appeared in Working Documents, 1967.

p. 27, Working Committee Report -

Mrs. D. G. Badger was the elected delegate to A.C.W.C. which was held in Tokyo, July 15-26.

Mrs. J. F. Dey, the Treasurer, accepted responsibility for organising a travel fund by which it was hoped it would be possible for A.C.W. to meet the whole of Mrs. Badger's return fare of \$807.50. The total amount donated was \$919.52.

In March word was received that A.C.W. could also send an observer to this conference, all expenses to be the responsibility of the person attending. The Rev. Winifred Kiek attended in this capacity.

National Committee Minutes, 1969 -

p.16, A.C.W.C.

It was resolved that information regarding A.C.W.C. be included as news items for all states and that states be asked to submit names for representatives and observers when available representation is known.

Minutes, 14th March, 1969 -

"The dates of A.C.W.C., 9-16th September, 1970. Australia entitled to send 2 delegates, 2 observers. It was resolved that we write asking if final naming of delegates and observers could be left until next National Committee meeting.

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States to be alerted through newsletter of need for consideration of delegates and observers and to be ready to submit names for consideration by July 31st if necessary. It would be necessary for delegates to meet their own expenses for passport and visa. An appeal to be made for funds to meet the US \$150 necessary for each delegate.

March Newsletter p. 5 - Summary of invitation to Conference -
(No reply came as to request to delay sending in of names, so voting took place at National Committee 1970.)

National Committee Minutes of Session 5 -

Details of nominations received for delegates to the 4th A.C.W.C. would be placed on notice board and election would take place on Friday. Two representatives and 2 observers would be sent.

Discussion took place as to ways and means of raising the necessary money to send delegates.

It was resolved that State units should share in raising this money. Some units already had plans in hand for this.

It was resolved that we give Mrs. D. Badger authority to state that we would welcome the opportunity of being host country for an A.C.W.C. Mrs. Badger was congratulated on being a member of the Planning Committee for the 4th A.C.W.C.

Result of voting:

Delegates - Mrs. Strack and Mrs. Bailey.

Observers - Mrs. Crosby and Mrs. Dingle.

At the last minute Mrs. Crosby was unable to go. Mrs. Ashton, who had been nominated, but who had withdrawn her name before the voting, was selected to attend as an observer.

Working Committee Minutes, May 1970 -

Mrs. Strack indicated that Rev. Harvey Perkins was making the necessary travel arrangements. Booklets for study had been received. Mrs. Selvaratnam had still not received official notification of delegates (astray in post). The Australian and New Zealand delegates had been asked to provide Vespers for one session. Mrs. Bailey had been asked to prepare this.

June, 1970 -

Mrs. Strack had been appointed leader of the delegation.

Rev. H. Perkins had been in touch with Mrs. Strack concerning fares. The book to be studied for the conference is "Life Together" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

July, 1970 -

Mrs. Strack reported that she had communications from Mrs. Perkins with suggestions for the cultural evening (to be organised by Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands). It was decided that Mrs. Strack should take a box of 2 dozen A.C.W. pens for distribution at the Conference. Mrs. Strack would contact the other delegates concerning the cultural evening.

Recommendations from A.C.W.C. would be circulated with National Committee Minutes.

August, 1970 - Mrs. Strack reported on suggestions she had made concerning the cultural evening.

Orders of Service for Fellowship Day and World Community Day, Brochures and pens would be given each delegation by our members. Pleasure was expressed that Mrs. Ashton would be a member of the delegation. Opportunity was also taken to express good wishes to both Mrs. Strack and Mrs. Ashton for their journey to Djakarta.

September, 1970 - Mrs. Strack and Mrs. Ashton both spoke enthusiastically of the Djakarta conference. Bible study had been led by Father Paul Verghese and had been excellent. Business sessions had been long but interesting. More consideration would need to be given to the position of delegates and observers to the conference. Mrs. Jill Perkins had edited a daily news sheet. Mrs. Esther Bautista (of Philippines) had been appointed chairman. Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Badger were appointed to the Planning Committee. Further reports would be given to state organisations as representatives are asked to speak. Time had been allotted at the National Committee for reports.

Newsletter, October, 1970 - A personal report by Mrs. Ashton.

Note from E. Ashton - In 1970 no move was made to pay more for observers than the US\$150 asked for. Costs of delegates apart from this was met by amounts put aside annually by F.L.C.

By arrangement this sum for the 2 delegates was paid to E.A.C.C. via Rev. Harvey Perkins.

By vote at National meeting, February, 1970, it was agreed to pay the Board of the observers at the conference which was US\$5 per day. There was doubt as to how this should be paid, and I took it in US travellers' cheques, as there was nothing to indicate that it must be in US cash, not travellers' cheques. Mrs. Dingle and I had great difficulty over this. We were told that we would not be able to change trav. cheques at Sukabumi and we must change into Indonesian Currency which we did. But at Sukabumi the Conference officials refused to accept Indonesian Currency - only by changing it bit by bit with others who had US cash and wished to buy things at Sukabumi in local cash were we able bit by bit to scrape up enough US cash to pay. This may never arise again, but our Planning Committee members should ascertain necessary details of this kind well in advance.

One delegate from each country goes on to the Planning Committee. It was said from the chair that she should be chosen by the 2 delegates and Planning Committee person, and not by delegates and observers. Many questioned the wisdom of this and I think Mrs. Selvaratnam herself was doubtful. It was not clear what the new constitution would say. As one of the delegates becomes a member of the Planning Committee for the next four

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years, I think that there should be an A.C.W. nominations Committee to weigh up names sent in and add if necessary - that the best possible choice should be put before the Annual Meeting for election, and I feel that it is important for our National Committee to indicate whom they would like to be one representative on the Planning Committee for the next four years. It is invidious if it is left to the 2 delegates to decide even with the previous Planning Committee person acting as referee.

I think that the Working Committee should again say that we feel it is too early to choose our delegates and observers eighteen months before the conference and ask if we can vote at the National Committee immediately before the A.C.W.C. (presuming A.C.W. meets in January or February and A.C.W.C. July or August).

I feel that it was helpful for the Travel Fund to pay the Board of observers (US\$5 per day in 1970) and would hope that in future some help towards the fare could also be given by the Travel Fund to observers. Australian Church women gain greatly by sending as many representatives as possible. - It would be good if we could choose the best representatives regardless of their ability to pay their own fares.

A U S T R A L I A N C H U R C H W O M E N

MEMORIAL MINUTE:

At the request of MRS. J. DENNIS, president of AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN, the following MEMORIAL MINUTE was prepared and also read by MRS. E. DINGLE at the meeting of the WORKING COMMITTEE of AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN, held at P.W.M.U. office, Ann St., Brisbane, at 10.30 a.m., on MONDAY, 28th JUNE, 1971. -

"It is with a keen sense of loss that we record the death of the IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT of AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN, MRS. F. R. ASHTON of Melbourne. Her unexpected death came as a shock, though it was known she had returned to hospital following an operation.

MRS. ASHTON was taken from us at the height of her powers. A woman of grace and charm, with a trained mind, broad sympathies and an understanding heart, she brought to her office all the rich gifts of her whole personality. SERVICE was the keynote of her life. Her influence will live on and will surely be an inspiration to others.

She had a firm faith which had been tested in the fires of experience, an experience which few of her contemporaries were called upon to face. She could say with St. Paul, 'I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.'

As BETTY PATON, a graduate in Arts of the University of Melbourne, she went out as a missionary to teach in a school at Hong Kong. A DAUGHTER OF THE MANSE, she and her brothers and sisters grew up in an atmosphere of dedicated service and all have made worthy contributions to the life of the Church and the community. Her parents were the REV. and MRS. FRANK PATON of Victoria and both her grandfathers were ministers of the Church.

In Hong Kong she met Dr. F. R. ASHTON, an Englishman serving with the London Missionary Society at the Nethersole Hospital. They were married in 1941 just prior to the Japanese occupation and were both imprisoned in Stanley Prison from 1941 to 1945, where they both worked for the welfare of the prisoners. Of her grim experiences through those years she spoke little. The hardships and privations did not embitter her, rather was her spirit refined and her faith intensified. After their release from prison they came to Victoria to regain their health and vigour, then returned to Hong Kong to serve the London Missionary Society until their retirement in 1966 when they settled in Melbourne.

In 1967 Mrs. Ashton was elected SECRETARY of Australian Church Women on the nomination of the Young Women's Christian Association, but again Dr. Ashton was asked to do further work in Hong Kong so she had to relinquish the position to accompany her husband. However, after a year, they were back again in Australia, and it was then Mrs. Ashton became PRESIDENT of Australian Church Women (1969), a position she filled with dignity, grace and efficiency until the beginning of this year when the Working Committee moved to Queensland, and all office bearers had to be Queenslanders.

Also in 1969 Mrs. Ashton became NATIONAL PRESIDENT of the Y.W.C.A. which position she held at the time of her death; indeed, she was preparing to attend the World Convention of the Y.W.C.A. to be held in Ghana this year, as the representative of the Australian Association.

Mrs. Ashton was one of a delegation of five who attended the ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE at Sukabumi, Indonesia, last year, where her participation was much appreciated.

As we pay our tribute to one who early committed herself to the Christian way of life, served sacrificially and finished the course with honour, we are confident that she had a triumphal entry into the Kingdom and received the accolade, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

*** SPECIAL NOTE: Following the recording of the above 'minute', advice was received from Dr. F. Ashton that the period referred to in Stanley prison was, in fact, "internment" not "imprisonment".

DIRECTORY

<u>A.C.W. - STATE UNITS</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY Canberra Church Women	Mrs. E. R. GOUDIE	24 Cowper St., AINSLIE, A.C.T. 2602
NEW SOUTH WALES Women's Inter-Church C'cil	Mrs. A. M. BELL	7 Waratah St., ARNCLIFFE, N.S.W. 2205.
VICTORIA Women's Inter-Church C'cil	Mrs. L. E. WARNER	79 The Boulevard, IVANHOE, VICTORIA. 3079.
TASMANIA Women's Inter-Church C'cil	Mrs. N. F. COCKS	33 Forest Rd., WEST HOBARD, TASMANIA. 7000.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA Women's Inter-Church C'cil	Mrs. T. R. HOWIE	9 Buchan St., BEAUMONT, STH. AUSTRALIA. 5066.
WESTERN AUSTRALIA A.C.W. - West. Aus. Unit	Mrs. V. WILSON	7 Reserve St., WEMBLEY, W. AUSTRALIA. 6014.
QUEENSLAND A.C.W. - Queensland Unit	Mrs. D. CRAMB	28 Khartoum St., GORDON PARK, QLD. 4031.
<u>FEDERAL ORGANISATIONS</u> (Denominational Women's O.)		
ANGLICAN SECRETARIAT	Mrs. K. LESLIE Mrs. J. HOUSDEN Mrs. D. GARNSEY	Bishops court, BATHURST, N.S.W. 2795. Bishops court, NEWCASTLE, N.S.W. 2300. Bishops court, SALE, VICTORIA. 3859.
CHURCHES OF CHRIST Christian Women's F'ship	Mrs. J. McILWRAITH	18 Exford Way, KARRINYUP, W. AUST. 6018.
CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S F'SHIP	Mrs. H. A. DOWNES	1 Sherwood Rd., MT. WAVERLEY, VICTORIA. 3149.
METHODIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION	Mrs. A. H. ATKINSON	27 Panoramic Rd., NORTH BALWYN, VIC. 3104.
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOC.	Mrs. J. GROAT	22 Karuah St., STRATHFIELD WEST, N.S.W. 2140.
SALVATION ARMY (Chief Sec.)	Territorial Headquarters, " " "	59 Bourke St., Melbourne, 3000. 140 Elizabeth St., Sydney, 2000.
Y.W.C.A. Executive Officer	Mrs. J. PRENDERGAST	68 Powlett St., EAST MELBOURNE, VIC. 3002.
<u>COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY & SOCIETY</u>		
Convenor	Mrs. T. H. COATES	Wesley Collage, PRAHRAN, VICTORIA. 3181.
<u>ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE</u>		
Planning Committee Members...	Mrs. D. BADGER Mrs. F. BAILEY	56 Epping Av., EPPING, N.S.W. 2121. 24 Salisbury Crescent, COL. LIGHT GARDENS, 5041.
<u>WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER</u>		
Liaison Officer	Mrs. J. STRACK	66 Tennyson St., MOONEE PONDS, VIC. 3039.
<u>A.C.W. WORKING COMMITTEE</u>		
President	Mrs. J. DENNIS	32 Coronation St., BARDON, Q. 4065
Vice Presidents	Mrs. C. MILLER	293 Birdwood Tce., TOOWONG, Q. 4066
(Acting)	Mrs. E. DINGLE	56 Kew Rd., GRACEVILLE, Q. 4075
W.K.S. C'tee Convenor	Mrs. K. POPE	77 Hawthorne Rd., HAWTHORNE, Q. 4171
F.L.C. Convenor	Mrs. G. HAIGH	63 Seventh Ave., GLEN KEDRON, A. 4031
C'spondent - United Churches	Mrs. R. LANE	193 Ekibin Rd., EAST BNE. 4103.
Despatch & Distributions	Brig. M. GEDDES	C/- Salv. A. Temple, Ann St. Bne. 4000
W.K.S. C'tee & Ass. to Sec.	Mrs. B. CLARKE	74 Akonna St., WYNNUM, Q. 4178
Treasurer	Mrs. D. ELDERSHAW	31 Burrell St., CLAYFIELD, Q. 4011
Secretary	Mrs. C. CONNELL	15 Burns Parade, CHAPEL HILL, Q. 4069.

PROJECT INFORMATION

An important item on the Agenda (Thursday & Friday, 10.00 a.m.) is the consideration of needy projects worthy of A.C.W. support either by

(a) submission as a project worthy to receive monetary assistance from F.L.C. Funds, (it has been stated in this connection that an Australian project should be submitted.)

or

(b) donation from offerings received on World Community Day, 1972.

Facts concerning some suggested projects are set out for your information to facilitate decision-making when the matter is under consideration.

Some suggested projects are -

1. "JAKKUM" (The Christian Foundation for Public Health, Indonesia)
2. "SATYA WATJANA" - Christian University in Central Java, seeking financial support for individual scholarships to the University (\$165.00 per annum) for students eligible to attend but unable to meet the cost. (Information concerning this was circulated with minutes of the Working Committee meeting held in July, 1971.)
3. HALL OF RESIDENCE for WOMEN, UNIVERSITY OF NEW GUINEA - This project has already been brought to the attention of church women throughout Australia.
4. TRAINING OF WIVES OF THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS AT RARONGO (United Church of T.P.N.G. & S.I.) The donation from F.L.C. funds was much appreciated, but earthquake damage was quite extensive and much still remains to be done in regard to the training of wives of students.
5. ABORIGINAL MATERNAL & CHILD WELFARE - The infant mortality rate among Aboriginal Australians is believed to be 10 times higher than the overall Australian rate of approx. 20 deaths per 1,000 live births - the rate among infants between 1 and 4 years is even higher (up to 17 times). "Something must be done!"

Concerning "JAKKUM" -

The Christian Foundation for Public Health or "JAKKUM", is a foundation working in the field of public health in Indonesia. It was founded in 1950 as the Foundation of Christian Hospitals in Central Java. Later emphasis placed on preventive work resulted in the changed name, the Foundation working now from the basis, "how to live healthily".

The Foundation works on an "applied research programme" which may be applied to develop rural areas of varying standards via "community development". The programme is preceded by a survey and the collection of data for later use as a basis for development. This method is a responsible but costly one, requiring perseverance.

JAKKUM has sought active co-operation with the universities of SATYA WATJANA and Gadjah Mada and other organizations working in the field of community development. It aims to be self-supporting but as expenses mount, outside aid is sought.

Following valuable experience in the pilot project in the area of Begadiah village, FOUR other areas have been selected for community development activities.

While involving itself in community development, Jakkum continues to expand its efforts in curative and preventive fields. Nine Foundation hospitals are being used by the Government, though JAKKUM received no compensation from the Government. Plans for up-grading and up-dating of hospitals, with new education programmes are in process of being implemented.

New branches of Jakkum have been opened in South Sumatra and Central Java.

LIMITING DIFFICULTIES ARE THE OBTAINING OF FUNDS AND OF DOCTORS. .. Jakkum enjoys most satisfactory relations with Governmental and other bodies working in the field of public health.

JAKKUM'S contributions to activities in community development in the past 5 years have included -

- materials and funds for construction of 'a modern healthy home',
- skilled staff, funds and materials to work the land on a demonstration farm,
- staff, funds for material and equipment for a Primary School,
- a place, teachers and equipment (sewing machine, materials for practical work) in a course - "Towards a Happy Family".
- funds, equipment, staff in various activities, viz. control and marketing of production; irrigation; livestock; improvement of poultry.

It is apparent from the report (dated 25/2/71) over the signature of Dr. Gunawan Nugroho, that a most realistic approach is being made to problems associated with needs of Indonesia's densely populated areas, and there is evidence of wise stewardship of funds passing into the control of Jakkum for disbursement.

Concerning "ABORIGINAL MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE" -

During 1971 the news media frequently focussed attention on the overwhelming need for the education of Aboriginal mothers if the high infant mortality rate is to be arrested. It is generally accepted that "something must be done". A few individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge are attempting to achieve the "something" that must be done. In the main these are members of the medical profession whose work, because of their special qualifications and knowledge, is most effective. One such person is Dr. Jean McFarlane, M.B.D.S., M.R.C.P. (Ed.), F.A.C.M.A., (Director of the Queensland Maternal and Child Welfare Service).

DR. McFARLANE has written a booklet, entitled "THIS IS AN AUSTRALIAN" in the hope that it will prove useful to doctors, nurses, school teachers and social workers who work with Aboriginal infants and young children. Two points from fourteen summarized statements which conclude the booklet are of particular interest -

- (a) "Remember that children will continue to fail to thrive if, at the same time as they are being treated, the general health and hygiene standards within the community are not improved."
- (b) "Remember that example and encouragement which give incentive to want to do the right thing have more permanent results as a means of education than an authoritarian approach."

The printing of Dr. McFarlane's booklet was arranged by the QUEENSLAND HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL.

The Department of Maternal and Child Welfare Services under Dr. McFarlane's direction, has membership in the Queensland Health Education Council, the constituted body officially authorized for Health Education in Queensland.

This body is authorized to investigate health problems and plan programmes for their alleviation, arranging, among other activities, for the production of publications and the provision of visual aids.

In addition to its Annual Grant from Consolidated Revenue, the Council, under the terms of its Constitution can receive "donations, bequests, legacies, grants and contributions".

The PRESS RELEASE for the booklet "This is an Australian" and the film "Food for You and Me", stated that

"the Commonwealth plans to send these booklets to all doctors and final year medical students in Australia and to make them available to those working with Aborigines",
its aim being

"to stress the need for children between 6 months and 3 years to have adequate food for growth. The film "Food for You and Me" photographed and produced by Brian Benson under the direction of Dr. Jean McFarlane for the Queensland Health Education Council, is designed to teach Aborigines about the correct types of food necessary for growth. The Queensland Health Education Council will provide each settlement with a film for use at the settlement as well as having copies available for lending to those interested in Aboriginal health education. It is fitting that the film and the booklet should be first released in Queensland where so much of the research into the problem has been carried out."

FOUR FILMS HAVE NOW BEEN MADE and are in circulation and available from the Council -

Food for You and Me,
Feeding time - Breast Feeding,
Feeding time - Bottle Feeding,
Why Milk.

(Copies of these films have been placed in the National Library in Canberra.)

PRESS STATEMENT: The film "Why Milk" has Aboriginal actors and shows the treatment of milk from farm to factory to consumer. In the factory, special emphasis is placed on processing powdered milk, as many Aboriginal people live in areas where whole milk is unobtainable. As many Aboriginal babies are now unfortunately being bottle fed, there is a sequence in the film showing how a milk mixture should be prepared. It is essential that every care be taken with the preparation of bottle feeds if bowel infection and subsequent failure to thrive is to be prevented."

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT A DONATION BE MADE TO ENABLE DR. JEAN McFARLANE TO PRODUCE ANOTHER ABORIGINAL HEALTH EDUCATION FILM FOR THE QUEENSLAND HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL.

Dr. McFarlane says, "The Council would like to make more such films if money were available. Aborigines enjoy looking at films and so they are a good educational aid.

Topics still to be covered by film include -

Care for the expectant Mother,
V.D.,
Budgeting,
Garbage Disposal, etc. "

PROBLEM TIME

Opportunity will be provided (See Agenda, Thursday - 4.00 p.m.) for brief constructive comment on the following problems -

Ref. P. 18 - Reports (New South Wales)

1. To further the aims of the Council with our changing membership.
2. The publicity of Special Days and A.C.W. projects in a metropolitan area.
3. The danger of the image of the Council becoming a fund raising one.
4. A break-through in country areas of the State.
5. Maintaining the sale of the notelets.

also RECOMMENDATION

1. That it is desirable to include an aboriginal woman in the delegation from Australia to future meetings of the Asian Church Women's Conference.
2. That efforts to find such a person begin immediately, so that when names of delegates to the 1974 meeting are called for, the Working Committee will be prepared and able to act accordingly.

Ref. p. 20 - Reports (Victoria)CONCERNS

The retention of specific interest in A.C.W. Special Days within local Councils which have combined with the existing body (men and women meeting at night). Not all have managed as successfully as the Heidelberg group.

Too advanced preparation of Orders of Service may eliminate use of a more current application.

Ref. p. 22 (South Australia)PROBLEMS

For many years now, our two major problems have been 'communication' and 'co-operation of men and women'.

We are sure that communication, being a problem shared by most organisations, can only be adequately achieved by continual application - particularly at the local level.

Regarding Co-operation between men and women - It is felt that whatever is arranged by men is presumed to be for men and women unless otherwise stated: BUT whatever is arranged by women is presumed to be for women only, even if otherwise stated.

So, we are bold to suggest that consideration be given to closer co-operation with A.C.C. For instance, could the administration of A.C.W. be done through say, the A.C.C. Committee on Church and Society?

DISCUSSION TOPIC

".. FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS .." - THE INCREASING PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF OUR COUNTRY, WITH ITS ATTENDANT PROBLEMS AND AREAS OF CONCERN FOR AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN.

Introduction to the topic -

"For such a time as this!" What kind of time is this?

Centuries before the birth of Christ when Mordecai, the Jew used these very words to challenge the young Queen Esther to courageous action, he was confronting her with the urgency of suiting her action to the need of the day and thus become an instrument in the Almighty's hand. They were dangerous times in which she lived, when her people stood in great peril and the challenge to Esther was to a personal courage that would dare to initiate action.

The times in which we live are distinguished by the unprecedented developments in science and technology which have extended long exploring tentacles into every area of life. Advancements in all fields of learning within the life span of one generation are beyond assessment. Old attitudes, traditional approaches and accepted standards, proving inadequate today, are subject to constant review and revision, so much so, that our times, to say the least, are confusing: the opinion has been expressed that guide lines which give clear Christian direction and meaning to life are indeed difficult to discern.

Paul wrote that a person who was united to Christ, or in union with Him, had entered a new world: the old order had gone and new one had begun. "In this new world", he said, "there is no such thing as Jew and Greek, slave or free, male or female, but just one person in the sight of God". It is interesting now to observe that some of the changed attitudes and approaches that have accompanied the developments of modern times have been struggling to give expression to those three facets of the new world order enunciated by Paul - No RACIAL discrimination: No SOCIAL discrimination: No SEX discrimination in the sight of God. The placards and banners of today's revolutionaries, demonstrators and Women's Lib. advocates all bear witness to this. Do they, we wonder, find the origin of their inspiration in Paul's words or in Christ's teaching?

Most of us have been occupied at different times and in different places with earnest consideration of the first two facets. It may be true, however, that until now, the third one, so deeply concerned with the status of women, has not really been taken seriously. Now, in the seventies, irrefutable statistical evidence compels Christian women to consider seriously the trends of our times in so far as they affect

- i. the quality of our personal Christian living,
- ii. the Christian homes we intend to maintain, and
- iii. the Christian service we plan to render.

And what of the next generation? - "As is the mother so is her daughter!"

Have we a responsibility to ensure a continuing pattern for joyous abundant Christian living which is adaptable to the changing scenes of today and tomorrow? Do we have a "recipe" for that same joyous living which defies today's changes in its adaptability to all situations?

Some issues at stake in today's clearly defined trends will become apparent as the following extracts are read -

Following are EXTRACTS from a paper presented by MISS LENORE COX, DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S BUREAU, DEPT. OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE, CANBERRA, at a Seminar on the increasing participation of women in the economic life of Australia. (The seminar was arranged by the Anglican Mothers' Union in Brisbane, 26th May, 1971, and was attended by women from various denominational backgrounds.)

In the last third of the twentieth century, employment will play a major role in the life of women in Australia, as in Britain, Canada, America, New Zealand, European countries and most countries with developed economies. I do not necessarily mean that it will be wives and mothers working, but again most of these countries reveal this phenomena. In the U.S.A., for example, an integral part of the vocational counselling offered to young girls is the "Space Plan" chart. In Australia, too, young girls about to seek their first job can realistically assume that their life pattern will be along these lines -

There are three basic work force patterns which describe working women:

- (1) Women who work continuously throughout their adult life, regardless of marital status.
- (2) Women who work, marry and leave the work force permanently (either on marriage or at the start of the family formation year).
- (3) Women who work, marry and continue working until the years of family formation and after a temporary break of some 10, 15 or 20 years, subsequently return to work.

In a Swedish study on The Changing Roles of Men and Women edited by Edmund Dahlstrom, housework and gainful employment are compared.

The features of housework that make it unusual according to the Swedish authors are -

- (1) Recruitment - Marriage, the arrival of children, and the traditional family role in effect, are the recruiting agents. And ability and training appear to be almost irrelevant to selection.
- (2) Training - There are no recognised training courses, the majority of housewives learn the technical aspects of housework in their own home after they obtain the 'position'.

- (3) Pay - Housework is unpaid. True, there is a formal recognition of the right of housewives to a share of their husbands' income, but the size of the share is not determined by contract. The amount a wife is entitled to receive is not dependent on her work output but rather on her husband's income. ... There are no set criteria for efficiency.
- (4) Responsibility - Housework involves great freedom. The housewife decides for herself the schedule of a fairly diversified type of work. It entails responsibility, particularly in the long term as far as the rearing of children is concerned.

There must be increasing recognition of the fact that children in a family are not the exclusive responsibility of the mother, but of the father also. The U.N. Seminar on the participation of women in the economic life of their countries held in Moscow, September, 1970, notes in its report -

"To speak always about women separately in connexion with family responsibilities meant that it was and should be the women who assumed primary responsibilities at home, and this view prevented women from taking up their full share of the responsibility in the society as a whole."

When we are talking of the changing role of working women, the statistics often present in a most vivid way where changes have taken place and where stability has occurred.

There has been in recent years, an average annual growth in the work force of some 160,000 persons. The groups contributing to the growth are school-leavers, migrants and married women. Approximately 40% of the annual growth in the work force in recent years has come from married women.

In November 1970, there were nearly 5½ million persons in the labour force. There were 1½ million women workers and of these women more than one million were married. In 1970 NEARLY ONE WORKER OUT OF EVERY THREE WAS A WOMAN.

It comes as something of a shock to most people to realise that more female workers are married than single.

In 1966, nearly half the female work force were married women (47.8%).

By 1970, it was estimated that nearly 60% of the female work force were married women.

Overall, the MOST MARKED INCREASE IN WORK FORCE PARTICIPATION COMES AMONG WOMEN AGED BETWEEN 35 AND 44 YEARS. NEARLY HALF OF THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN THIS AGE RANGE WORK. The effect of early and almost universal marriage of Australian women (by the age of 35 years, only one out of every 10 women has never married) is revealed in the sharp decline in work force participation of women immediately after the age of 24 years. Over 60% of women 20-24 years work in contrast to 40% of those aged 25-35 years.

It is apparent that a considerable proportion of women in the 30-34 age range return to work, but there is a more marked tendency to return among women aged 35-39. However, as the work force pattern reveals, still other women delay their work force return until they are in the 40-44 age range and there is little change in the work force participation pattern of women from the age of 45-60.

Overseas studies have shown that when age, sex, race, education, husband's income and husband's occupation are taken into account, the single factor most likely to influence a married woman to return to work is her LEVEL OF EDUCATION.

In Australia it is also apparent that women with any type of training qualifications beyond formal schooling are more likely to work than those lacking those qualifications. THE HIGHER THE TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS THE MORE LIKELY A WOMAN IS TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT.

In February, 1969, it was estimated by the Statistician that, among those workers who completed their schooling in Australia, a higher proportion of females than males had reached Matriculation or Leaving Level, similarly for those who had Intermediate or Junior. Nearly one-quarter of male workers educated in Australia had not attended secondary school in contrast to 15.8% of female workers. On the present pattern the female worker has attained equal, if not superior, formal schooling to leaving or matriculation level.

IN CONTRAST TO THE WORKING WOMAN OF 20 YEARS AGO, THE WORKING WOMAN OF TODAY IS OLDER, BETTER EDUCATED AND PROBABLY MARRIED.

The notion that there is little use training a girl because she'll only get married and leave, is only partly true. She'll probably get married, go on working and leave for a few years to have her family. Consequently her chances of returning to work are considerably enhanced if she has received initial training and work experience.

WIVES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD SEEM TO NEED NO ENCOURAGEMENT TO RE-JOIN THE WORK FORCE. While educational levels continue to rise, it is likely that this will be a self-generating cycle dependent on economic conditions and social mores.

There is, perhaps, no area of the work force about which emotions are more highly roused than that of WORKING PARENTS. The armchair philosophers, magistrates and others who periodically condemn working mothers for the increase in juvenile delinquency have little, if any, research evidence to support their beliefs. Of course, I am not denying that each person may at this moment have a clear picture of a neighbour or woman down the street, who works and appears to neglect her children by working. I would ask you to consider two things:-

- (i) if that particular mother were physically present with her children, would they be receiving supervision, love and attention, or would they still have been sent out to

play until tea-time or be sitting in front of the television set for hours on end; and (2) for every working mother whose children you feel are neglected, how many other "neglected" children can you call to mind whose mother is completely indifferent to the children, or is psychologically, physically or mentally unable to cope with them or who leaves the children unattended while she goes visiting or shopping, plays sport and so on.

Just as there is no clear demarcation of the 'good' mother and the 'bad' mother (most fit somewhere along the line) so the working mother may be a 'good' mother or a 'bad' mother.

The survey by Labour and National Service showed that there were in 1968-69 only 550 registered centres providing full-day care for approximately 14,000 children. This suggested that there is a present demand for double the number of places if those parents already working were to be able to place their children in circumstances they considered satisfactory. It cannot be assumed that all children in existing child care centres receive the kind of care likely to result in the fullest development of their intellectual and social capacities. As Ruderman of the Child Welfare League wrote, the persons who need day care services are no longer only those 'in special need' because of broken homes, illness and so on, but also the great number of normal, intact families.

Those persons concerned with analysing the information on the work force realised that, in keeping with overseas trends and changing community attitudes, married women were emerging as an important element of the Australian work force.

Following is a brief EXTRACT from a paper by DR. S. A. MELLICK, eminent Brisbane surgeon, a dedicated Anglican Christian and a Marriage Guidance Counsellor. (Also presented at the May Seminar).

At the time when the Mothers' Union was established, there was, within the Christian world, a stable and fairly restricted home environment, in which the mother of a family held undisputed domestic sway. She was responsible for the running of household and children's activities, and in this regard, frequently provided the key link in the family circle. She often devoted the whole of her active years to the education and overseeing of her children's upbringing. Few mothers were able, because of inadequate education, to accept the restricted professional positions available at the time, and those who did work mostly spent their spare time in part-time domestic and unskilled jobs, offering little mental satisfaction, but in many cases, providing both necessary finance for the family and some outlet from what must have been domestic drudgery of a constant nature.

This large number of church orientated women who were free for weekly (or even more frequent) meetings of their peers, having no other activities outside domestic ones, rendered many acts of goodness, and produced a wide diversity of social agencies and organisations, all voluntary, and frequently the responsibility of a relatively small core of dedicated executive members.

In the social environment of the mid twentieth century, profound changes occurred.

As reason why mothers constitute such a large percentage of the work force, economic factors are commonly placed first. Economic reasons are of two types - one is a true need for extra finance for a family, in order that it may adequately provide the right environment and needs for both parents and children. These needs are not only material, but spiritual as well, when the satisfaction of providing these facilities binds the family closer together. There is sometimes the more specious reason when the need for an economic boost to the family is solely to satisfy the extra needs of the parent who wishes to 'keep up with the Joneses' in providing material things which are strictly less valuable than they seem. Additionally some women feel the need to display to their friends the fact that they are not totally tied to their home, and they enjoy a measure of independence in being able to leave their domestic environment and work freely amongst their fellows.

For whatever ultimate reasons these mothers are no longer present in their homes during the day, the results for themselves and their families and the outside world may be quite staggering. In respect of the home situation, most observers would agree that the unifying and stable influence of a well motivated mother within the family circle is best for the rearing of children in their early years. Comments from children of primary and secondary school age support the belief that they like "someone to come home to", someone who is of their own family and not as is often the case an outside babysitter.

Passing beyond the family to the outside world, great changes immediately occur. The large number of persons previously available for informal and voluntary type meetings during the day is now largely utilised in the permanent or casual work force, and they are no longer able to attend these meetings. Societies which formerly mounted large day conferences frequently wither because of this loss of participating members. Furthermore although many women, because of educational attainments, find in their new external positions great mental satisfaction, these same people now find that AFTER THEIR DAY'S EMPLOYMENT, THE ADDITIONAL HOUSE DUTIES REQUIRED AT THE BEGINNING OR AT THE END OF EACH OF THESE WORKING SESSIONS SO ERODES THEIR OUT-OF-HOURS TIME THAT THEY FREQUENTLY MISS MEETINGS DURING THE EVENING. This further diminishes the force available to organisations.

The "mother" in 1971 is not commonly a woman who simply wants to stay at home and bear children one after another. WOMEN ARE INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF STATE AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AND THERE WILL BE NO TURNING BACK FROM THIS, and indeed, the Women's Liberation Movement will probably spread steadily. There will probably be a swing against the current permissive society but I do not think that the present large numbers of domestically emancipated mothers will readily return to the more restricted home environment of their mothers. Remember, too, that as Ezekiel said,

- 4 -

"As is the mother, so is her daughter". Therefore I feel that increasing numbers of women will pursue this freer and wider existence.

An observation I would make is that instead of multitudinous agencies competing for members, a unifying effect may be achieved. This will only be possible when due regard has been given to the amount of time which can be produced by adjustment of the ordinary domestic maternal routine, such adjustment being made without, at the same time, losing those hours of the day which are so necessary to maintain a healthy and morally satisfying home environment.

The Christian Life Curriculum prepared by the Joint Board of Christian Education of Australia and New Zealand and currently in use in many Australian Churches sets out in its adult study material a "method for looking at issues". It suggests that if you want to come to grips with a problem, seven steps in a problem solving method be followed. "This method", it says, "can be applied to almost any problem and provides a tool for analysis and resolution."

Because the topic for discussion is felt to be of importance to all who have concern for the effective role of women in the Church of the seventies, this method will be used in our discussion sessions. It is hoped that benefit will be derived by all who share the discussion periods and that ideas and suggestions will be gleaned which will prove practicable when opportunity is offered for their later implementation.

The following seven questions comprise the "Problem Solving Method" which it is proposed to follow -

1. What is the apparent problem?
2. What is the actual problem?
3. What are the various factors related to this problem?
4. What are the possible solutions to the problem?
5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each possible solution?
6. What is the best solution to the problem?
7. What action needs to be taken to put the solution into effect?

It is not intended that an attempt be made to answer all seven questions in the Problem Solving Method during one discussion session. Provision has been made on the Agenda for three discussion periods and it is suggested that groups attempt to answer no more than three questions in each of the first two, leaving the final session for Question 7 and a brief Comment and Summary by Discussion Group Leaders - this could be included in the National Meeting Report.

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING PAGE (which has been prepared for use during the discussion sessions) AND YOUR BIROS TO THE DISCUSSION PERIODS.

THINK ABOUT THE TOPIC AND BE READY TO MAKE SOME CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS!

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OPENING WORSHIP AND ADDRESS

TUESDAY, 2.00 p.m.

8th FEBRUARY, 1972

The President will request all members to stand for a brief period in silent tribute to the late MRS. F. R. ASHTON, immediate past-president of Australian Church Women. The President's prayer will conclude the period.

President: In these quiet moments, dear Lord, we offer our thanks for the life of Elizabeth Ashton, lived so abundantly among us in loving service. We express our gratitude that it was given to Australian Church Women to know her as president, and be touched by the influence of her Christian character and personality. We remember again the many uses she found for the abilities with which you so graciously endowed her, as she reached out in love to fill the needs of others. Grant, we pray, that the lingering fragrance of her life may be a sweet reminder that "to live for self is to live in vain, but to live for Thee is to live again".
Through Jesus Christ our Lord ... Amen.

PRESIDENT: At this opening session of our 1972 National Committee Meeting, it is fitting that our thoughts should turn in worship and praise to the Author and Finisher of our faith. May our love and adoration find expression in an echo of words spoken in April of last year at the Assembly of Church Women United in Wichita, U.S.A., as we now repeat them. Let us stand.

ALL Glorious art Thou, O God,
Nothing on earth or in heaven can compare with Thy Glory, Thy goodness,
Thy power, Thy wisdom.
How beyond all measure they are! We do not hope to understand Thee,
for how can the drop of water comprehend the ocean!
And yet, Thou hast made us Thy children in Christ. So we know Thy love.
That is enough for us. For if Thou lovest us, who or what in creation
can then be a threat to us?

PRESIDENT O God, Thou hast no beginning,
All things have their beginning in Thee!
Can Space or Time contain Thee?
Are they not Thy creation?

ALL And we, our lives are also from Thee, we are Thine, for Thou gavest us life.
We did not create ourselves, Neither do we live but by Thy will.

PRESIDENT We acknowledge Thee as our Lord, Unto Thee we bow our heads.
Thou art the origin and ground of our being. Thou lovest us, Thou givest us all.

ALL Thou art our God. In Thee we trust.
Unto Thee we lift up our hearts in silent adoration,
O Lord of life, God of love!

MOMENT'S PAUSE FOR SILENT ADORATION

PRESIDENT Let us further express our praise in the singing of the Hymn, "Immortal, Invisible,
God only Wise".

1.
Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great Name we praise.

..... 2/

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might:
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life Thou givest - to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish - but nought changeth Thee.

Resume seats.

PRESIDENT Although our very hearts cry out for the living God, our bondage to self and our slavery to pride, lust, laziness and hate is so great a cloud of sin that His face is hidden from our eyes. Let us then make confession so that we may stand before him in all humility.

ALL Lord, we are unworthy of bearing Thy name.
We have brought dishonour upon thee by our words and deeds.
Too early have we succumbed to the love of ease and comfort.
Too blindly we have sought and striven for a thousand trifles.
Desire has blinded our minds with delusion and dust.
Weighed down by worthless work, our hearts have gone dry and we have forgotten to love.
We have been deaf to the cry of the poor, blind to the hunger in our neighbour's heart,
The hunger for love, the hunger for bread, the hunger of the Spirit, the hunger for joy
and meaning. Forgive us, God, forgive us.

PRESIDENT We lust and covet, we fight and kill. We shoot and bomb, we maim and torture.
We slaughter women and children in senseless war when the beast in us takes over.
Blood flows, homes burn, love ceases, hate rules.
Even the earth and air and water become unclean in our hands.
White oppresses and exploits black, men rule with a heavy hand:
The rich grow hard of heart while the poor beg for bread.
We have sinned, alas, we have all sinned.
Forgive us, God, forgive us.

ALL Forgive us, heal us, cleanse us, restore us;
Let Thine anger be turned away from us, for we have sinned;
Our bodies are not pure; our minds are not clean; our society is sick; our
environment is polluted.
And there is no peace in us, neither peace of mind nor peace in the world. Have mercy on us.

HYMN "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind".

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence, praise. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them, without a word
Rise up and follow Thee. |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace. | |

SCRIPTURE: From Esther 4 (N.E.B.)

"Esther summoned Hathach and ordered him to find out from Mordecai what the trouble was and what it meant. Hathach went to Mordecai in the city square in front of the palace gate and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him and how much money Haman had offered to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. He also gave him a copy of the writ for their destruction issued in Susa, so that he might show it to Esther and tell her about it, bidding her go to the king to plead for his favour and entreat him for her people. She sent him back with this message: "All the king's courtiers and the people of the provinces are aware that if any person, man or woman, enters the king's presence in the inner court unbidden, there is one law only: that person shall be put to death, unless the king stretches out to him the golden sceptre; then and then only shall he live. It is now thirty days since I myself was called to go to the king." But when they told Mordecai what Esther had said, he bade them go back to her and say, "Do not imagine that you alone of all the Jews will escape because you are in the royal palace. If you remain silent at such a time as this, relief and deliverance for the Jews will appear from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows whether it is not FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS that you have come to royal estate?"

From Romans 8:

"In everything, as we know, the Spirit co-operates for good with those who love God and are called according to his purpose. For God knew his own before ever they were, and also ordained that they should be shaped to the likeness of his Son."

From Ephesians 1:

"In Christ indeed we have been given our share in the heritage, as was decreed in his design whose purpose is everywhere at work. For it was his will that we should cause his glory to be praised. And you too, when you had heard the message of the truth, the good news of your salvation, and had believed it, became in-corporate in Christ and received the seal of the promised Holy Spirit."

From 11 Timothy 1:

"So never be ashamed of your testimony to our Lord, but take your share of suffering for the sake of the Gospel, in the strength that comes from God. It is he who brought us salvation and called us to a dedicated life, not for any merit of ours but of his own purpose and his own grace, which was granted to us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but has now at length been brought fully into view by the appearance on earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ."

ADDRESS Guest Speaker

CLOSING PRAYER (Guest Speaker)

Copy of the Ecumenical Service of Worship (Sunday, 25th April, 1971) from which extracts were taken, was kindly supplied by DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS, A.C.W. representative at the meeting of Church Women United, U.S.A.

" FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS "

CLOSING PRAYERS

FRIDAY, 4.00 P.M.

11th FEBRUARY, 1972.

MEDITATION -

"for such a time as this".

Who fathoms the eternal thought?
 Who talks of scheme and plan?
 The Lord is God! He needeth not
 The poor device of man.
 Here in the maddening maze of things,
 When tossed by storm and flood,
 To one fixed ground my spirit clings,
 I know that God is Good!
 No offering of my own I have,
 No works my faith to prove;
 I can but give the gifts He gave
 And plead His love for love.
 I know not where His islands lift
 Their fronded palms in air;
 I only know I cannot drift
 Beyond His love and care. John Greenleaf Whittier.

President: The praise and adoration with which we began our 1972 National Committee Meeting shall also mark its conclusion. In the joy of realised hopes and thankfulness for all His blessings, let us sing, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation".

HYMN:

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
 Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
 Hast thou not seen - All that is needful hath been
 Granted in what He ordaineth?
 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
 Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
 Ponder anew - All the Almighty can do,
 He who with love doth befriend thee.
 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
 All that hath life and breath come now with praises before Him!
 Let the Amen - Sound from His people again:
 Gladly for aye we adore Him!

PRESIDENT: Let us stand in a moment of silent adoration, each giving thanks in her own heart as she feels she has been blessed during these days we shared together -

.. ..
 Hear, O Lord, and accept the silent offering of each grateful heart.
 Send us out renewed, we pray, in mind and revitalised in spirit to serve you
 And live the abundant life with enthusiasm and zeal.

- Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us thus to pray,
 ALL: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed by thy name.
 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYERS

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 9 - And Jesus said to the whole crowd:
"If anyone wishes to walk my way, let her renounce her own self,
Take up her cross and follow me.
If your constant concern is about saving yourself, You will lose yourself.
If on the contrary you can forget your own self for my sake,
You will truly save your own self.
Think, what use is it, if in the process of acquiring possession of the whole world
You were to lose or destroy your own self?
If you are ashamed of me and of the words that I speak,
When the Son of Man comes in the fullness of His glory
With the glory of the Father, in the glorious company of angels,
The Son of Man will be ashamed of you too.

1 Peter 1 - Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who in his great mercy gave us new birth into a living hope by the resurrection of
Jesus Christ from the dead.
The inheritance to which we are born is one that nothing can destroy.
As obedient children, do not let your characters be shaped any longer by the desires
you cherished in your days of ignorance.
The One who called you is holy; like him, be holy in all your behaviour.
Well you know that it was no perishable stuff like gold and silver that bought your
freedom.
The price was paid in precious blood, as it were of a lamb without mark or blemish -
the blood of Christ.
Through Him you have come to trust in God who raised Him from the dead
And gave Him glory, and so your faith and hope are fixed on God.
Now that by obedience to truth, you have purified your souls until you feel sincere
affection towards your fellow Christians, love one another wholeheartedly
with all your strength.
You have been born anew, not of mortal parentage but of immortal, through the living
and enduring word of God.
For, as scripture says: "All mortals are like grass:
All their splendour like the flower of the field;
The grass withers, the flower falls;
But the word of the Lord endures for evermore."
And this 'word' is the word of the Gospel preached to you.

PRESIDENT: It is fitting that this closing session should hold for each of us a moment of fresh commitment.
Let us now stand and together commit ourselves to this same Lord whose redeeming blood
purchased our salvation. -

ALL: Holy Father, enable us, we pray Thee, As members of Thy Church, To rise to the demands of our
high calling, giving ourselves wholly to Thee.
Help us to hear Thy voice speaking to us in the midst of the turmoil, the perplexity, the
anguish, and the bewildering achievements of this present time.
Enlarge our understanding of Thy will for us.
Here and now we offer ourselves to Thee.
Cleanse, accept and use us, we pray Thee, for the unity of Thy Church
And the salvation of the world, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRESIDENT: Lord, we are Thine. Take us in Thy hands; pour out Thy Spirit upon us.
Take us, and send us forth to announce glad tidings to the poor,
To heal the brokenhearted .. To declare to the enslaved their freedom ..
To restore vision and insight to the unseeing .. To set free the victims of oppression ..
To proclaim the New Age when the Lord accepts all women and all men.

(Brief pause for silent communion)

PRESIDENT: Long years ago Queen Esther made her choice. Sure of her calling, she rose to the occasion and met the particular need of her times. We, no less, are called daily to make our choice in times such as these. Let us think about this as we sing together the words of our concluding hymn, "Choose ye Today" -

HYMN: Choose ye to serve the Lord of all creation;
 Today is yours, choose now to do His will.
 His love and power proclaim to every nation.
 Choose now to live, Christ's mission to fulfill.
 Choose ye to dedicate both heart and mind,
 That God's whole world His fellowship may find.
 Choose now to give, not just your surplus treasures,
 But time and talents for God's kingdom use,
 Only your best, not weak, halfhearted measures,
 Can represent to all the God you choose.
 Choose ye this day to be God's steward true;
 Choose ye your God -- your God has chosen you.

We choose Thee, God; We choose Thy love to show;
 We choose Thy work; make each small deed divine.
 We choose Thee God, that all the world may know
 That Thou art love, and we are wholly Thine.
 Choose Thou our hearts, guide Thou our every task;
 Commit our lives, in Jesus' name we ask.
 Hear this our prayer, O Lord of all creation -
 Our lives are thine, our times are in thy hand -
 O send us out with firm determination
 To serve thee well, obey thy last command:
 May we thus take that part in glorious purpose
 'Tis ours to fill 'for such a time as this'.

PRESIDENT: Soon we shall go out, each to return to her own world and her own familiar sphere of activity and interest. May it be that we shall experience anew the serenity and confidence born of sure knowledge that we have been called by divine election to live and serve in those very areas "for such a time as this".
 Let us unite in our concluding prayer -

ALL: God, our Father, we have committed ourselves to you -
 Help us - to live for others since your love includes all men,
 to seek those truths which we have not yet seen,
 to obey your commands which we have heard but not yet obeyed,
 to trust each other in the fellowship which you have given to us;
 And may we be renewed by your Spirit through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

PRESIDENT: And may grace, mercy and peace from Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

(Extracts from the Ecumenical Service of Church Women United (1971) were incorporated in this session. The concluding prayer was taken from the preparatory booklet for the Uppsala Assembly of W.C.C., "All Things New".)

A.C.W. NATIONAL MEETING.

EVENING DEVOTIONS - THURSDAY 10th FEBRUARY, 1972.

Call to Worship: Jesus said - " I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly."

Prayer: "O Gracious and Holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive thee,
diligence to seek thee,
patience to wait for thee,
eyes to behold thee,
a heart to meditate upon thee,
and a life to proclaim thee;
through the power of the spirit of
Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen. (from "Swan"
magazine of P.W.A.
of West Aust.)

Reading: Eph. 4, 1-16 (J.B. Phillips' translation).

Let us pray: Our Heavenly Father we thank you for all this Conference has meant to each one of us - for the privilege of worshipping together, working together and studying together. We thank you for all we have learnt. We thank you for change; help us to be willing to adapt ourselves, under your guidance, even when change is hard to accept and we see no immediate advantage.
ACCEPT OUR THANKS, DEAR LORD.

For all the times when we have thought of ourselves as belonging to your household and have by our attitude to others of the family in this and in other lands, proved that we did not as yet start to realize the scope of your love,

FORGIVE US, DEAR LORD.

For our failure in providing a good moral background where children may be nurtured,

FORGIVE US, DEAR LORD.

For all the times when we have erected barriers and accepted without question, divisions we have inherited,

FORGIVE US, DEAR LORD.

For giving lip service to the ideals of the dignity of man and condoning by our apathy the attitudes we see about us to the peoples of other colours and cultures,

FORGIVE US, DEAR LORD.

Grant that we may truly repent of our ~~way~~ waywardness and truly receive the forgiveness you freely offer to all who repent

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.

Father of mercy, who through your Son Jesus Christ did create a single new humanity out of men's warring divisions, bringing inner peace to men's hearts, and if they will, to their lives, we give you praise and thanks that there are none in all the world who need remain strangers to your love and care; that there are none who cannot be fellow citizens with your people, members of your household, even as by your grace and love, we have ourselves become,
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.

For all the Aboriginal people of this land, as they leave ever farther behind the old life the presence of white Australians has destroyed, and as they seek to enter a new life in the wider community, grant us concern without condescension, love without sentimentality and the willingness to accept people as people whatever their colour,
HEAR US WE BESEECH YOU, O LORD.

(2).

For the peoples whose lands are divided by the divisions that divide the world, for the peoples of Vietnam, of India, Korea and the Middle East,

HEAR US WE BESEECH YOU, O LORD.

For all the countries where population outstrips the growth of food, where leaders are few and developed resources are small, where poverty, ignorance and sickness go hand in hand, where political freedom is so recently won, and so difficult to use,

HEAR US WE BESEECH YOU, O LORD.

For all agencies of the United Nations, and the World Council of Churches seeking to help and meet these needs,

HEAR US WE BESEECH YOU, O LORD.

For the progress of the Gospel of your love and concern throughout the world, the working out of your purposes of love for all mankind,

HEAR US WE BESEECH YOU, O LORD.

Now go with us as we draw near to the end of this conference, may we each go back to our various fields of service enriched by this experience and ready to serve you more diligently and faithfully,

IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

May the love of God, our Father, be known in our hearts, heard on our lips, and proclaimed in our deeds, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. AMEN.

REPORT OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE OF ASIAN CHURCH WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

HELD JANUARY 10 - 13, 1972.

Since it began 14 years ago the Asian Church Women's Conference has had a Planning Committee, each member country of the Asian Christian Conference (formerly E.A.C.C.) is entitled to 1 Planning Committee Member. This committee normally met once between conferences, usually at the time of the E.A.C.C. Assembly. Their responsibility was to plan the following A.C.W.Conference and to distribute F.L.C. allocations.

In 1970 at the 4th A.C.W.Conference in Indonesia, it was decided to elect from the Planning Committee 6 members from a panel of 10 names submitted by a Nominating Committee, plus 3 elected from the current Planning Committee from among themselves. These 9 members comprise the Working Committee.

It was this Committee that met in Hong Kong to work out policy, draft out a new Constitution and By-laws, make allocations of F.L.C. funds for 1972 and plan 1974 assembly.

- I. Shanti Solomon gave her first report as Executive Secretary, outlining some of the difficulties she had experienced :
- (1) Because the exact nature of the job of Executive Secretary had not been worked out before her appointment she had to create her own role.
 - (2) A certain amount of confusion existed over the roles of the Executive Secretary, Secretary of A.C.W.C. and the Chairman of A.C.W.C.
 - (3) The difficulty of communication due partly to the fact that Shanti was moving closer to Delhi, also the unsettled political situation and subsequent war, which caused delays etc. with mail.

One of the first things to be done in Hong Kong was the setting out of a "Job Description" for the 3 positions, these will be written into the By-laws.

- II. The Constitution and the By-Laws was another important item which took considerable time. We will continue working on these by correspondence with the Whole Planning Committee.

It is hoped that a final draft will be ready to present to the 5th Asian Conference when it meets in 1974.

- III. The invitation from Australia to hold the 5th Assembly was sent to all P.C.members before the Working Committee met. Most countries were in favour of accepting, although one country felt it was too far. However, when the Treasurer began to approximate the cost it was obvious that it was not realistic to use F.L.C.money to the extent of \$115,000.00 when the Budget for A.C.W.C. is \$20,000.00. The fares for delegates and fraternal delegates alone would have cost more than \$20,000.00.

Three alternatives are now being investigated - Taiwan, Korea or India. The date of the Conference has not been chosen as the climate of the chosen country will have a bearing on the most suitable months, as well as vacation periods for Universities etc. for accommodation.

Over...

The Theme chosen is "Go and do thou likewise". Luke 10:v.37.

It was decided to ask each country to increase its delegates contribution to \$175 instead of \$150.

IV. Allocations for 1972 were made and \$1,000.00 was granted for the Institution of Aboriginal Affairs at Alice Springs, as submitted by A.C.W. Over \$60,000.00 was allocated, a couple of requests were held over pending further information.

V. It was decided that Shanti Solomon should spend part of her time travelling to promote the F.L.C., that a bulletin be issued quarterly containing information and news.

That the 'Circle of Prayer' be prepared to cover the next 2 years, and in future it be enlarged to cover 4 years, from one assembly to the next.

VI. That the first promotional visit of Shanti Solomon to be Australia and New Zealand during late September or October 1972.

(After conversation with members of the United Church in Port Moresby on the way home, an invitation from Papua will most likely be issued to Shanti to include this country also.)

VII. Articles are required by April 30th for Asian Focus, one whole issue is to be given over to Women's work. We are invited to send 2,500 - 4,000 words on Women's activities in the Church, Home and Society, Men and Women in the Church, Ecumenical Work being done, etc. etc.

I have covered the most important items on the agenda, which was very long. It was entirely due to our efficient Chairman that we actually completed all the business set down for four working days. Once again it was a pleasure to share in the very real love and fellowship with women from eight different countries bound together in the knowledge that we are all one in Christ.

Olga Badger.

