

ANNUAL MEETING OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. STATE UNIT HELD AT
139 CASTLEREAGH ST. SYDNEY, 27th APRIL, 1981.

The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were read and confirmed.
The Secretary Mrs. Woodhouse read the Annual Report, this was accepted with the addition of mention of the passing of Mrs. Manefield, Past President. The two new Life Members spoke briefly, Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. Stanhope. Owing to the Treasurer being ill there was no Financial Report. Deaconess Andrews presented the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Report for the year. Mrs. Glad Bent presented the Fellowship of the Least Coin Report indicating that she would be standing down from the office.

The Promotions Report and Special Days was given by Mrs. Lt. Col. Edna Baker who also was relinquishing the office.

Publicity Report for the year was presented by Brig. Mabel Ward. The President, Mrs. Glad West, expressed appreciation for the work of the various convenors. As the Baptist appointed President Mrs. West has completed a year of her two year term, and her leadership has been appreciated.

The Secretary spoke briefly and indicated many people had been approached to take the role of Secretary before someone was available, as she had indicated the year before she would not be available for nomination this year, after 4 years in office as Secretary.

The nominations had been received up till the Executive meeting and were presented for approval.

Secretary. Brig. Mabel Ward, nominated by Edna Baker and seconded by Betty Davis.

Membership Secretary. Miss Evelyn Blackwell, nominated by Mabel Ward and seconded by Evelyn Ridley.

Treasurer. Miss D. Mitchell, nominated by Mary Andrews, and seconded by Evelyn Blackwell.

Winifred Kiek Scholar Convenor. Deaconess Mary Andrews, nominated by Doris Mitchell and seconded by Linda Perriam.

Fellowship of the Least Coin Convenor. Mrs. Dorothy Woodhouse, nominated by Glad Bent and seconded by Evelyn Blackwell.

Promotion Convenor nominated by Mrs. M. McCann nominated by Doris Mitchell and seconded by Mary Andrews.

Publicity Officer. Mrs. Marjorie Baker, nominated by Dorothy Woodhouse and seconded by Glad Bent.

These nominations were accepted.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee. Mrs. Stanhope and Mrs. King. ✓

Promotions Committee. Office bearers ex-officio, Mrs. Ridley, Mrs. Pickering, Mrs. Green, Mrs. M. Baker, Brig. Ward, Brig. Smith, Mrs. O. Lean, Major Venable.

Special Issues Committee. Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Hulme-Moir.

"Newsette" Committee. Mrs. Ridley as Editor, -Mrs. McCann, Brig. Ward, Mrs. Woodhouse and Mrs. M. Baker.

Representatives to Women's World Day of Prayer. Brig. R. Smith, Mrs. Lean, Mrs. Carlisle, Mrs. E. Bent, Mrs. S. Ridley.

National Council of Women. Mrs. McCann and Mrs. Woodhouse.

Council for Children's Films and T.V. Mrs. McCann.

Fraternal delegate to Australian Council of Churches. Mrs. J. Curtin.

In behalf of everyone Deaconess Andrews expressed appreciation to the President for her lovely devotions at our meetings, and her leadership, for the Secretary for work and Audio Visual preparation, the Treasurer and other office bearers.

She was wished a safe trip to U.S.A. where she said she would be visiting.

G. West President.

April, 1982.

ANNUAL REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. UNIT
April, 1980 - April, 1981

Election of Officers took place in April, 1980 at the Annual Meeting, followed by the Annual Service on 26th May at Northside Baptist Church, Crows Nest, which marked the end of the term for Mrs Marie McCann as President. The incoming President, Mrs Glad West, received the President's Bible and gave the address. Executive members took part and Baptist ladies of the State and Local church assisted.

In June we were addressed by a Franciscan Missionary of Mary, Sister Barbara Hutchinson, whose topic was "Women in the Bible", thinking of the legal and social status of women from the Old and New Testaments. This stimulated much interest and followed through the recommendation from the last National Committee Meeting, "The initiating of wide discussion regarding the Bible and the role of women". Another recommendation that we "gather resources relating to current community issues" is being fulfilled by the committee that was formed in June to co-ordinate thinking on issues of social responsibility. The core group of three ladies to set this in motion is Mrs McCann, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Hulme-Moir.

Four ladies attended the Young Women's Christian Association to meet the World President of the "Y". Five ladies also attended the Annual Meeting of the Y.W.C.A. which was 100 years old in Sydney and heard plans for redevelopment, an interesting report was brought to one meeting. Another affiliated organisation, ~~The Women's Christian Temperance Union,~~
~~reported on their 99 years of work.~~
~~The Girl's Brigade brought enlightening information.~~

Five from N.S.W., with some from other states, journeyed from Alaska to Los Angeles meeting friends who had visited Sydney the previous year for the Consultation. Church Women United held the Ecumenical Assembly from 26-29th June in which Mesdames Dougherty, Stevens, Groat, Richardson and Deaconess Andrews participated. Their reports were presented at the August meeting.

We were thrilled when our member, Mrs H. Stegens, was invited by the Australian Government to be one of the 22 Australian women to attend the Forum in Copenhagen, in relation to the United Nations Mid-decade for Women Conference. Her talk following her return was most stimulating.

It is pleasing new branches are springing into being in both city and country and are holding the Services connected with our organization and assisting its projects with the offerings, namely the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund and the Fellowship of the Least Coin. The special project offering in 1980 supported the Middle East Council of Churches and the Asian Church Women's Conference.

Unreadable section: Another affiliated organisation, The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, reported on their 99 years of work. To conclude our series a speaker from The Girls Brigade brought enlightening information.

A new emblem has been adopted for the State Unit. Reports from Branch representatives were presented in the State Unit's paper "NEWSETTE" along with other news of interest, of affiliated organisations. One group with which we are affiliated, the Council for Children's Films and Television is receiving enthusiastic leadership from our delegate, Mrs McCann, as their President. Representatives to the Women's World Day of Prayer help pack Orders of Service and our fraternal delegate reports from the Australian Council of Churches. Several members attend the N.S.W. National Council of Women meetings.

In June a number of members attended the Ecumenical Service in St. Andrews Cathedral. The Ecumenical Reflection Day at Cranbrook School was attended by five ladies in November. Miss Mitchell brought an interesting report of the meeting she was able to attend in connection with the European Conference in Edinburgh of the Women's World Day of Prayer - a wider view of the world organization. Mrs Lean being one of the privileged ones of our group to attend the Oberamagau Passion Play, gave an interesting account. Mrs Oates brought a Christmas Devotional which was appreciated.

We welcomed Winifred Kiek Scholar Dien in April, some of us met Rev. Mary Au on her way home to Hong Kong and we look forward to meeting with Maline Weerasinghe and the first appointed Winifred Kiek Visiting Scholarship Holder, Mrs Rathie Selvaratnam, when she tours Australia.

The five ladies who attended the F.L.C. Silver Jubilee Celebrations in Manila, Philippines, from 26th Nov. to 3rd Dec. 1980, were Mesdames Stevens, McCann, Richardson, Stanhope and Deaconess Andrews. Mrs Stanhope was asked to have Australia's banner prepared. The interesting reports were given at the February meeting.

In March Sister Lenore Sharry was our speaker when she spoke about her work as Liaison Secretary for the Catholic Commission for Ecumenism.

Mrs Heather Stevens organized the New Zealand Ecumenical Tour in March when 39 people enjoyed hospitality, sharing in services and meetings. A return visit is hoped for in the future. Valuable friendships are made during these tours.

We noted with regret the passing of Life Member, Mrs A. Hall during September at the age of 95, also a Past President, Mrs E. Manefield early this year. It is our pleasure to have conferred Life Membership on Mrs Stanhope and Deaconess Andrews for long and distinguished service in the cause of A. C. W.

At our Annual Service to be held on 25th May the F. L. C. Silver Jubilee will be commemorated by the State Unit, followed by a luncheon. Speakers will relate to the United Nations "Year of Disabled Persons".

I express my thanks to all who have assisted during the four years I have been Secretary of this State Unit and am thankful for the privileges that this Office has afforded me during that time.

Dorothy Woodhouse - Secretary

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