



Australian Church Women

WOMEN AT WORK

We seek: to unite Australian women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ;
to help Christian women to take more effective place in the total life and mission of the Church.

May, 1984.

EUNICE KIM IN AUSTRALIA

Mrs. Eunice Kim is the current holder of our Winifred Kiek Travelling Scholarship. Her husband is a nuclear physicist in Korea, and Eunice herself is the Execucutive Secretary of the A.C.W.C.. During April, Australian Church Women have enjoyed two or three weeks of Eunice's company and so far reports of her visit have been received from two states. She is an intelligent, observant woman and an educated, fluent speaker.

From QUEENSLAND

Eunice arrived in Brisbane from New Zealand on 7th April, and was the guest first of Mrs. Sheela Turner and then of Mrs. Lena Meadows. On 9th April, the State Unit arranged a morning for her in Wesley Hall to enable women from local churches to meet her. A morning tea was served to over 70 women, and Eunice was presented with a spray of flowers, the gift of Mrs. Annette Sawyer of Caritas, the Young Women's Group of Mothers' Union. Mrs Val Clarke, State President, introduced Eunice who then spoke on "The Church in Korea". She delighted us with her bright personality, her candid comments and her humour.

The Unit then had lunch with her when she spoke informally on A.C.W.C.. In the mid-afternoon she was taken to the airport for the next leg of her journey.

From Tasmania

On 15th April the Hobart Branch of A.C.W. gathered at the home of

George and Marie Price, together with Past National Committee members.

The happy occasion was the visit of Mrs. Eunice Kim, Winifred Kiek Travelling Fellow from Korea. Eunice in her position of Executive of A.C.W.C. gave the gathering a most entertaining and informative talk.

Among those present were Mrs. Rachel Cocks, immediate Past National Representative on A.C.W.C., Major Olive Dell, now resident in the south, and two interested husbands.

from Marie Price

BURMA NEWS

from NEW SOUTH WALES

The State President, Mrs. Yvonne Davis, invited all Council members to an informal morning function on March 26th, when we had the opportunity to gather information about, and to pray for the women of Burma. The meeting opened using the Australia - Burma prayer-partnership Order of Service.

The delight of the morning was our guest and speaker, 24 year-old Mary Clotti Thaung from Burma. Already a University graduate with a B.A. degree, Mary applied for further study to the N.S.W. Baptist Theological College. She was accepted and the Baptist Foundation offered to sponsor her.

It took twelve months of patient negotiation with Departments and a great deal of expense before Mary gained a passport, and she still has to pay taxes regularly to Burma. Her arrival early this year brought the first Burmese student to the N.S.W. Baptist College at Eastwood, where she hopes to complete a four-year theological course.

Of her homeland, Mary said the people are poor but the church is strong with young people in the forefront of the activity. Her only expressed criticism of our fair land was the small numbers at church services, which she supposed would be packed in such a free

society. There is freedom to pursue your religion in Burma, but always a shortage of Bibles. The Christians there are happy, however, and thankful to God for the opportunity to witness to the 90% Buddhist population of their country.

More about Burma was learned from our Anglican, Baptist, Catholic and Salvation Army reps. whose denominations have had an input there in previous years.

from Glad West

AUSTRALIANS IN SOUTH - EAST ASIA

Four courageous, committed Christian women are currently working with World Vision in South-East Asia. Dr. Barbara Ford and two nurses, Jennifer Friend and Myris Langridge, are in Thailand working in the Ban Vinai refugee camp. In Kampuchea, Dr. Wendy Lock is the new paediatrician serving at the National Paediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh. They are all specialists in paediatric and intensive care - skills so badly needed in those two countries.

FILM ON BELIEVERS IN MARXIST HUNGARY

from Budapest

A 90-minute colour film produced with government support on the life of Christians and other believers in Hungary had its premiere on Easter Monday. The film, "A More Excellent Way", describes "churches and religious people who have preserved the real values of tradition. And," the opening narrative continues, "they are at the same time loyal citizens and builders of a socialist country."

The film shows a variety of Christian traditions (Roman and Eastern Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Reformed, Lutheran, Conservative Evangelical, Adventist, Baptist) in Hungary, as well as scenes of Jewish life. Believers are shown worshipping, serving, and studying.

US AND USSR CHRISTIANS PLAN EXCHANGE VISITS from New York

In June, nearly 300 US Christians will spend two weeks in the Soviet Union worshipping with Christians in 13 Soviet cities and expressing a common concern for peace. And US churches expect to host a visit by about 20 Soviet Christians. The trips are among five exchanges planned between US and USSR churches for 1984 and 1985.

"The churches provide one of the few avenues of contact between Soviet and American citizens," says the programme co-ordinator. "It is extremely important that we Christians work to break down the wall of fear, distrust and prejudice that exists between our countries."

THOUGHTS TO CHALLENGE

From Eunice Kim -

Australians are millionaires!

From the African Church Aid Committee in Sierra Leone -

Working to enable the hungry to feed themselves is perhaps the most concrete form of action Christians can take to express the love for one's neighbour which is central to our faith.

From a local church notice-board -

The world is very fragile. Handle it with prayer.

From Force Ten Action -

For millions of refugees around the world, homesickness never ends.

From two teenagers who visited an orphanage in Thailand -

We could have been born there.

CLOSING DATE FOR JUNE ISSUE NEWS ITEMS :- 25th May.

All news items to -

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