

REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. UNIT APRIL 1978-APRIL 1979.

Following our Annual Meeting in April two new office bearers took their place in the Executive, Brig. Ward as Membership Secretary, and Mrs. Evelyn Ridley as Publicity Officer, also Miss Evelyn Blackwell representing the Presbyterian ladies. During the year Mrs. Ridley found home involvement too pressing, and Brig. Ward ably acted in that role. This year's meetings have been held at the Uniting Church's offices Cadellereagh St. meeting rooms, and we find this suits our need admirably.

An inspiring Installation Service was held on 29th May at Our Lady of Dolours Roman Catholic Church, Chatswood, with an estimated 300 present. This marked the end of a term for one President, and the handing over of the Bible and the responsibility to Mrs. Marie McCann. Executive members representing the seven participating denominations in our State Unit took part and the Lane Cove-Longueville Inter-Church Choir added greatly to the wonderful atmosphere. The new President was ably supported by her own church members who provided refreshments. We were also greatly honoured to have the National President, Mrs. Win Dougherty and the Winifred Kiek Scholar, Sister Barkat Dass from Pakistan, to speak to us at the luncheon.

An outstanding occasion was the reception on 22nd May for members of the Asian Church Women's Conference Executive, who had held their meeting in Adelaide, and were travelling home. The State Unit assisted the National Working Committee entertain the eight members.

Our meetings included a talk by Miss Dinah Burnett, with a display of goods from developing countries, sale of which would assist the people who made them. A Greek Social Worker, Miss Vivi Koutseunadis, from South Sydney Community Aid informed one meeting of the difficulties facing migrants from other cultures. Deaconess Andrews showed slides and spoke of the International Conference in Zambia, which she attended as National Liaison for the Women's World Day of Prayer. Another informative talk was given by Mrs. Win Dougherty who attended the Asian Church Women's Conference in Japan in October with four other Australian delegates.

Representatives to affiliated organizations reported, and good reports were received of city and country branches holding services for Fellowship and World Community Day and increased offerings will benefit our projects, the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund and the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

The report on the discussion group on "Simpler Lifestyle" was distributed and a copy forwarded to the National Committee as part of our programme to study a "Theme" set by the National Committee Meetings. Several ladies have taken advantage of attending Seminars of various types, also overseas conferences. Six members of our organization took part in the Day of Prayer and Recollection organized by the Roman Catholic and Commission for Ecumenism. The President, Secretary and other representatives

The President, Secretary and other representatives attended when invitations were received from many other organisations. The President had opportunity to speak about ACW at two gatherings of Roman Catholic ladies.

One of our plans to hold Women's Forums was successfully carried

out in November when our organization, previously known as the N.S.W.Z Women's Inter-Church Council, celebrated its 40 years of activities with a Buffet Tea and Forum on 'Australian Church Women.' A booklet entitled "Highlights of the Story of A.C.W.N.S.W. Unit" was prepared by the Secretary, assisted by Mrs. Margaret Ralph, a previous Secretary and present member of the Working Committee, to mark this auspicious occasion. About sixty ladies attended, including eight who had served as President, and the earliest of this group, ~~who had served~~, Mrs. E. Manefield, cut the Anniversary Cake. The Devotional thoughts were brought to us by Mrs. L. King.

Publicity and photos of all our activities help to make the organization known in denominational and secular press. A Newsletter was printed in May, and a new promotion leaflet produced. N.S.W. news items appeared in the National Committee's paper "Women at Work." One highlight of the year was a television half hour presentation produced by the Catholic Communications Centre, and shown on Channel 7; This featured Mrs. Win Dougherty, Deaconess Mary Andrews, Mrs. Marie McCann and Sister Barkat Dass. This tape was also shown at one of our meetings and proved educational in our work.

It was pleasing that the Y.W.C.A. saw fit in their new concept for their city hostel to name it "Wybalena House." This perpetuates the name and serves as a reminder of the hard work members of our organization did in years gone by with the girl's hostel.

We rejoiced with Mrs. Stolz in celebrating 50 years of marriage and service to her church. We regretted the passing of much esteemed Life Member Mrs. G. Knight. We felt grieved when Mrs. Dougherty fell and broke her arm on her return from the Asian Church Women's Conference.

We pray for Mrs. Dougherty and her committee as they carry through the arduous task they have ahead preparing for the National Committee Meetings and a Consultation with American and New Zealand ladies in September, at Wahroonga.

State Unit Council Members were well represented when the National Committee entertained Miss Dorothy Wagner from Church Women United in U.S.A., ~~who is also~~ and Executive of the International Women's World Day of Prayer. The Reception was attended by a representative gathering of women from many organizations, who were extremely interested in Miss Wagner's address.

On 28th May 1979 our Annual Service will take the form of a Prayer Rally in Wesley Chapel at 11 a.m. when all interested ladies are invited. This will be followed by luncheon in the Uniting Church Offices Meeting Room and a Forum with three speakers from Child Caring Organizations will focus on the International Year of the Child.

Dorothy Woodhouse. Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN
NSW STATE UNIT.

Statement of Receipts and Payments -- 1st March, 1978 -- 28th February, 1979.

1. 3.78 - Cr. Bank Balance: 168.38

ADD RECEIPTS:

Organisation A/c-		
Affiliation fees-	71.00	
Sales of Literature-	57.50	
Collections & donations-	212.30	
Bank Interest-	130.34	
40th Anniversary Function-	206.00	
Sundries-	<u>5.40</u>	682.54
Special Funds-		
Fellowship of Least Coin-	2266.12	
Winifred Kiek Sch'ship-	48.93	
Fellowship Day-	1271.04	
World Community Day-	<u>1383.07</u>	4969.16
Overseas Travel Fund-		257.92
By transfer from Special Funds-	<u>648.48</u>	<u>6550.10</u>
		6726.48

LESS PAYMENTS:

Organisation A/c-		
Printing, stationery,		
postage, telephone:	226.54	
Meeting Room-	50.00	
President's Honorarium-	25.00	
Purchase of literature-	112.50	
Subns. to other organisms.-	17.50	
40th Anniversary Function-	192.27	
Sundries-	17.99	
By transfer to O'seas Tr.Fd.	<u>49.48</u>	691.28
Special Funds-		
To National Committee-	3785.00	
Exp. printing & postage-	535.68	
Transferred to Organism A/c	<u>648.48</u>	4969.16
National C'tee Travel Fund-		285.00
Savings Investment A/c	<u>500.00</u>	<u>6445.44</u>

28. 2.79 - Cr. Bank Balance \$ 281.04

Savings Investment A/c-
\$ 2000.00

Balances: Organisation Account- \$ 2071.10
Overseas Travel Fund- \$ 209.94
\$ 2281.04

Doris Makin
Hon. Treasurer.

This is to certify that I have examined the books, records and financial statements of the N.S.W. Unit of Australian Church Women for the year ended February 28, 1979 and in my opinion such show a true and correct record of the financial position as at that date.

And correct record of the financial position as at that date. Signed: Heather Stevens
April 18, 1979