

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

ANNUAL REPORT 1970/71

APPRECIATIONS:

Looking back through the many Reports presented to Annual Meetings of this Council one has an inspiring and encouraging record of ecumenical togetherness.

Its Presidents have each made contributions in a kaleidoscope of diverse personality and variety of gifts.

This year you would want this Report to begin, rather than conclude, with our very sincere appreciation of Mrs. R. W. Stanhope of the Churches of Christ, who has not only represented her denomination as our President, but has also virtually been our Secretary and Hostess Extraordinary to several of our overseas visitors and to the meetings of the Promotions Committee. Adequately thank her we cannot. That she has come through a most exacting year with such serenity reminds us of Isaiah's words "in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength."

To Mrs. Margaret Ralph we say "what would we have done without you." We'd have had no minutes, no newsletters, nor a multiplicity of other help quietly given.

In the May 1970 Newsletter we expressed very warm appreciation of the contribution made by our retiring Treasurer, Mrs. C. A. Perriam. Her retirement was short-lived. We now express gratitude to her for stepping back into this role, following on the resignation, for family reasons, of Mrs. Allan.

ANNUAL RALLY was held in the Church of Christ, Chatswood, when our retiring President, Head Deaconess Mary Andrews, gave the address at the invitation of Mrs. Stanhope. In spite of a very inclement day, the church was packed. We had a wonderful opportunity for fellowship too, as we shared lunch together as guests of the ladies of Lane Cove/Chatswood Churches of Christ.

VISITORS:

During the year Council was fortunate to meet Mrs. Knapp of the Churches of Christ, who had stopped off in Sydney on her way home from Rhodesia to New Zealand. Mrs. Knapp spoke freely to us about Rhodesia - its separatist Government and education. We realised how little we appreciate the freedoms we have; and the concern we must always have as Christians.

Mrs. Eileen Lester, O.B.E., who is involved through the Department of Adult Education, Sydney University, in the Van Leer Project, told us of the nature and work of the Family Education Centres for Aboriginal women and their children. Mrs. Lester spoke movingly of the deep spiritual background of her people; of her life as a child in Western Australia; and her strong feelings that if only the missionaries had taken time or been wise enough to really study her people's beliefs, they would have discovered in legend and practice, a strange parallel to Christianity. (Mrs. Lester was honoured by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in

recognition of her work, particularly as Welfare Officer at the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs from its inception.)

Mrs. Rathie Selvaratnum of Ceylon, Chairman of the Asian Churchwomen's Conference, was in Australia in October for the Churches of Christ World Convention in Adelaide. When passing through Sydney a small group of W.I.C.C. members, together with students from Deaconess House were able to meet and talk with her.

Miss Veronica Kafa from the British Solomon Islands and WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR 1970, was also in Sydney in October. Members of W.I.C.C. joined with the Anglican A.B.M. Auxiliary to hear Miss Kafa speak. You will remember she had spent most of her time in Melbourne and came to Australia to learn to teach English as a foreign language and also the new Maths.

NEW BRANCHES affiliated and warmly welcomed this year were Blackheath and Tamworth.

PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE has worked hard this year and now has available a very nicely presented brochure (obtainable from Mrs. Carpenter).

At the September Council Meeting, representatives met in Denominational Discussion Groups in an endeavour to ensure that news of the work of Council reach the women of their church. This proved so successful that the Executive feels that Inter-Denominational Discussion Groups could be most profitable and should be held in the near future.

Branches Day 1971 proved both stimulating and helpful. Mrs. Carpenter's enthusiasm was infectious as she gave a most interesting and comprehensive report of the A.C.W. National Committee Meeting.

Mrs. Lilian Wells then ably chaired a discussion between a representative from Kiama, Lane Cove/Longueville, Hurstville and Strathfield/Homebush Branches - with time for general questions from Council and Branch members.

Mrs. Olga Badger who attended the Asian Churchwomen's Conference in Djakarta told us of highlights of the Conference and her feelings of joy in sharing so completely the fellowship and friendship with the women of so many countries of Asia. Being a truly humble soul, she did not tell us of her appointment to the inner Working Committee, or that the women of Thailand had asked her permission to nominate her as President. Feeling the time was not yet right for an Australian to fill this important position, she did not let the nomination proceed.

A PUBLICITY OFFICER was appointed during the year and we are most grateful to Mrs. Joan Curtin who accepted this position and has been very active through various avenues. She has had some helpful conversations with Mrs. Kath Whitby of the Methodist Church, a Public Relations Officer. Mrs. Wells appeared on T.V. (December 1970) and Mrs. Ralph has been asked to record an interview for May this year.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN (A.C.W.): National Committee Meeting 1971, Deaconess House, Sydney. The Working Committee is now located in Queensland. N.S.W. was represented by Mesdames Stanhope and Dougherty with Mesdames Badger and Ralph as observers. Other W.I.C.C. members also attending were Mrs. Lt.Col. Carpenter

representing the Salvation Army Eastern Territory; Head Deaconess Andrews and Mrs. Wells representing the Australian Council of Churches Executive; and Mrs. Bell was a Methodist observer.

PLEASE NOTE: A.C.W. Pens 20c. Notelets - now 25 sheets with envelopes 45c (both available from Mrs. Butler).

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN. The essence of the Fellowship is one of prayer, the least coin the symbol binding the women of the world together. In 1970 Australia sent approximately \$4,000. What a prayer force this represents! Work it out in ratio of one cent per person per month. The N.S.W. Convener, Mrs. R. W. Butler (17 Woonona Road, Northbridge 2063), works with quiet friendliness and enthusiasm and welcomes enquiries for information. An allocation from F.L.C. monies has recently been made to Roronga Theological College, T.P.N.G., for the training and preparation of pastor's wives so they may more confidently assist their husbands.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLAR 1971 is Miss Violet Sampa from the United Church of Zambia. Miss Sampa is now studying in the United Faculty, Emanuel College, Brisbane, and is the first woman student minister of her Church. We are grateful to Mrs. Stanhope for her hospitality and care of Miss Sampa on her arrival in Australia. It is planned that she will visit Sydney again in May.

SPECIAL DAYS: On Fellowship Day some 900 women attended services and \$350 was given - most of which is used for the Winifred Kiek Scholarship. World Community Day services were held in many city and country centres. The theme was "It's a Small World" and the offering assisted the Life Line Centre, in Seoul, Korea.

N.S.W. W.I.C.C. is represented on Women's World Day of Prayer Committee (5); National Council of Women (2); W.C.T.U. (1); Good Neighbour Council (1), Children's Films and T.V. (1); A.C.C. N.S.W. Council (1). Thank you representatives!

WYBALENA: The Court Case is pending and the total amount in Trust to date is \$36,734.72.

WELCOME! To new representatives who have joined us during the year and to Mrs. Bell a special welcome to the office of Secretary.

To MRS. LT. COL. CARPENTER, our incoming President, we pledge both our prayers and our support at all times.

JUST LOOK at the things attempted or accomplished in twelve months! With the disciples we often feel "we toiled all night and took nothing." JESUS SAYS: "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." This year, with all Christian Churches concerned for world development and racism, let us remember deep water is not something we should stay out of. It is something we should get into. By faith we must launch out into the depths of God's eternal grace. There we will become effective in channeling the power and provision of God into the weakness and want of humanity

W. D. DOUGHERTY,
Assistant Secretary.

N.S.W. WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL
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STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FROM 1 APRIL 1970 TO 31 MARCH 1971

<u>Receipts</u>			<u>Payments</u>
<u>GENERAL ACCOUNT</u>			
Opening Balance at 1.4.70	\$296.34	Australian Church Women -	
Collection at Rally	44.64	Overseas Travel Fund	\$50.00
Affiliation Fees	49.90	Pens	195.60
Bank Interest	14.35	Circle of Prayer	9.00
30% Transferred from		W.I.C.C. S.A. Notelets	173.00
Fellowship Day offerings	109.39	Postage	22.00
World Community Day "	82.85	Secretary's Expenses	40.00
Sale of Notelets, Pens,		Duplicating Expenses	37.55
Circle of Prayer and		Promotion Expenses	14.00
other Literature	279.69	Affiliation Fees:	
		W.C.T.U.	1.00
		Children's Films & T.V.	4.20
		National Council of Women	10.00
		N.C.W. Luncheon	5.00
		Donations for use of	
		Hall (Pitt St. Cong. Church)	10.00
		Room (Methodist Church)	3.00
		Closing Balance 1.4.71	302.81
	<u>\$877.16</u>		<u>\$877.16</u>

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN ACCOUNT

Opening Balance at 1.4.70	90.00	Australian Church Women	842.94
Receipts	899.44	Balance in hand 1.4.71	146.50
	<u>\$989.44</u>		<u>\$989.44</u>

PROJECT FUND ACCOUNT

<u>Fellowship Day</u>			
Opening Balance 1.4.70	3.00	Aust. Church Women 70%	255.25
Receipts	378.64	General Fund 30%	109.39
		Balance in hand 1.4.71	17.00
	<u>\$381.64</u>		<u>\$381.64</u>
<u>World Community Day</u>			
Opening Balance 1.4.70	15.62	Aust. Church Women 70%	\$193.30
Receipts	310.37	General Fund 30%	82.85
		Balance in hand 1.4.71	49.84
	<u>\$325.99</u>		<u>\$325.99</u>

Summary of Funds in Hand

General Fund	\$302.81
Fellowship of Least Coin	146.50
Project Fund: F. Day	17.00
W.C. Day	49.84
	<u>\$516.15</u>

L. FERRIAM
Hon. Treasurer

J. A. SHANNON A.C.I.S. A.A.S.A.
Hon. Auditor 29th April, 1971

N.S.W. WOMEN'S INTER-CHURCH COUNCIL
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OFFICEBEARERS FOR 1971/72

Executive

President	Mrs. Lt. Col. G. Carpenter, 529 Homer Street, Earlwood 2206	78 8507
Past President	Mrs. R.W. Stanhope, 36 Dettman Av. Longueville 2066	42 6078
President Elect	Mrs. N. Pfeiffer, 2 Provincial Rd. Lindfield. 2070	46 2746
Vice Presidents	Mrs. H.T. Wells, 15 Russell St. Eastwood 2122	85 2869
	Mrs. C.W. Stolz, 97 Bayview Ave. Earlwood 2206	55 1532
	Mrs. M. Marsden-Smedley, 17 Hargrave St. Paddington 2021	31 8201
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. A. Bell, 7 Waratah St. Arncliffe 2205	59 5391
Asst. Secretary	Mrs. R.H. Dougherty, 56 Mabel St. Willoughby 2068	412 2453
Membership Sec.	Mrs. R.A. Jessup, 36 Boomerang St. Turramurra 2074	44 4016
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs. C.A. Perriam, 6/37 Ormond St. Ashfield 2131	798 6481
F'ship Least Coin	Mrs. R.W. Butler, 17 Woonona Rd. Northbridge 2063	95 2985
Publicity Officer	Mrs. J. Curtin, 7 Upper Cliff Road, Northwood 2066	42 6191
Also Conveners and Secretaries of Sub-Committees		

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Promotion Committee Mesdames Gilbert, Down, Wells, Robertson, Curtin, Lean
with power to co-opt.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship Committee - Head Deaconess M. Andrews, Mesdames
D.J.A. Verco and Brig. C. Beveridge

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Representatives to:

National Council of Women	Mrs. Lt. Col. Carpenter, Mrs. G. Walker
W. Christian Temperance Union	Mrs. Hall
W. World Day Prayer Committee	Head Deaconess M. Andrews, Lt. Col. M. Osborne, Mesdames Wells, Ralph and Perriam
A.C.C. State Council	Mrs. R. H. Dougherty
NSW Children's Films & T.V.	Mrs. Wakely
Good Neighbour Council	Mesdames Humble and Marsden-Smedley

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Life Members: Mesdames Millar, Pearson, Walker, Knight, Wyper, Hall
and Stolz and Miss Roseby

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MEETINGS

Council: 10.30 a.m. on fourth Friday of March, April, June, August, September,
and November in Central Baptist Hall, 619 George St. Sydney

Annual Rally: Fourth Friday of May

Special Days: Fourth Friday of July (FELLOWSHIP DAY) & October (WORLD COMMUNITY
DAY) or date near that, observed in City and various centres.

Executive Meetings: Third Friday of the month (excluding December, January)
in No. 2 Committee Room, 2nd Floor, 139 Castlereagh St. Sydney at 1 p.m.