

REPORT OF AUSTRALIA/CHURCH WOMEN U.S.W. SEVENTH UNIT. APR. 1977-APR 1978.

Following the change of name in March '77 from U.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council, the revised constitution extended the President's term to two years, and so at the April Annual Meeting Mrs. Lt. Col D. Baker agreed to continue, Mrs. D. Woodhouse became Secretary, and Miss D. Mitchell Treasurer. Because Mrs. L. Perriam had been Treasurer over many years she was made a life member. Others who had served faithfully relinquished their positions to be available for nomination for the incoming Working Committee. To these Convenors we expressed gratitude for their time and effort.

The President conducted the Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication on 30th May at Chatswood (then) Methodist Church. This was a memorable occasion, at which Major Gordon Stalman, Excm. Gen. U.S.W. State Council of the A.C.C. was the guest speaker, and an estimated 150 ladies were present, and luncheon followed.

Representation to the Council was reduced as a result of the inauguration of The Uniting Church in Australia in June 1977.

The W.C.T.U. became officially affiliated this year, becoming one of our Special Interest Groups, with 2 representatives to Council.

Donations were received during the year to assist 8 members from N.S.W. to travel to Perth, where from 26th-29th July, they attended the National Committee Meetings of Australian Church Women. The President and Secretary were delegates, and Miss Mitchell and Mrs. Stanhope observers. The sessions included Fellowship Day Service, conducted by the Rev. Dorothy Wacker, bible studies, evening forums, as well as business sessions, which were reported to our August meeting.

The new National Working Committee as nominated by N.S.W. was elected at the Perth meetings, numbering 12, 7 of those members being present. They are Mrs. W. Dougherty, Miss D. Mitchell, Brig. G. Cork, Mrs. P. Stanhope, Mrs. B. Davis, Mrs. H. Stevens, Deaconess Andrews, Mrs. G. West, Mrs. J. Curtin, Mrs. Lt. Col. Baker, Mrs. P. Ralph, and Mrs. O. Badger. The new President, Mrs. Dougherty, gave the final address. N.S.W. Unit pledged loyal and prayerful support for the Sydney based new Working Committee as they undertook this important national responsibility. Since returning to Sydney the Working Committee has been very busy, fulfilling the tasks set them at the National Meetings. Mrs. Dougherty, the N.S.W. nominee, has been appointed with 3 others to attend the Asian Church Women's Conference in Japan in October 1978. Our prayers will go with her.

We also congratulate Deaconess Andrews on her appointment as National Liaison Officer for the Women's World Day of Prayer, and wish her well on her trip to the International meeting in April in Zambia.

Representatives are appointed to other organizations, namely N.S.W. State Council of the Australian Council of Churches, National Council of Women of N.S.W., Good Neighbour Council of N.S.W., Women's World Day of Prayer Committee, N.S.W. Council for Children's Films and N.V. Reports from affiliated organisations were given at our September meeting, and eight branch representatives gave interesting reports of work happening at local level in various suburbs. Speakers at other meetings have been our members, Deaconess B. Andrews, who showed slides, and spoke of her tour of South East Asia to several conferences, and Major J. Venables, who told us of her travels when in England to attend a training course.

Orders of service for Fellowship Day in July and World Community Day in October were sent to 10 country centres and 12 city ones. These services bring together women in ecumenical groups, and the offerings assist our projects.

The Winifred Kiek scholars confirmed by the National Meetings were Tapati Das from Bangladesh, to tour for 4 months observation, studying handicrafts in the Philippines, Taipei, Hongkong and India, to assist her work as manager of the Y.W.C.A. Craft Centre at Dacca. This has been undertaken, and the other scholar Sister Barket Dass from Pakistan, is now in Sydney, we welcome her and assure her of our interest in her studies in midwifery and theology.

No Fellowship of the Least Coin project was submitted in 1977 from Australia. N.S.W. is preparing a submission for this year for consideration by the Working Committee through Mrs. E. Udy of the A.C.C. to assist to train a migrant worker to help ethnic groups.

In November the Secretary distributed an information sheet re. the recommendations from the Perth National Meetings giving details of the "Themes" for suggested studies, and training courses for states to undertake. A discussion group took place 5 weeks from 6th Feb.-6th Mar. incl. on "Simpler Lifestyle", much thought and some action following by members attending. A further 5 weeks study is in progress from Apr. 3rd -May 1st. incl. on the "Discipleship Studies" from the A.C.C., following the same theme.

In place of our end of year day of Renewal, held the last 2 years, Council commenced 1978 on 20th Feb with a Service of Renewal and Dedication in the Pitt St Uniting Church, led by the President, and other members with the guest speaker Mrs. Lilian Wells, N.S.W. Moderator of the Uniting Church. This was well attended, giving Council members inspiration for the work for the year ahead, and light refreshments were served.

Following this service Council changed its venue for meetings to the Uniting Church Offices meeting room, where Executive meetings are held. We are grateful for use of these properties.

It is with pleasure we indicate that, for the first time since affiliation in 1973, the Roman Catholic Church has nominated the President Elect, Mrs. Marie Mc Cann. Following our Annual Meeting in April, Mrs. Mc Cann has chosen as is the custom, her parish church for her installation, Our Lady of Dolours Church, Chatswood, on Monday 29th May, at 10.30a.m. to which all ladies are invited.

Dorothy Woodhouse.

Hon. Secretary. N.S.W. State Unit.

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

N. S. W. UNIT

Statement of Receipts & Payments -- March 1, 1977 - February 28, 1978.

March 1, 1977 Cr. Balance

926.80

ADD RECEIPTS

Affiliation fees	70.40	
Sales "Circle of Prayer"	16.10	
Bank Interest	63.57	
Redemption I.B.D.	<u>500.00</u>	650.07

O'seas Travel Fund	98.19	
Nat'l Travel Fund	<u>1182.62</u>	1280.81

Special Funds:		
F'ship of Least Coin	2453.87	
Winifred Kiek Sch'ship	96.50	
Fellowship Day	824.13	
World Community Day	<u>760.36</u>	4134.86

By transfer ex. Sp.Fds.
to Orgn. A/c

W.K.S.	28.95	
F'ship Day	247.23	
World Comm. Day	<u>228.12</u>	504.30

6570.04

7496.84

LESS PAYMENTS

Printing, stationery, postage, telephone	198.35	
Meeting rooms	<u>55.00</u>	
President's Honorarium	25.00	
National C'cil of Women sub.	10.00	
Sundries	<u>10.00</u>	298.35

National Travel Fund		1395.25
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Special Funds:		
To National Committee		
F.L.C.	2453.87	
W.K.S.	67.55	
F'ship Day	456.90	
World Comm. Day	<u>379.04</u>	
	<u>3357.36</u>	
Transfer to Orgn. A/c	504.30	
Ex/es Special Days	<u>273.20</u>	4134.86

Deposit- Bank of N.S.W.
Investment Savings A/c

<u>1500.00</u>	<u>7328.46</u>
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February 28, 1978

Cr. Bank Balance \$ 168.38

Funds:

Organisation A/c-
Overseas Travel Fund-

1431.36	
<u>237.02</u>	
<u>\$ 1668.38</u>	

Bank of N.S.W. Savings Bank:

Current A/c	168.38
Savings Investment A/c	<u>1500.00</u>
	<u>\$ 1668.38</u>

Heather Stevens

6 March 1978 This is to certify that I have checked the books of Account presented to me and that the receipts and expenditure recorded therein are correct. Signed: Heather Stevens 3.4. 1978