

# Newsletter

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

No. 2

November, 1966

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

3rd Asian Churchwomen's Conference  
Tokyo - July, 1966

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to the Travel Fund, either through their Fellowship or personally. It was possible for Australia to pay my return fare as the representative of Australian Church Women to the Conference, and this generous gesture was greatly appreciated by the Asian planning committee. As you can imagine the expense involved in organising such a gathering is very high (there were approximately 90 delegates from 17 countries) and Australia's gesture enabled the Conference to remain within the allotted budget.

The Rev. Winifred Kick of Adelaide attended the Conference as the Australian Observer, paying her own expenses. To share in study, fellowship and worship with so many women of different cultures and backgrounds was a very rich and rewarding experience for us both. We found very quickly that our basic concerns are the same. The vigour of the Asian Churches was apparent in the keenness with which their delegates participated in the study groups.

It was a privilege to meet and talk with Mrs. Shanti Solomon from India, whose thoughts during a Pacific Fellowship tour lead to the forming of the Fellowship of the

Least Coin. The following words are from a message she spoke on tape to the women of Australia, explaining the F.L.C. and the use of the money collected, the major portion of which is used to promote knowledge and fellowship among women of Asia through the Asian Churchwomen's Conference held every four years. Many projects in areas of need throughout the world are also assisted from this international fund.

"If once a month we sit down and pray to God and try to be straight with Him in our relationship to man, asking for a forgiving heart for those who have hurt us knowingly or unknowingly, if each woman puts the least coin of her country for this prayer as a symbol and at the end of the year we have 12 coins for the treasury of the W.C.C., then how much together we can collect to promote Christian fellowship in the world.

"The Fellowship of the Least Coin is a Fellowship of Prayer when we try to get reconciled with our own people and I think it is most needed now when the world is like a volcano ready to erupt at any moment and to have war with each other. We have to understand each country and before God confess our ignorance and ask for a forgiving heart. Perhaps this Fellowship of Prayer will promote Christian Fellowship and bring peace in our time. I am sure you will all agree we want it and pray for it."

In Christ there is no East or West  
In Him no North or South,  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Yours in Fellowship,

OLGA RADGER.

OUR PROJECTS

"Wybalena" Hostel. It was decided at our September meeting to close down the Hostel at the end of 1966 and to sell the property, investing the proceeds pending further decision by the Council. This big step was not taken easily but the many vacancies caused by girls taking flats together after the academic year was well under way, made the operation of the Hostel uneconomic. The need for this type of accommodation has eased and the Hostel Committee realised that the capital employed could be used to better advantage. Tribute has been paid to the members of the Hostel Committee, especially to Mrs. Mary Millar, for the long and very hard work they have done.

Winifred Kiek Scholarship

Miss Sabita Swarup, a very petite and shy Indian lass from Fiji arrived in Sydney in August to take up the 1966 Scholarship. She has been busy at the Metropolitan Business College studying typing, shorthand and bookkeeping, so that she will be better equipped to serve her Church (in a hospital office) on her return. This has meant that she hasn't been free to meet many women's groups. Two exceptions were the Congregational Annual Women's Day (when she was convalescing after being parted from her appendix) and the Evening P.W.A. Rally. She will remain in Sydney until after the A.C.W. National Committee Meeting, so if you would like to meet her, come to the Open Meeting (see invit. on page 4).

Fellowship of the Least Coin

An attractive new leaflet has been prepared giving details of its origin, purpose and fulfilment; and this is available from our F.L.C. Convener, Mrs. H. J. Lilley, 206 Eastern Valley Way, Willoughby at 2 cents per copy. This charge has been made so that every least coin can be sent to Geneva. A colourful new label is free and supplies can be obtained from the same address. Please remember postage.

A.C.W. NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The third National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women will be held from 8th to 10 February 1967 at Deaconess House, Newtown, Sydney. Representatives from each State Unit and each Federal denominational women's group will receive reports and decide the future policy of A.C.W.

This year, women's groups not involved in A.C.W. and N.S.W. denominational women's groups have been invited to send observers, and everybody is invited to the OPEN MEETING. This will be held at Deaconess House at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 9th February on the subject of Communication.

This vital topic will be handled by an expert in the field and it will be your opportunity to meet the personalities of the National Committee and Miss Sabita Swarup.

SPECIAL DAYS

The most heartening development in the State with regard to Special Days has been in the Anglican Diocese of Canberra/Goulburn. Interest in the Church and Life Movement, wide publicity by the Churchwomen's Union, and talks on the W.C.C. by Mrs. B. Garnock of Bombala, have resulted in 10 of the 12 country centres on Fellowship Day and 9 of the 13 on World Community Day being in that Diocese.

1966 results are:	<u>Fellowship Day</u>	<u>World Community Day</u>
No. of centres	19	23
Attendances	850 approx.	1200 approx.
Offerings	\$216.65	\$200 approx. to date

Fellowship Day is held in the last week of July and W.C.D. in the last week of October. In N.S.W. we try to make it the fourth Friday in each case, but this has to be altered sometimes in specific areas. Do keep these dates free and do what you can to have an observance in your district, if arrangements are not already in hand.

Fellowship Day - Fri. 28th July, 1967  
World Community Day - Fri. 27th October, 1967