

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1969

WORKING DOCUMENTS

ST HILDA'S COLLEGE
COLLEGE CRESCENT,
PARKVILLE, VIC.

FEBRUARY 4 - 7

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA

February 4th - 7th, 1969

TUESDAY, February 4th

- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 2:00 Opening Worship
Welcomes
- 3:30 Afternoon Tea
- 4:15 Session 1: Receiving of Agenda
Appointment of Committees
Report from Working Committee
Financial Report
- 6:00 Evening Meal
- 7:15 Session 2: Report from State Units
Reports from Denominational Women's Groups
Reports from United Churches
Report from Fellowship of the Least Coin
- 9:00 Evening Prayers
- 9:15 Supper

WEDNESDAY, February 5th

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:45 Bible Study
- 9:45 Introducing Theme - Catholicity Study
- 10:45 Morning Tea
- 11:00 Group Discussions
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch
- 2:00 Group Discussions
- 3:30 Afternoon Tea
- 4:00 Session 3: Business
Special Days
Winifred Kike Scholarship
Women's World Day of Prayer
- 6:00 Evening Meal
- 7:30 Open Session: Rev. David Cox - European - Australian
Christian Fellowship
Mrs J. McCaughey
- 9:00 Evening Prayers
- 9:15 Supper

THURSDAY, February 6th

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:45 Bible Study

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING - AGENDA (cont.)

- 9:45 Report Back from Group Discussions
10:45 Morning Tea
11:00 Session 4: Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society
12:30 p.m. Lunch
2:00 Trip
6:00 Evening Meal
7:15 Discussion Groups on Issues raised
9:00 Evening Prayers
9:15 Supper

FRIDAY, February 7th

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:45 Bible Study
9:45 Report back on discussion
10:45 Morning Tea
11:00 Session 5: Business
Statement from Theme Discussion
Recommendations to member organizations from 'Issue' Discussion
Recommendations to A.C.C.
12:30 p.m. Lunch
2:00 Session 6: Business
Election of Officers
Election of Working Committee
Appointments to related Committees
Any Other Business
3:30 Closing Prayers
4:00 Afternoon Tea.

St Hilda's College,
PARKVILLE, VICTORIA.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Participants

OFFICE BEARERS:

President	Deaconess C.I. Ritchie
Vice-President	Mrs T.H. Coates
Vice-President	Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders
Secretary	Mrs G.I. Duke
Treasurer	Mrs E. Stephens

STATE UNIT REPRESENTATION:

Queensland	Mrs F.C. Dennis
N.S.W.	Mrs J. O. Gilbert Mrs R.H. Dougherty
A.C.T.	Mrs P.W. Brett Mrs J. Neal-Smith
South Australia	Mrs T.R. Howie Mrs H.B. Morrow
Tasmania	Mrs G.A. Wood Mrs Captain M. Everatt
Victoria	Mrs R.A. Fairservice Mrs A.E. Smith

DENOMINATIONAL REPRESENTATION:

Congregational	Mrs D.W. Bailey
Churches of Christ	Mrs M.A.K. Crosby
Methodist	Mrs A.W. Pederick
Presbyterian	Mrs A. Yule
Salvation Army	Mrs Col. H.W. Saunders

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP:

Y. W. C. A.	Mrs T.C. Rentoul
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REPRESENTATIVES FROM:

ACC Committee on Co-operation of Men & Women in Church, Family and Society

Mrs T.H. Coates
Mrs H.T. Rogers

ACC Executive Committee

Mrs H.T. Wells
Mrs M.G. Wyllie

ACC

Mr V.K. Brown

GUEST

Miss Jackie Kiri

WORKING COMMITTEE:

Mrs N. Anderson
Mrs A.W. Burton
Mrs N. Faichney
Mrs J.A. Strack
Mrs E.L. Williams

OBSERVERS:

STATE UNITS:

South Australia Mrs R.W.L. Crosby
Mrs D. Thomson

Victoria Mrs E.D. Packer
Miss E. Dunn

Vic. State Denominational Groups:

Baptist Mrs L.E. Warner

Church of Christ

Congregational Mrs N. Anderson

Methodist Mrs J.L. Cousins

Presbyterian Mrs A. Matthews

Roman Catholic Mrs A.A. Kennedy
Mrs F.M. Simmons

Women's World Day of Prayer

Girls' Brigade

REPORT OF WORKING COMMITTEE FOR 1968

The Committee has met regularly each month throughout the year with the exception of October, which co-incided with the Annual Church Assemblies and Conferences.

We have appreciated the use of the Board Room and its facilities at 100 Flinders Street, Melbourne and we express our gratitude to the ACCE for making these available to us. We also wish to thank the VCC staff for their co-operation and hospitality.

SPECIAL DAYS
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Fellowship Day 1968:

8,500 Orders of Service distributed
Theme: "All Things New"
Prepared by Tasmanian Church Women

World Community Day 1968:

6,000 Orders of Service distributed
Theme: "Human Rights"
Prepared by Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia
Offering: For Refugee Relief through Inter-Church Aid

As requested by the National Committee Meeting Orders of Service have been prepared in advance for 1969.

Fellowship Day 1969:

Theme: "Who Is My Neighbour"
Prepared by Queensland Church Women

World Community Day 1969:

Theme: "Let There Be Bread"
Prepared by Australian Christian Women's Fellowship Federal Conference, Churches of Christ

The Working Committee expresses thanks to all groups who have prepared these Orders of Service.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN
=====

Project: Interest continues to grow
Gifts received from all States and from women's groups in United Church of North Australia.
Gift received from Fellowship of the Least Coin for European-Australian Christian Fellowship

Promotion: Volume III Circle of Prayer sent to many groups.
1270 copies distributed and more ordered.
Tape recording of Mrs Shanti Solomon's address being circulated

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP
=====

Candidate: Miss Jackie Kini
22 years
of Port Moresby, Papua.
A graduate of Port Moresby Teachers' Training College
A Sunday School Teacher and Youth Worker
A member of the United Church, Port Moresby
An Officer of the Girls' Brigade

Planned Training: September-December - Sydney: Intensive English Course and experience in schools
January - Girls' Brigade camps
February 4-7 - Melbourne: National Committee Meeting, ACW
February - April - Adelaide: Girls' Brigade experience

UNITED CHURCHES

Contact: Through 6 groups who receive minutes and support Special Days and Offerings

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION

Representation: ACW has been represented by Mrs J.A. Strack and Mrs E. Stephens

PUBLICITY and PUBLICATIONS

1. Regular News Items have been prepared for publication in 'In Unity' and Church Magazines.
2. Inscribed Ball Point Pens: The first order was placed for 168 dozen pens. Rapid sales by member organizations necessitated the placing of a second order of a similar quantity within the first month.
3. A new Brochure on ACW has been prepared.
4. A Brochure on the Winifred Kiek Scholarship holder, Miss Jackie Kini.

OVERSEAS CONTACTS

During the year the Working Committee entertained at lunch, Mrs Ranee Elieser, a contributor to Circle of Prayer Volume III, and Miss Amalia Rokotuivuna and Miss Seniloli Tora from Fiji who were accompanied by Miss Dulcie McFarlane of Rockhampton. Miss Rokotuivuna and Miss Tora were passing through Melbourne on their way to a Y.W.C.A. Programme Planning Seminar at Bangkok.

Our Treasurer, Mrs Enid Stephens, attended the Mothers' Union World Wide Conference held in London. The opening service was held in Westminster Abbey and was attended by the Queen Mother. Mrs Stephens was a delegate for the Rockhampton Diocese.

The Working Committee expresses its appreciation to all member organizations for their co-operation and help in the tasks committed to it by the National Committee Meeting.

C.I. RITCHIE
President of Working Committee

S. DUKE
Hon. Secretary.

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE -- REPORT

MISS JACKIE KINI - a lecturer in Mathematics and Physical Education arrived at Deaconess House, Newtown from Port Moresby on 4th September, and took up residence.

We are grateful to Dr DUNSTAN KEMP, the Principal of the Sydney Teachers' College and his staff for the arrangements they made for Jackie to attend lectures at the Teachers' College in English and Mathematics Departments.

MR STERN, of the Commonwealth Education Department, made arrangements for Jackie to attend special English classes at the Centre.

MRS CARRICK AND MISS HUDDLESTON of the Girls' Life Brigade, have taken care of Jackie's clothing and living allowances, and introduced her to Girls' Brigade work in Sydney. Jackie was attached to a Girls' Brigade at Chatswood Church of Christ, and she enjoyed the experience very much.

THE GIRLS' LIFE BRIGADE has given \$150.00 to the Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund.

We are grateful to Miss Huddleston for her personal interest in Jackie's welfare.

During December, January arrangements have been made for Jackie to attend a Group Life Laboratory and various Youth Camps.

We are grateful to all those who have arranged for Jackie's participation in these activities.

Jackie has addressed meetings in Maitland, the Central World Community Day in Sydney, and the Community Day Service in Lindfield, the Y.W.C.A. Dinner and other meetings.

Wherever she has gone she has endeared herself to the people, and she is looking forward to having new experiences and making new friends in Melbourne and Adelaide.

Mary M. ANDREWS,

Convener of the Winifred
Kiek Scholarship Committee.

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REPORT OF RELATED COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION OF MEN & WOMEN IN CHURCH, FAMILY AND SOCIETY

During 1968 the Committee has met six times. The first occasion was a Joint Meeting with the National Committee of A.C.W. in Sydney in February, under the chairmanship of the Rev. W.G. Coughlan. Speakers were Mrs Mabel Wyllie, on the work of the Department on Co-operation of Men and Women of the World Council of Churches, Mrs Olga Badger, on meetings in Bangkok, and Mrs Ilma Rogers, on experiments in congregational life in Blackburn, Victoria.

The Rev. L.W. Yolton was the speaker at the March Meeting, on Communication in the Electronic Age, especially communication with youth. The May and July meetings concentrated on the draft of the pamphlet, "Parents and the Teen-Age Revolution". The Rev. Bruce Reddrop reported to the September meeting on the Institute on Marriage and Family Counselling, arranged by the E.A.C.C. in July in Bangkok, and recommendations arising from this Institute were considered at the final meeting in November.

The first edition of "Eve Where Art Thou?" sold out quickly, and a further edition of 1,000 copies was printed.

Mrs Ilma Rogers was appointed as our representative to the United Nations Association Status of Women Committee.

Some contact has been made with Roman Catholics. At the March meeting Sister Marie Callistus, of Our Lady of Sion Convent, Box Hill, was a guest of the Committee, and in September, following contact made at the V.C.C. - R.C.C. Dialogue in August, two Catholic lay women attended our meeting. They were both members of the Grail, a lay movement for Catholic women, founded in Holland in 1921.

MAIN EMPHASES

The work of the Committee in 1968 has been concentrated on two main projects, both linked with the East Asia Christian Conference.

I. PUBLICATION OF "STUDY LEAFLET"

Question Paper Number 1: "Parents and the Teen-Age Revolution".

This leaflet, which crystallises the thinking of the Committee over recent years has been written by the Convener and carefully considered by the Committee. It is now in the hands of the printers, and should be available before the end of 1968. It is addressed primarily to parents, and the central question is, "How can we help our teen-agers to cope with sex?". The cost of publication will be met from a grant of \$US 150 received from the E.A.C.C., and it is hoped that the sale of copies will make further Question Papers possible.

The leaflet is divided into three sections, each followed by a set of questions for discussion. The Committee hopes that the leaflet will be widely used -

- in parents' groups
- in women's groups
- in adult groups in local congregations
- in inter-church groups of men and women,

and that it will make some small contribution to the large problem raised by the last Annual Meeting: "In what ways should the Committee or the Churches participate in the forming of opinions or attitudes in the present crises of sex morality? In particular how can we keep contact alive between the generations in this sphere?"

COMMITTEE ON CO-OPERATION (cont.)

II. INSTITUTE ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELLING, BANGKOK,
JULY, 1968.

This Institute was organized by the E.A.C.C., and led by the Dr and Mrs S. Southard of the United States. It was attended by nationals of twelve Asian countries, including Australia and New Zealand, and the work was based on discussions, case histories and verbatim reports of interviews. This process gave insight into the various Asian situations, and revealed basic world-wide similarities in family relationships, as well as cultural differences. The Australian representative was the Rev. Bruce Reddrop, Chairman of the Committee, and Director of the Church of England Marriage and Guidance Council in Victoria. The Institute produced a set of Recommendations. They aim at the establishment of local counselling centres "where there is both interest and possibility of development". These centres could eventually serve as training centres, and could be supported by a skilled person or persons who could give oversight and guidance. Other recommendations cover the establishment of a central library, the extension of research, and the inclusion of courses in pastoral counselling with emphasis on marriage and family in all theological seminaries.

J.G. COATES,
Convener,
Committee on Co-operation.

ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBER UNITS

QUEENSLAND:

T.V. Advertising of Tobacco and Cigarettes
The alcohol and drug problem
Women's Fashions with emphasis on extreme mini-skirts.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Communication: All facets of this very vexing problem as it relates to Christian women. Communication as between women at the international level; interstate; inter-Church and the very important pew members. Within this concept we think of our Inter-A.C.W. relationships; Church Women United; the East Asian Conference as being active and valuable groups working throughout the country and the world about which more than just a handful of delegates should become aware - and have a feeling of personal involvement. This problem of communication between Christians at all levels we feel to be a vital, and indeed urgent one, in our exciting world of computers and space travel, when the experience of a personal God can so easily be lost in the wonder and awe of machines that control man's movements and man seeking to explore and control the universe.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

1. Communication
 - (a) That the minutes of the National Committee Meetings be immediately circulated to all states so that current business can be discussed
 - (b) That date of the next meeting be on the minutes that correspondence can be on time
 - (c) That news and views of state bodies be circulated in the form of a news sheet with the minutes.
 - (d) That the Fellowship of the Least Coin and Winifred Kiek Convener also receive the minutes.
2. Co-operation of men and women
3. Finance
4. National Meetings
 - (a) That consideration be given to the venue of these meetings
 - (b) That consideration be given to the possibility of each state being responsible for hostessing these in turn, thus spreading interest and responsibility
5. That there be a Winifred Kike Convener Nationally and at State levels to promote this Scholarship.

REPORTS FROM STATE UNITS

QUEENSLAND

The Women's Inter-Church Council of Queensland, State Unit for Australian Church Women, presents its twentyfirst Annual Report covering a period 1st October 1967 to 29th November 1968. Between these dates we have observed Fellowship Day and two World Community Days. The Services held on these days have shown increasing interest among the women of Queensland in the objects of Australian Church Women.

We are pleased to report the formation of a new and strong Branch in the City of Rockhampton where the Special A.C.W. Services have been held during 1968. We are reaching out into other areas through the observance of these days.

We were privileged to prepare the Order of Service for Fellowship Day 1969, the theme being "Who Is My Neighbour?"

In February a Morning Tea was held at which Mrs Dennis showed slides on her visit to Expo' 1967. This was a successful function which augmented our funds enabling us to lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes.

An Open meeting to which Presidents of Women's Groups were invited gave further indication of increasing support from Group Leaders.

Our report closes on a note of thanksgiving for our Master's enabling and leading, with confidence we enter a new year of Service for Him.

M. REID
Secretary.

Hon

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NEW SOUTH WALES

This has been a most interesting and exciting year in the life of the N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council and one in which we have been privileged to experience a quiet moving forward of genuine ecumenical outreach through the women of the local churches.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

One of the most valuable developments on the Council this year has been the result achieved by the newly formed Promotions Committee. This Committee which began with four members, plus the President and Secretary of Council as ex officio members, has, under the convenership of Mrs D.J.A. Verco, worked energetically throughout the year to promote the two special days and to encourage the formation of inter church groups in local communities wherever opportunity arose. During the year it was found necessary to enlarge the membership to cope with the increasing volume of the committee's work and to make it more effective of function. One new branch, Lane Cove-Longueville, involving all sections of the Christian Church in that area and with particularly enthusiastic Roman Catholic participation, has not only averaged 150 at its special services, but also meets from time to time in the home of one of the Roman Catholic women for morning coffee and group discussion by some 50 women of all denominations. During the year too, a Promotions Committee team visited the Maitland Synod District of the Methodist Church and involved some 350 L.C.A. women in the Fellowship Day service, with discussion to follow; introduced them to their relationship with A.C.W.; and such was their interest in the Fellowship of the Least Coin that all available literature was given or sold and there has been a continuing demand for more copies of Circle of Prayer from the Maitland area.

Jackie Kini, who was in Sydney at the time of the Maitland trip, was able to make the journey with the team and meet the country women; and we are happy to say that the Girls' Brigade is now affiliated with us in N.S.W. and two of their representatives are members of the Council.

General interest in the Fellowship of the Least Coin continues to grow stronger from month to month and our new convener, Mrs Clarice Butler, is building up a very real fellowship among our women as she keeps in touch both by letter and visits suburban groups.

This year it was resolved that each February would be set aside as Branches' Day. The major part of the meeting is spent in informing visitors and new members of the nature and function of the W.I.C.C. and its link with A.C.W. and, importantly, its relationship to the women of the local congregations. Following the very comprehensive information session, in which all Promotions Committee members participated, a very lively and fruitful discussion and question period preceded a basket lunch, over which further thoughts were shared and friendships were cemented.

A revision of our Constitution was undertaken during the year and a draft submitted to denominations for comment and/or criticism. The new Constitution was adopted in September and it is hoped that it will make it easier for us to achieve our aims and widen our relationships.

Community Day this year saw the revival of a city meeting, but with a difference. For the first time the city churches themselves undertook the organization and arrangement of the service and it is hoped that these services will continue.

NEW SOUTH WALES (cont.)

They will not only benefit the women who are unable to attend a suburban service, but it is felt that they will bring members of the city churches into touch with each other in a very real way.

PLANS:

During the coming year a concerted drive to contact more women in the local situation and encourage their greater participation in the special days will be our prime objective.

PROBLEMS:

In New South Wales our major problem seems to be the continuing one of difficulty of communication. The denominations still fail to get the word through to the pew members, and we are exercised to find some way of overcoming this.

W.D. DOUGHERTY
Secretary.

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TASMANIA

One of our aims as set out in our Constitution is "to unite church women in their allegiance to their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ", and we believe that we are making progress towards achieving this aim.

Fellowship Day Services this year were held in Hobart, Launceston, Devenport, Stanley, Burnie, Glenorchy and Ulverstone and all centres reported that meetings were felt to be well worthwhile and that fellowship was enjoyed with women from all affiliated churches as well as Church of England and Catholic women. To all who helped in any way to make these meetings so successful and, in particular, to the ladies who undertook the responsibility of organizing them, we extend our sincere thanks.

As yet we have only had reports of four services held for World Community Day, namely Launceston, Rosebery, Queenstown, and Hobart, but as Orders of Service were sent to six other centres, there may still be reports to come to us. It was particularly pleasing to hear that the Rosebery ladies enjoyed this fellowship and hope to make World Community Day an annual event.

The Hobart ladies are happy to report that for their day they joined with the Women's World Day of Prayer Committee for the first time. The World Day of Prayer Committee held its Annual meeting in the morning. At this meeting a number of women from the country areas were present as well as members of our Council. Following the meeting we enjoyed a very nice luncheon provided by the W.W.D. of Prayer ladies. This time gave us a chance to move about and get to know each other before we went on to the World Community Day Service at 2 o'clock. At this meeting Mr Neil Batt gave a very fine address on the subject of the theme 'Human Rights'.

Travel Fund. Unfortunately, the response to this has been poor and, in fact, apart from one amount received from Burnie ladies, all other monies have been raised by Hobart ladies who have held American Teas for this purpose.

TASMANIA (cont.)

Fellowship of the Least Coin:

Mrs G.A. Wood, the State Convener for this project, reports steadily increasing interest and participation. The amount in hand to date this year is approx. \$180 and again we are grateful for this support.

D. HARTAM
Secretary.

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CANBERRA

Canberra Church Women has again had a happy and favourable year. We have endeavoured to interest all the women in the A.C.T. in Canberra Church Women and especially the Special Days. Canberra is growing so fast and new Churches are opening up almost overnight, it is difficult to keep up with them. In the very new areas different systems are being used on an United basis to try and draw the women together.

We observed Fellowship Day and World Community Day during the year, with a great deal of help and inspiration from the Orders of Service. Unrealistic as it may seem, the larger Canberra grows the smaller becomes the congregations. We have tried having more than one service in outer suburbs, but this does not bring along more women either.

For Fellowship Day we began with the Service and went straight into the discussion groups, in which the ladies participated with great interest.

For World Community Day we had three speakers, who each spoke for about five minutes on one question and then the discussion was open to the congregation for further discussion and questions. Both these days were cold and wet, therefore the attendances were poor, but those who did brave the elements commented on the help they had received from the Services.

We also observed Women's World Day of Prayer in two centres.

At present Canberra Church Women has plans under way of forming an Emergency Volunteer Service for needy people in our community. It is not desirable that we form a completely new organization, but that we try to assist already existing ones, who need voluntary help often at short notice. A small Committee has been formed to formulate the many ideas and needs suggested. It is felt that this vital assistance will have to move slowly and it may be some time before it is fully operative.

Our main problem at present is to get all the Church women's groups interested in Canberra Church Women and ultimately in the Special Days.

M. GOUDIE
Secretary

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

1968 has been an interesting and challenging year. It saw some changes and also a renewed interest by Council members in some aspects of their work. It also saw a continued apathy and the need for livlier communication between member groups and from W.I.C.C. to member groups.

Thus our achievements are:

1. A growing interest from member groups.
2. One new member group and one enquiring group.
3. Conversations with other denominations.
4. Growing co-operation with the Roman Catholics.
5. The beginning of an Inter-denominational hospital visiting plan that covers training co-operation and co-ordination.
6. The sponsoring of an Indian girl with the co-operation of the Roman Catholics.

Our Plans are:

1. To decentralise Fellowship Day
2. Visit inter-denominational groups and foster new ones
3. Invite ourselves as speakers to combined women's meetings.
4. Continue the sponsoring of hospital visiting training courses.
5. Include a report from one of our member groups at each Council meeting. (We already receive a report from our representatives to affiliated groups).
6. Use Liaison Officers, helping them to help their group and us, particularly in the field of communication.

Our Problems are:

1. Communication - Intra/state and Inter-state, Intra/denomination and Inter-denomination.
2. Co-operation of Men and Women - How to achieve this - it seems that if it is organized by men it is presumed to be for women too. If it is organized by women it is presumed to be for women only.
3. Finance - How to make ends meet.
4. Apathy - How to overcome.

K. HOWIE,
Secretary.

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VICTORIA

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Conference held on 22nd March, 1968.
52 attended, including members of W.I.C.C. ; Local Inter-Church group; Representatives of Women's World Day of Prayer. Discussion over a wide range of subjects presented many ideas.
2. Formation of Publicity Committee.
3. Roman Catholics who previously sent two observers to the W.I.C.C. now send two representatives.
4. Provision for Women's Committees of local Inter-church Councils to be associated with the W.I.C.C. of Victoria.
5. Setting up a Constitution Committee to examine and revise the constitution.
Further suggestions of tenure of office and an elected president to be considered.
6. Members of W.I.C.C. provided and prepared the lunch to launch the Christmas Bowl Appeal.
7. We feel that there has been a growth of fellowship and understanding among the members of the Council.

PLANS:

1. News Sheet. It is proposed to issue a newsheet in March and October each year. It will give news of W.I.C.C. and their plans, also news and ideas from local women's Inter-Church groups.
2. Formation of Inter-Church groups starting with areas in which there are resident members of the W.I.C.C. of Victoria.
3. August 22nd 1969 to be called OPEN DAY.
It is suggested that reports of Fellowship Day be sent to the Convener who will summarise them and present the highlights and new developments. This will leave time for open discussion. Questions can be sent to the Executive previously or raised on the day.

PROBLEMS:

1. COMMUNICATION - especially with regard to Fellowship and World Community Days.
2. Date of Fellowship Day.
3. Large number of meetings for women.
Suggested that denominations may be willing to forego their own meetings in July and October.
4. Form of World Community Day.

R. FAIRSERVICE
Secretary.

REPORTS FROM FEDERAL DENOMINATIONAL WOMEN'S GROUPS

CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIA

ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. The growing awareness and the working together of members in moves towards unity in Churches and Fellowships.
2. In South Australia, only, progress in discussion, planning and working together of Presbyterian, Methodist, and Congregational Fellowships and Federations with next year the Congregational and Presbyterian Executives planning together for the combining of both groups in monthly meetings, on all possible occasions. Victoria has had useful conversations with representatives of the M.W.F and P.W.A. and will continue meeting together next year.
3. N.S.W. have held a very successful "livein" Conference on 'Responsible living in the world in which we live in 1968', also a Workshop on 'Violence'.
4. For our "Second Mile Giving"(this is over and above the Budget) instead of separate collecting for Overseas and Home Missions there is now but one collecting box being issued for the Total Mission of the Church.

PLANS:

1. Celebration of the Golden Jubilee of our C.W.F. of Australia in Worship and a Special project to support our work among Aborigines at Alice Springs.
2. To help further the knowledge and understanding of members of the proposed Uniting Church in Australia.
3. To encourage discussion and action, where possible, on some of the real issues exercising the minds of thinking Christians today; and the giving of service in the community.

PROBLEMS:

1. Changed and changing patterns of life in the Home, in the Church, in Society e.g. (a) Worship (b) Priorities in the use of time in the home, church & community (c) The Church's role in society, especially in decision making (d) Does the Church, in its present form, need to die?
2. COMMUNICATION or lack of between differing age groups - inside the church - out in the community and the urgent need to find ways of bridging the gap.
3. Decreasing numbers and increasing age level of day fellowships.
4. Need for Christian Education to fit us to play our part as responsible Christians in and out of the Church.
5. The barriers we ourselves raise to the spreading of the Gospel.

E. COPPER
Secretary.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Presbyterian Women of South Australia have united under the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia and have produced an excellent handbook for use amongst its members.

The Victorian Unit has also published a new handbook for member organizations.

Tasmania are working on the production of their handbook.

Members benefited greatly from a visit by Mrs Ruth Zimmerman of the United States of America.

In co-operation with the Christian Education Committee of the Victoria Assembly, Mrs Zimmerman conducted seminars for women in metropolitan and country areas and interstate.

Members were pleased that Presbyterian women were included in Church Delegations to South East Asia Conference and Uppsala through the World Council of Churches.

WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN:

A new Federal Constitution and set of By-laws is being drawn up.

Executive is trying to co-ordinate Syllabus material used throughout the Commonwealth.

J. YULE
PRESIDENT.

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AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMEN

We are happy to tell you that the interest in the Federation of Methodist women has continued throughout Australia and the Pacific.

The Executive of the Australasian Federation has met in Sydney every three months and we have kept in touch with each State through these meetings.

Mrs Williams, the wife of the Rev. Dr R.G. Williams of the Rarongo Theological College in New Guinea has been asking for any Federation material we can forward to her. This is being done.

We were happy to have Mrs Raymond Dudley, Secretary of the World Conference with us in August this year. We had a luncheon at Leigh College with the wives of the State Executive joining with the Australian Executive.

The next day we had quite a large gathering which was open to all women in the Auditorium of the Wesley Centre where we had a cup of morning tea.

Mrs Dudley was welcomed by the World President Emeritus, Mrs Freer Latham.

We were greatly impressed by her talk to us which was informative and stimulating and from a very dedicated experience. She spoke of God's whisper for His mighty acts which come through human instrumentality.

AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMEN (cont.)

His whisper came to Helen Kim in 1923, a Korean girl who was preparing to speak to a formidable gathering of American women and she conceived the ideas of a world-wide sisterhood. So the World Federation of Methodist Women was born in her heart and gathered momentum and has grown until it is 6 million strong. "God called her when the time was right" and so we listened to a wonderful address.

Later, Mrs Gribble, the President of the Australasian Federation of Methodist Women, thanked her and some beautiful daphne was presented to her.

After Mrs Dudley's return from the World Executive in Nigeria at our last meeting it was suggested that an area seminar be held in the State in which the President of the A.F.M.W. resides.

This will take place before the World Federation Assembly in 1971.

I. GRIBBLE
President

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AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FEDERAL CONFERENCE
CHURCHES OF CHRIST

It was reported from the new Secretary, Mrs N.H. Coombe that the Churches of Christ women in all States take a very real interest in A.C.W. affairs.

As a change in Office-Bearers and also a change in location of the Executive had just taken place it was not possible to give a comprehensive report this year.

G. COOMBE
Secretary.

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REPORTS FROM UNITED CHURCHES

KATHERINE UNITED CHURCH WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

As far as our work here in Katherine is concerned with our United Church women, we are a very active group in that we help our parish church, and since my husband and I have been here we have encouraged the members of the Women's Fellowship to assist projects in the backward countries of the world, such as India with money to help buy pumping equipment, for buying fish to fill their ponds for food, and our latest contribution has been to Biafra to help their starving war victims. We hold stalls (street) to raise money for our various projects which is the best way in this kind of community. We have a membership of 20, the majority of whom attend all monthly meetings. We also hold some of our meetings out at the R.A.A.F. station at Tindal, which is about 8 miles south of Katherine where we have several active members.

I have belonged to many women's groups but have never found such a happy lot as we have here in Katherine. At our meetings we always have a devotional period, then the business part of the meeting, followed by an hour's entertainment, such as a guest speaker, films, a slide evening, a discussion evening (we had one of these in our October meeting on "Human Rights"); we draw up six months programme and issue it to all members so that they know what is going on. I feel that this is the main reason we have such a happy group in our Fellowship, there is nothing more deadly than a purely business meeting, especially to women who can only get away from home for one night a month and to which they look forward so much.

Our President this year is the wife of one of our leading C.S.I.R.O. scientists, both she and her husband and family of three are very active, devoted members of the Katherine United Church and she is an excellent President of our group.

F.L. THOMSON
Secretary

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WEST AUSTRALIA

Two public functions were arranged last year by our Committee - Fellowship Day in July and Community Day in October - and although these were not attended by large numbers of women we feel that they provided an opportunity for worship and discussion on an Ecumenical level which was of great value to those present.

We are endeavouring to enlist the interest of more Women's Groups in the Fellowship of the Least Coin and feel that a personal effort on the part of all delegates is needed.

Our greatest problem is communication with the various women's groups and I am sure that this will be a topic for discussion at National level.

VERA WILSON

Secretary.

THE SALVATION ARMY - WOMEN'S WORK

HOME LEAGUE: Membership: Home League 7768
Fellowship 826
Outer Circle 736
9330

No. of Leagues: 301

Average weekly attendance - Home League 4416
Fellowship 419
4865

OUTER CIRCLE: More than 700 letters are sent monthly to lonely women in country places and to shut-ins.

HOME LEAGUE FELLOWSHIP meetings are held at night with younger women, many of whom are working, and some with young children who cannot attend the day meeting. A planned syllabus provides for worship, education, and service.

There seems to be no limit to the amount of service rendered by Home League women in raising money for local Corps projects, community services (gifts for League of Mercy workers, etc.), and missionary projects.

LEAGUE OF MERCY: Active members 400

Visitation in Hospitals, Institutions or Homes for Elderly Citizens 249

62 members have earned the Long Service Badge covering 10 years' unbroken service.

Owing to the fact that many League of Mercy members are also Home League members, an outstanding work of co-operation is evidenced. Street stalls, weekly trading tables, etc., provide food and clothing for the needy contacted through hospital visitation, also gifts for the new baby, Easter and Christmas gifts, and Mother's Day remembrances.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL SERVICES: Our Social Services cover every type and age group of human need, from newborn babes to the elderly woman pensioner. The following facts and figures will convey something of this work.

Unmarried Mothers & Babes In each State we have a hostel and hospital where the unmarried mother may find residence before and after the birth of her babe. In most States we have a hospital section too, where they may be confined and their babe taken care of.

In our 4 hostels a total of 486 unmarried mothers were housed prior to their confinement; of this number 304 had their babes in our hospitals, and the remainder were transferred to other hospitals for delivery. Adoptions were arranged by our Matrons (who are approved Adoptive authorities with the Social Welfare Department) for 153 of the babes born. The remainder were either kept by their mother, or adoptions arranged by the Social Welfare Department, where the mothers are wards of State. Because of our work being set up in each State, it is often possible to make links with unmarried mothers who wish to come to another state, and liaison is made between the various Matrons who assist in such times of need.

As well as meeting the physical and emotional need of these young women, a rehabilitation program is carried out in each hostel; which means some are able to continue with their school studies, and tertiary education; some of the girls have continued and been successful in their matric. exams. Others are helped face a new future, by being directed to work and to accommodation where needed. In short, while the young women are in S.A. care, a total program of help is offered them.

THE SALVATION ARMY - WOMEN'S WORK (cont.)

Prison & Parole Work In each State the women prisoners are visited regularly both for the conduct of services, and for personal help and guidance. During the year 1921 women and young girls were visited whilst in prison, and on discharge nearly 300 were helped to rehabilitate themselves; work was found for some; accommodation for others; some were reunited with their family. Each day an officer visits the Courts in the various States, and gives assistance where needed. Up to 40 young women come under the care of each Probation Officer. These young people make regular contact with her. During the year 735 women were helped through our Police Court contacts, which also involved 146 children. Home visits are made regularly, and all possible done to assist these women back on the road to recovery.

EMERGENCY WORK:

In each State provision is made for meeting the need of those who find themselves in sore straits; among this number are deserted wives, husbands, inadequate women, homeless, alcoholic, widows, prisoners' wives, elderly pensioners unable to cope, stranded people, etc.

During the year 3292 families were assisted with food orders, accommodation, monetary assistance to help with rent arrears, gas and electric bills, work found, clothing, etc.

Emergency accommodation is provided for stranded girls, women and mothers with small children. During the year 199 families were helped in this way, plus 218 single women and girls. Free meals and beds were provided where money is not available; and this totalled 8997 meals and 3125 beds given free.

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Note: This report covers the Australia Southern Territory only, which comprises the States of Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory.

Presented by Mrs Saunders

DARWIN UNITED CHURCH LADIES' GUILD

Once again we have been pleased to welcome to our Guild women from all states of Australia. We are fortunate indeed to be part of the United Church in North Australia, because in this set-up we meet not only women from the three denominations co-operating in this venture, but there are others who choose to join us from Lutheran, Church of Christ, Brethren and Baptist backgrounds.

Numbers at our meetings have been between 30 and 40, and there is a wonderful sense of real fellowship. Most of these women are actively involved in community affairs, and we try to encourage this as much as possible. A good number are leaders of groups, and for this reason we do not make a practice of planning more meetings than necessary. In fact the only meeting we ask our women to attend is our monthly Guild meeting. In this way we feel our women are free to take part in the many and varied activities of this city.

Our secondhand clothing shop, as well as being our sole means of making money, has also been a very real help to folk in need. Many times we are called on to clothe men released from prison, and families in poor circumstances are often referred to us for help. Our members gather once a month on a voluntary basis to mend or sort clothing. These mornings have proved valuable in so many ways, we have really got to know our fellow members. Quite often too, visitors who have seen the notice in the weekly News-sheet have come along just for something to do during a holiday. We have met some real 'gems' this way.

During the year the Nightcliffe Manse was opened. This was a great event in the life of the Parish, and our Guild was able to supply a stove, lounge furniture and a diningroom setting. A new duplicator was also purchased for the Parish Office and a new washing machine for the Manse.

Delegates regularly attend meetings of Red Cross Home Help, National Council of Women and N.T. Council for the Ageing. These report back to the Guild, so that we are kept in touch with activities.

The meetings of Fellowship Day and World Community Day have been part of our Guild programme for 2 years now. Nightcliff women have joined us on these occasions, and as well as getting to know women from our nearest neighbour church (6 miles away), we have found the discussions stimulating and very worthwhile.

There is a group of 30 young full blood aborigines who attend morning worship each week. These are some of the students of Kormilda College. They are bright, intelligent children, and have the help of trained, sympathetic teachers to bring them up to High School standard. For the first time this year a group of full-blood aboriginals are ready to start High School. Thanks to Kormilda College, this will continue each year.

Also attending worship are the children from the Methodist Child Care Homes. We have close contact with cottage mothers, and endeavour to ease their load as much as possible. Several of our women have spent time at these homes ironing and mending.

During the year the Guild organised a plane trip to Maningrida Welfare Settlement in Arnhem Land for the opening of the first church there. It was a great day for the 23 people who went to share in this occasion. It also meant a great deal to the folk of Maningrida.

As usual, the end of the year brings a sad note as we say farewell to many of our number. However, we look forward to others taking their places and contributing what they can to the United Church in North Australia.

D. SHEPHARD.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NIGHTCLIFF

Various avenues of service are filled by our Women's Fellowship. Each Sunday morning we are rostered to care for the creche, children under four are left with us so that parents can worship together without distraction. Children over four attend Sunday School which is held at the same time as Church for the nursery and Kinders.

Each week the Church is cleaned by roster of three members, and the house of God is cared for carefully in this way.

Our meetings are held monthly and we have had a number of very interesting meetings ranging from Devotional, a visit from an officer of the Met. Office, progressive supper, Chinese cookery, and an evening given to Community Aid Abroad. A number of our ladies also give their time to work per roster at our second-hand clothing shop, each Friday morning to help the brown folk obtain good reasonably priced clothing.

During the year we have had two meetings in conjunction with our Darwin Ladies' Guild, and also visited the Baptist ladies on the occasion of their birthday luncheon and also a number of us went to the Anglican ladies' Christmas party.

Through the year a number of family church teas were held and provided teas and coffee and cordial for these and also the Church Christmas party which took the form of a family tea, games and social evening. Fortunately it was fine on the evening and we ~~which had a table set up for the new year of Christmas~~ ~~the Fellowship~~.

We send our greetings to fellow Australian Christian Women at your Conference. May we, in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, pray God's blessing on all your deliberations and fellowship as you meet together.

Mrs C.A. GULLICK (Hon. Treasurer)
in absence of President and
Secretary on leave.

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TENNANT CREEK

As is usual in the Territory, with a moving population, we gained new members for our Guild - but said farewell to others so our numbers remain much the same with about 12 women attending.

The Women's World Day of Prayer service was held in the Anglican Church with several of our ladies taking part.

We were able to be of service in the community as well as raise some money on 3 occasions during the year by providing morning and afternoon tea for groups of personnel from Peko mines doing courses in management and safety measures.

Each month we catered for the men's tea with different members suggesting and cooking a different menu each time.

We held 3 stalls, the last one being a combined effort with the Anglican ladies to raise money for the Christmas Bowl Appeal, and our Annual Fete was held on 28th September.

As is our custom we ran a Continental Cafe, serving coffee and biscuits outside the picture theatre on the night of the Tennant Creek Gold Rush. A local cafe owner loans us small tables with beach umbrellas over them and we put candles in bottles on the tables which lend quite a festive air. The funds raised at the Gold Rush go to the Purkins Reserve Amenities Fund - which virtually means the local swimming pool.

TENNANT CREEK (cont.)

We provide a roster throughout the year to keep the Church clean but just prior to the Church and Sunday School anniversaries the ladies got together and gave the Church a good spring clean.

We went up to the hospital on Christmas Eve and sang carols to the patients and provided items at the Carols by Candlelight Service.

We sell secondhand clothing every Thursday morning in our Hall.

Through the year, after a discussion on community needs, members offered their services to the Matron of the Hospital and the Welfare Officer and on several occasions, we have been able to look after children or babies while a mother may need hospital attention and has no one else to call on.

J.A. SHIRLEY.
President.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1st JANUARY,
1968 to 31st DECEMBER, 1968

RECEIPTS

<u>Fellowship of the Least Coin</u>		
By Bt. forward	2128.63	
Donations	2373.76	
Circle of Prayer Vol. III	214.05	
" " " Leaflets	5.00	
	4721.44	
<u>Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund</u>		
By Bt. forward	775.38	
Donations	683.93	
Interest on Special Bonds	14.00	
	1473.31	
<u>Fellowship Day</u>		
By Orders of Service	241.65	
Offerings	338.54	
	580.19	
<u>World Community Day</u>		
By Orders of Service	150.20	
Offerings	265.79	
	415.99	
<u>Literature</u>		
	18.60	
		18.60
<u>Sundries (General Fund)</u>		
Bt. forward	341.87	
Scribal Ball Point Pens	255.60	
Donations	33.66	
	631.3	
<u>Overseas Travel Fund</u>		
	132.02	
		132.02
<u>Bank Interest</u>		
	60.34	
		60.34
		\$ 8033.02

I report having examined the Receipt books, Vouchers and Books of Account of the Australian Church Women for the year ended 31st December, 1968 and am of the opinion that the above Statement is a true and correct presentation of the transactions of the Australian Church Women for the period according to the information made available to me

A.E. ALLISON, A.A.S.A., L.C.A.
(Hon. Auditor) 11th January, 1969

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1st JANUARY,
1968 to 31st December, 1968.

EXPENDITURE

<u>Fellowship of the Least Coin Fund</u>	2000.00	2000.00	
Circle of Prayer Vol. III	<u>138.65</u>	138.65	
		2138.65	2138.65
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund			
8,000 Leaflets		54.00	
Ship Holder's Accommodation (12 weeks)		<u>150.00</u>	
			204.00
Fellowship Day			
10,000 Orders of Service		130.00	
			130.00
World Community Day			
6,000 Orders of Service		94.00	
			94.00
Literature			
Taize Reports		9.88	
			9.88
Scribal Ball Point Pens		452.79	
Sundries		23.63	
			476.42
Administration			
Secretarial expenses		136.28	
Petty Cash		33.00	
Reimbursement towards President's fares		45.00	
			214.28
Balance 31st December, 1968		4765.79	
			4765.79

£ 8033.02

ENID G. STEPHENS

Hon. Treasurer.

FELLOWSHIP DAY OFFERINGS January 1st - December 31st, 1968

Women's Inter-Church Council of Victoria	16.00
" " " " of Queensland	38.24
" " " Group of Ararat	16.30
" " " Council of Tasmania	36.18
United Church - Darwin	10.00
Canberra Church Women	20.00
N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council	179.01
United Church Women's Fellowship of N. Aust.	22.71

\$ 338.54

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Women's Inter-Church Council of South Aust.	25.00
Darwin United Church Ladies' Guild	11.27
Hawthorn Women's Inter-Church Council	21.00
Women's Inter-Church Council of Queensland	25.79
N.S.W. Women's Inter-Church Council	147.73
Women's Inter-Church Council of Tasmania	20.00
Canberra Church Women	15.00

\$ 265.79

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Balance includes the following:-

Fellowship of the Least Coin Fund	\$ 2502.39
Winifred Kiek Scholarship Fund	1269.31
Overseas Travel Fund	132.02
Administration or General Fund	861.87

\$ 4765.59