

REPORT OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN N.S.W. UNIT- 1982-83.

The Annual Service of A.C.W. for 1982 took place in the Lakemba Presbyterian Church, and was the occasion of installing Mrs. Yvonne Davis as president for 1982-1984. The Church was filled to capacity with representatives of the seven denominations associated with A.C.W. During the time of fellowship which followed the installation ceremony, the Presbyterian ladies served a light luncheon.

Another interesting event during the year was the visit of New Zealanders who were representatives of the Women's Committee of the New Zealand Council of Churches. Mrs. Heather Stevens was responsible for arranging the tour of these Christian women who endeared themselves to us all. Council members billeted and supplied transport during the three days they spent in Sydney. An opportunity for all members to meet the visitors was made possible at the reception arranged on the 1st of September.

As a mark of appreciation a cheque was presented to the president at the reception for A.C.W. funds from our Kiwi sisters. One member of the group, Mrs. Barton, became seriously ill and was hospitalised whilst in Sydney. She was given loving care and attention by Mr. & Mrs. Stanhope and other members until her relatives arrived to take her home.

The council meetings for the year proved to be as interesting and as varied as the people who willingly presented us with their aspects of Christian service.

In March, three representatives of the Churches, Rev. Bern Stevens, Canon Alan Langdon, and Rev. Carol Grew, who had been invited by the minister for education to consider the place of religious education in schools enlightened us by giving a brief outline of the report submitted to the government. Interestingly enough, the religious Education Act was introduced by Governor Bourke who had come from Ireland in 1836.

The General Secretary of the Council of Churches, Miss Jean Skuse took us on a journey to China as she told of the experiences of the group from Australian Churches when visiting that country. They discovered that many Christians had survived as part of an underground Church for the past thirty years.

A different topic was dealt with by the Rev. Fred Wandmaker who made us aware of the feeling of Aborigines had for the land, and their attitude toward European settlement.

Christina Richards presented an array of goods from Trading Partners, in an interesting and charming manner enlightened us with regard to the dire poverty of the Asian women whose goods she was selling without profit for their benefit.

Thumbnail sketches by three of our members who had been on overseas visits: Deaconess M. Andrews, who was a representative to the International Conference of Women's World Day of Prayer, and Miss D. Mitchell of her contacts in the U.S.A. with members of Church Women United. Our representative to the Asian Church Women's Conference held in Bali, Mrs. Marie McCann informed us of the inspiring personalities which made this gathering of Christian women so outstanding.

A representative of the Bible Society, Miss Jean Anderson introduced us another service of that society, the translation of the Bible into Braille. This work of dedication and skill has brought the Good News into the hands of blind Papuans and Indonesians.

Apart from our special days, we made time to pause for prayer on behalf of our prayer partners, the women of Burma who bravely witness despite political barriers.

Women's prayers, women's devotions, the skill their hands have been linked throughout the year from Burma to Bali, from Asia to Australia and America, from China to Christchurch.

Mabel Ward
SECRETARY

AUSTRALIAN CHURCH WOMEN

N.S.W. STATE UNIT

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS - 1st March, 1982 -- 28th February, 1983.

1. 3.82-		Cr. Bank Balance	655.88
	<u>ADD RECEIPTS:</u>		
	<u>Organisation A/c:</u>		
Affiliation Fees-	92.00		
Collections & Donations-	326.55		
Bank Interest-	360.73		
"Asian Church Woman" Subs. -	<u>40.00</u>	819.28	
"Newsette" sub/n.s-		356.50	
Overseas Travel Fund-		283.80	
Stock A/c -Sales -		<u>127.40</u>	
	<u>Special Funds:</u>		
Fellowship of the Least Coin-	5565.14		
Winifred Kiek Sch' ship Fund-	201.22		
Fellowship Day-	1766.03		
World Community Day	<u>1653.63</u>	9186.02	
		5500.00	
<u>From Savings Investment A/c</u>		<u>930.27</u>	
By transfer from Special Funds-			<u>17203.27</u>
			17859.15

LESS PAYMENTS:

	<u>Organisation A/c:</u>		
Printing, postage,			
stationery, telephone:	208.51		
President, Honorarium-	30.00		
Use of Meeting Room-	50.00		
Subs. to other organisations-	30.00		
Natl. Wkg. C'tee-Literature-	50.00		
"Asian Church Woman" subs,	40.00		
Sundries-	<u>7.00</u>	415.51	
"Newsette" ex/es-		257.16	
Overseas Travel Fund-		100.00	
Stock A/c-purchases-		<u>95.54</u>	
	<u>Special Funds:</u>		
To National Committee-		7650.00	
Ex/es-printing & postage-		483.85	
To Savings Investment A/c-		7000.00	
By transfer to Organisation A/c-		<u>930.27</u>	
			<u>16932.33</u>

28. 2.83

Cr. Bank Balance

John McNeil 524.88

Mon. Treasurer

18. 3.83.

Auditor's Report

I have examined the books of account and records of Australian Church Women N.S.W. State Unit for the year ended 28th February, 1983. In my opinion the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 28th February, 1983 and the Statement of Funds as at 28th February, 1983 show a true and correct view of the result for that year and of the state of affairs as at 28th February, 1983.

J.P. Bragg
J.P. Bragg, A.C.A.