

Newsletter

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

No.10

MAY, 1973

From the retiring President:

Thank You.

"We must know how to say 'Thank You'. Our days are filled with the gifts the Lord showers on us. If we were in the habit of taking stock of them, at night we should be like a "queen for a day", dazzled and happy with so many blessings. We should then be grateful to God, secure because He gives us everything, joyful because we know that every day He will renew His gifts.

Everything is a gift from God, even the smallest things and it's the sum of these gifts that makes a life beautiful or sad, depending on how we use them."

These paragraphs, taken from "Prayers of Life" by Michel Quoist, reflects so much that has been rewarding for me in my term of office.

Whatever our creed we have all shared one faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and worked for the extension of His Kingdom. Friendships made, loyalties from fellow Council members, and ideas and thoughts exchanged have enriched my days and to all I say "Thank you".

"My prayer is that your fellowship with us in our common faith may deepen the understanding of all the blessings that our union with Christ brings us." (Philemon V:6)

Nancy Pfeiffer.

OUR NEW PRESIDENT.

Mrs. R. H. Dougherty is no stranger to the Council. In 1967, when the Council had no Secretary, Win graciously accepted the office, which she held with distinction for three years. Since then she has been a very valued member of Council and we were delighted when the Methodist Women's Federation nominated her to be our President for 1973/4.

Win is very active in her own denomination and in the Community. She is an accredited marriage counsellor with the Methodist Church and is widely known and loved by the young folk who have passed through the Crusader movement.

Her involvement in local government and community affairs is extensive. For several terms her husband was Mayor of Willoughby and she became patron of many organisations in which she took a real interest. She continues her work with the Senior Citizens Centre and has now been appointed an Assistant Divisional Commissioner for the Girl Guides.

She takes office with a firm background knowledge of our work, and a strong desire to extend the ecumenical fellowship we share at State level, to the local scene. Our New President has already won our hearts with her charming personality and we pledge her our loyalty for the year ahead.

W.I.C.C. Office Bearers 1973/74.

President:	Mrs. R.H. Dougherty, 56 Mabel St., Willoughby. 2068	412 2453
Hon. Sec.:	Mrs. D. Martin, 89 Cheltenham Rd. Cheltenham. 2119	86 2253
Hon. Treas.:	Miss E.E. Lee, 8/51 Doomben Ave., Eastwood. 2122	85 4796

WINIFRED KIEK SCHOLARSHIP.

Miss Kalpana Airan, our 1973 Scholar, comes to us from Satara in Northern India. A primary school teacher with B.A. and B.Ed. degrees, she is studying with the Adult Education Department of Sydney University and doing field work throughout New South Wales and Interstate with aboriginal pre-school centres.

Kalpana's aim when she returns to India is to set up a pre-school centre in association with her school for underprivileged children and their mothers so that they will learn the value of education and be able to end the vicious circle of poverty.

Miss Terani Aisake, our 1972 Scholar, has returned to Fiji where she is Head Deaconess in charge of training. In January, Terani attended the South Pacific Deaconess Conference in Christchurch, N.Z.

Another past Scholar, Miss Jacki Kini is back in Australia this year, studying Planning and Administration at teachers' college level and some special short courses at the College of Advanced Education in Canberra.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

The National Committee Meeting of Australian Church Women was held in February 1973 at Deaconess House, Sydney. The theme was "Able for all Things" and Mrs. Dorothy McMahon in the opening address, set the scene for three inspiring and busy days.

The Bible studies conducted by Deaconess Margaret Rogers each day were most stimulating and greatly appreciated.

For a change of venue on the second day, we visited St. Aidan's, Longueville, where members shared in a devotional service led by the incoming A.C.W. President, Mrs. Joy Smith. Reports on denominational groups were then presented prior to the luncheon which was provided by the N.S.W. W.I.C.C., and the Lane Cove/Longueville Women's Inter-Church Fellowship. After lunch, the Rev. Dorothy Wacker gave a concise and informative talk on preparing a worship session.

At the evening sessions we were addressed by the Rev. Bruce Reddrop of the Committee on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church, Family and Society, and by Mr. Bruce Best, Public Relations Officer of the Australian Council of Churches.

The retiring Queensland Working Committee handed over to the new Working Committee from South Australia in a moving closing worship service.

The next National Committee Meeting will be held in Lincoln College, North Adelaide early in 1974.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN.

The following five projects will be submitted to the F.L.C. International by A.C.W. for their consideration when allocating grants:-

- The Gordon Barclay Vietnam Fund.
- The Redfern Medical Centre for Aborigines.
- The Mendull Sewing School at Tari, N.G.
- The Korean Girls' Welfare Association.
- The Training of an indigenous officer of the Girls' Brigade in New Guinea.

Pamphlets, labels and further information about the Fellowship of the Least Coin can be obtained from our F.L.C. Convener, Mrs. R.W. Stanhope, 36 Dettman Ave., Longueville, 2066, Ph. 42 6078.

NILES PROFESSORSHIP.

The East Asian Christian Conference has established a memorial to the Rev.Dr.D.T.Niles and Mrs.Dulcie Niles of Ceylon, to be known as the Niles Professorship in Ecumenical Studies at the United Theological College, Bangalore, India.

The purpose of the professorship is to promote study and research in the areas of concern for which Dr.D.T.Niles was deeply committed, namely, Evangelism, Mission and Ecumenism.

To establish a full professorship, an endowment of not less than \$50,000 is required. A.C.W. and our own State Unit have contributed, and individual contributions may be made through our new Treasurer - please indicate clearly "Niles Professorship" but cheques to "N.S.W. W.I.C.C.".

DEACONESS MARY ANDREWS.

In June 1972, Deaconess Andrews travelled to New York to the International Federation of Deaconesses meeting, and she was appointed Vice President for the South East Asian and Pacific Region. She attended the Deaconess Conference in January and this month leaves for London for another conference.

Deaconess Andrews has kindly consented to give us an illustrated talk on these conferences on Monday, 30th July, at 10.30 a.m. in The Congregational Shop Front, 305 Pitt St., Sydney (next door to Hoyts Town Theatre).

We are hoping to raise some funds for the national travel fund and extend a warm invitation to all who are interested.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

The International Council of Women's 20th Plenary Meeting will be held in Vienna in June/July 1973. The N.C.W. asked us to give our opinions on several topics under the general heading "Freedom and Responsibility". At our April meeting we discussed the questions submitted and the results will be forwarded.

There will also be a regional meeting of the International Council of Women in Sydney in October at the time of the opening of the Opera House.

OPENING OF THE SYDNEY-OPERA HOUSE.

The W.I.C.C. has been asked by the Promotions and Hospitality Committee Women's Organisations Sub-Committee for support during the two weeks of the festivities at the time of the official opening of the Opera House by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Amongst other requests, religious bodies have been invited to organise a service or services. At the

time of going to press, there has only been the inaugural meeting, so further particulars regarding the W.I.C.C.'s participation is not available, but whatever is arranged, the Council requests that all members will actively support and publicise the service.

Asian Church Women's Convergence.

Mrs. Olga Badger reports:-

It has been somewhat difficult this year to make many decisions as our Chairman, Mrs. E. Bantista has been in the U.S.A. for several months and the Ex.Sec. Shanti Solomon has spent quite a lot of the year out of her country on F.L.C. promotion as well as attending E.A.C.C. meetings.

After seeking suitable conference centres in a number of countries Bangkok is to hostess the 5th Asian Christian Women's Conference to be held 15th-23rd October, 1974.

Place of Assembly - Wattana Wittaya Academy (Christian Higher Secondary School for Girls).

The Working Committee of A.C.W.C. is meeting in Bangkok on 24th June, 1973 to complete the plans for the Assembly and then going on to Singapore for the E.A.C.C. Assembly.

F.L.C. grants amounting to \$87,000 were made to help many areas of need and requests are still coming in, we will be considering some of these in June when we meet.

Asian Focus.

The issue covering women's work in Asia has now been printed, although no copies have reached Australia yet, they should be on the way.

Circle of Prayer.

A new book is being printed but not yet available. More information after June.

World Community Day, held in October.

Do you know that the offering for World Community Day 1973 is to be divided between the "Women of Bangladesh Appeal" and a Scholarship for a woman student from the Gilbert Islands to study at the Pacific Theological College?

Good Neighbour Council.

Extracts from the Annual Report 1972.

Integration of persons of diverse cultures and background can only be effective on a person to person basis.

At one meeting two films were shown and had been made to encourage immigration to Australia. One was severely criticised as it gave an unreal picture of Australia, the other was better.

Miss Margaret Helman addressed one meeting on the problems facing the Turkish migrant. These people have considerable difficulty over language and cultural problems. Education is needed in health, food and religious customs.

Good Neighbour branches in Newcastle, Wollongong and Bankstown are flourishing. A two day State Conference on Community Responsibility and "the Returnee Migrant" brought forth interesting discussions. It was suggested that reasons FOR migration rather than enquiring into return should be investigated.

Shopping tours are arranged for migrants.

Naturalisation rate is high in Griffith.

Migrant integration must be a function of the Community as a whole.

Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Mrs. A. Hall reports:

The National W.C.T.U. held a Convention in Adelaide last May. After discussions it was suggested that every Christian woman should write to her State or Federal member protesting against the present social evils in the community. Also various resolutions passed were to be forwarded to various Government M.P.'s.

Last August Sydney Union celebrated 90 years of service with a special Anniversary at Willard Hall. Ninety years of service is the longest record of the W.C.T.U. in Australia.

The Fruit Juice and Coffee Lounge at Pennant Hills is still popular. The fruit juices are available for entertaining.

A letter of thanks was received from "Everyman's centre" for 6 years help in supplying fruit drinks to the forces in Vietnam.

A request for literature and material was received from Nowra High School, so it was decided to visit the High School.

Protest letters have been sent to Radio and T.V. stations on the unsuitability of some productions.

Children's Films were provided during school holidays at Mosman and Green Valley. Attendance was over 1000 children.

It is possible the A.C.T.U. Headquarters will shortly have to find new premises.

Extracts from the N.S.W. Council for Children's
Films and T.V. Annual Report.

The 7th Biennial Conference of the Australian Council for Children's Films and T.V. was held in Sydney in August. All State councils were represented, also Canberra, Wagga, Newcastle and Bathurst sent observers.

Films for children have been shown at Kogarah, Green Valley, Mosman and Mt. Druitt. Thousands of children have viewed the programmes and at Mt. Druitt 125 were turned away. There is a great need in the area for recreational facilities.

Submissions were made by the Secretary to the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Science and the Arts on the Australian content of Children's T.V. programmes and a further allocation of funds was requested from the N.S.W. Cultural Grants Committee.

FELLOWSHIP DAY SERVICES, will be held on:-

11th July, Wednesday,	10.a.m.	Church of Christ, 110 Cowles Rd., MOSMAN.
25th July, Wednesday,	10.30 a.m.	Presbyterian Church, Centennial Ave., LANE COVE.
27th July, Friday,	10.30 a.m.	St. John's Presbyterian Chrch, Stuart Street, WAIROONGA.
27th July, Friday,	10.30 a.m.	St. Andrew's Anglican Chrch, Bancroft Ave., ROSEVILLE.
27th July, Friday,	10.30 a.m.	Methodist Church, Oxford Street, EPPING.

A service will be held in the GLADESVILLE area and other centres have not yet finalised their dates.
