

**GIRLS FRIENDLY SOCIETY WORLD COUNCIL**  
**IRELAND**  
**25/27 June 1962**

Minutes of the fifth meeting of the World Council of the Girls' Friendly Society held IN St Philip's Hall, Dartry Road, Dublin, Ireland, on 25-27<sup>th</sup> June 1962.

**Theme:** Peace through Friendship

<b>Present:</b>	Chairman	Mrs G O Simms
<b>Australia:</b>	Delegates	Miss J Perkins, Miss J Edwards
<b>British Guiana</b>	Delegate	Miss D Stewart
<b>England</b>	Delegates	Mrs Barry Miss Barrett
<b>Ireland:</b>	Delegate	Mrs Simms, Miss Irwin
<b>Japan</b>	Delegate	Miss Yoshida, Miss Kumakura
<b>Liberia</b>	Delegate	Miss Barnaby, Miss Bowen
<b>New Guinea</b>	Delegate	Mrs Houston
<b>Newfoundland</b>	Delegate	Miss Creek (lent by England)
<b>Scotland:</b>	Delegate	Mrs Donald, Miss Bell
<b>St Kitts (W.I.)</b>	Delegate	Miss O'Loughlin
<b>South Africa</b>	Delegate	Sherrard
<b>USA:</b>	Delegates	Mrs Nichols, Miss C Smith
<b>Wales</b>	Delegates	Mrs Thomas, Miss Macdonald

Council Secretary	Miss J Scott
Assistant Secretary	Miss Fynes
Chaplain:	Rt Rev A Buchanan, Lord Bishop of Clogher
Hostess	Mrs Buchanan

**Observers**

Australia	Miss Ash, Miss Bunday, Miss Crean, Miss Crawford-Brown, Miss Harrison, Mrs McDougall, Mrs Scully, Miss J Smith, Miss Taylor, Miss Toppin, Mrs West.
England	Miss Lloyd, Mrs Lamplugh, Miss Dunbar, Miss Bayliss, Miss Dobson, Miss Morley, Miss Halling, Miss Pointon-Smith, Miss B Jones, Miss Collins, Miss Watson, Miss Ward, Miss Wade, Miss Orledge.
Ireland	Mrs McCann, Mrs Butler, Miss Costello, Miss Boyd, Mrs Moore, Mrs Mackwell, Mrs Perdue, Miss Ryecroft, Miss Ross, Miss Fleming, Miss Kerr, Mrs McAlister, Miss Cambridge, Mrs Boake, Miss Rothwell, Mrs Wolfe, Miss Kingston, Miss Brandon, Miss Perrin, Miss Dyke, Miss Hughes, Miss Kerr.
Japan	Mrs Tsuji
Scotland	Mrs Walker, Mrs Stiell, Mrs Stirling, Miss Errington, Miss Murkin, Miss Cramb, Miss Bell, Miss Smeaton, Miss Wilson, Miss Burnett, Miss Donnelly, Miss Henderson, Mrs McCreadie.

USA	Mrs Woodward, Mrs Mahon, Mrs Ferreira, Mrs Hull, Mrs Effler, Miss Carter, Mrs Judd, Miss Smythe, Mrs Van Walkenburg, Miss Johnson, Miss Peoples, Mrs Morris, Miss Judd, Miss Bain, Miss Wickham, Miss White, Miss Fox, Miss Dorrurachter
Wales	Miss Vaughan Jones, Miss Winnen

The chaplain opened the Council with prayer. The Chairman, Mrs Simms, welcomed the delegates and observers and asked those from each country to stand up in groups in turn.

### **Greetings were read from**

The Lord Primate of Ireland; Bishop Yahiro, Presiding Bishop of the Nippon Sei Ko Kei and Bishop of Kobe, Japan; The Archbishop of West Indies, patron of GFS in British Guiana; Mrs Bright-Parker, first World Council Chairman; Perth and Ballarat dioceses, Australia; Diocese of Hobart, Tasmania; Miss Sandra Todd, GFS Exchange member back in Australia; Girls 'Auxiliary in Canada; GFS President in Ceylon; Sister Joyce Anthony and Miss Irma Chase, British Guiana; GFS in Mexico; May Louis Summer of Liberia; Mrs Thompson, Scotland; Miss J Kind English GFS Organiser working for a year with GFS, USA; Miss H Watson, Irish GFS Missionary in Kenya.

### **Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> World Council**

It was proposed by Mrs Barry (England), seconded by Miss Perkins (Australia) and passed "*That the Minutes of the last World Council held in Australia, already circulated, should be signed as correct*" CARRIED.

### **Matters Arising**

**World Patron** – The Chairman reported that following the proposal at last World Council, the Queen Mother had been approached and invited to become World Patron of GFS. The Queen Mother in a reply to the English GFS stated that she felt unable to accept this invitation as she preferred to remain Patron of the Society in the British Isles, and in accordance with the principles of royal patronage she could not extend his privilege to the elements of the same Society.

The USA had suggested at their Board in October that Mrs Ramsay be asked to be Honorary President and perhaps visit this Council and the Chairman had sounded her unofficially but her answer to both suggestions had been in the negative, as she was already engaged on other duties this last week in June.

Other members referred for further discussion to this World Council were:

- a) Cooperation with the clergy and other youth organisations.
- b) How to hold the interest of teenagers in organisations.

### **Reports were then presented by**

Mrs Barry and Miss Barrett, England  
Mrs Donald, Scotland  
Miss Scott, Ireland  
Mrs Nichols and Miss C Smith, USA  
Miss Creek, Newfoundland  
Miss Stewart, British Guiana  
Miss O'Loughlin, St Kitts and West Indies  
Miss Barnaby and Miss Bowen, Liberia

Mrs Houston, New Guinea

Miss Sherward read Miss Wilson's report on Transkei, South Africa

Miss Edwards, Australia

Miss Yoshida, Japan

Miss MacDonald, Wales

Written reports were also received from Ghana and Barbados and were read by the World Council Secretary.

The Chairman asked for news of Mexico from Mrs Mahon (USA) who had last visited there in 1966 and Mrs Mahon gave a short account. Miss Effler was asked about Cuba and Mrs Ferreira about Panama, also about Nicaragua, where four branches were found last year to be working on mainland as well as the branch on Corn Island. Mrs Lamplugh reported that she had heard of the possibility of GFS starting in Natal.

Miss Ivy Kerr, recently returned from Australia and New Zealand thanked Council for the opportunity of attending both the last and present Councils and said she had enjoyed her time overseas and learned a lot but had little to report on New Zealand as their work was almost altogether hostels. No reports had been received from Argentina, Hyderabad (India), Melanesia, Ceylon, St Lucia, St Vincent, Granada, Cost Rica, Trinidad and Puerto Rico.

The Chairman reports that GFS work had been closed down in Grahamstown (South Africa), in Ethiopia, in South Sudan and in South Rhodesia, as far as she knew.

Mrs Barry then read Miss Camm's report of wonderful progress in Mombasa and described her visit there last December. The Chairman gave a short report.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Mrs Barry seconded

*'The adoption of all the reports'* CARRIED

Mrs Stephen Nichols presented to the Irish GFS a beautiful Stueben Glass Bowl, inscribed with letters "GFS" and later in the week Australia presented a large illustrated book on Australia and some examples of Australian handicrafts and Mrs Tsuji gave a bamboo scroll with a picture of a Japanese girl, also personal gifts of a cultured pearl brooch and a painted gift fan to the World Chairman and a painted silk scarf to the World Council Secretary and other personal gifts to the delegates and Irish Diocesan Observers. Miss O'Loughlin presented an inscribed tray to the Chairman and a calendar to the Secretary and many other gifts were presented during the week.

#### **Admission of Wales to this Council**

The Chairman said that she had asked leave of the English GFS to suggest that as Wales was so closely linked with Ireland and had its own language and its own church though the GFS there is administered in conjunction with English GFS,

*"That for this Council Meeting Wales be allowed to have two voting members on a par with Scotland.*

This motion was proposed by Mrs Barry (England) and seconded by Mrs Nichols (USA) and CARRIED".

#### **Application for Membership**

The Chairman had asked both Mexico and Ghana if they would like to apply for full membership, but both had replied that they did not feel ready for it yet. No other countries had applied.

Miss Creek asked if observers could speak, and the Chairman said the Directives allowed them to speak but not vote.

### **Proportional Representation of Countries.**

Miss B Irwin proposed the resolution send in by Irish Council

*“That a formal request should be sent to the World Council to have proportional representation on the Council, so that countries with a large GFS membership may have more voting delegates at future meetings of the World Council”.*

Miss C Smith (USA) opposed this motion and said that it would make GFS too political and was against the aims and objects of the Society.

Mrs Woodward supported Miss Smith and said that it would penalise the smaller countries and was not in accordance with the intentions of the First World Council.

Mrs Perkins said that Australia was also against this motion. If any change in voting system were needed it should not be proportional to membership.

Mrs Nichols reported that the USA Board had discussed this motion and rejected it.

Mrs Walker (Scotland) felt that each country should be represented, and any change should not be topographical representation.

Mrs Barry asked if it was felt that only the larger countries could afford to send two delegates, while smaller countries were often only able to send one. This she had often felt was unfair.

A vote was taken, and THE MOTION DEFEATED.

### **Hostess Country to the next World Council**

The Chairman reported that both British Guiana and Ceylon felt unable to stand for election as Hostess Country. The Council heard with great delight that Japan had agreed to be nominated and accepted unanimously Mrs Tsuji’s invitation to hold World Council in Japan in 1965.

But the Chairman explained she had recently found that Mrs Tsuji did not feel able to accept the position of World Chairman, chiefly owing to the language difficulty and also that she felt she ought to devote her time to the growth of GFS in Japan itself.

To deal with this situation Mrs Nichols proposed and Miss Edwards seconded

*“That a Sub-committee be appointed of senior delegates of the countries present and past World Chairman to discuss further this matter of the next Chairman and report back to Council at a later session”.* CARRIED

During coffee break the Archbishop of Dublin arrived and gave a personal welcome to the members of World Council.

### **1 or 2 World Presidents**

Miss Perkins explained the proposal, which was based on the Australian GFS Constitution, where the Bishop is ex-officio, President of GFS in his Diocese. The question left undecided was whether the Archbishop of Canterbury only, or another presiding Bishop as well should be invited to become the President of the World Council.

Mrs Barry asked whether a Patron or President was really necessary – much less two. Mrs Nichols agreed with Mrs Barry and felt that the Council represented many countries, but the President would represent only one (or 2) countries.

Miss Sherrard and Mrs Barry felt that if one were necessary then the Archbishop of Canterbury was the recognised head of the Anglican Communion.

A vote was taken, and it was decided to have no World Patron or President.

### **World Council Funds for Secretarial Expenses**

Miss Scott (World Secretary) read a statement of account.

Amount received was £49.3.7 Balance remaining was £8.13.3 but some of this would still be needed for stationery and postage.

The Proposal at last World Council was for a fund of £100. The suggested scale would only bring in approximately £25 per year for three years between Councils. Some countries apologised for not having sent in their subscriptions up to date.

The Chairman said that all subscriptions remained on an optional basis, but she thought the anomaly in the figures suggested at last Council should be cleaned up and a more definite statement made as to what expenses the Fund should cover. Ireland had used a certain amount of her own stationery for World Council purposes.

Mrs Barry said it was undesirable that the subscriptions should be a worry to small countries, but it should also be remembered that a hostess country should not be embarrassed by expenses beyond their capacity. Mrs Woodward felt concern lest arbitrary figures chosen now might not necessarily cover expenses. Mrs Nichols pointed out that by the suggested scale the subscriptions paid by larger countries were proportionately smaller and not at 5/- per member rate.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Miss Barnett seconded that the amount suggested should be subscribed annually, ie £100 per annum and the Directives amended accordingly.

The Chairman was asked to form a sub-committee to discuss the figures of the present scale and report back at a later session. As it affected the question of World Chairmanship it was felt that the same sub-committee should discuss both questions.

### **Title of the Society**

The Chairman said she had felt this matter should be raised at World Council since she had found that England, USA and Australia had all been discussing this question at their National Council and it would be useful to see if the points for and against were the same in all countries.

It was interesting to note that the Mothers' Union and Church of England Men's Society were also discussing a change of title.

The English GFS had drawn up an excellent list of points for and against a change and the World Secretary introduced the discussion by reading these out.

Mrs Nichols said that the GFS Board USA felt that the name is outmoded but when it was brought to the girls at the General Assembly in 1960, they voted against a change mainly because they felt they would thereby separate themselves from World GFS. Many wanted to keep the initials but change the name, but no good alternatives were suggested.

Mrs Barry said the English Council had also turned down a change of name largely because of the world aspect. About ten years ago she had felt a change to be desirable in England, but now their numbers are increasing again and in places where GFS is well run the name is no obstacle. She felt that the public image of the GFS needed to be changed, not the titles.

Mrs Perkins said that opinion in Australia was divided. Discussion was proceeding but no better alternative had so far been put forward.

Miss Barnaby (Liberia) said that Africans loved to join a "Friendly" Society and that the title was a positive attraction.

Miss Sherrard said that in her experience the word "Friendly" appealed to girls in Africa and England.

Miss D Stewart said the name was no deterrent in British Guiana. Instead of discussing change of

name, Council could more usefully discuss the need for a greater supply of trained leaders to carry on the existing Society, name and all. There was an urgent need for Leaders in British Guiana. Miss Ash (Australia) said that the need in a large country is so different and communication with those outside the church was important, she would like further consideration given to a change of name.

Miss Bain (USA) said in her experience the initials were acceptable, but not the word "Friendly" – that often made people laugh. Miss Barnett (England) said that basis teaching given on the initials "God first, Friends next, Self last" would be upset if a change were made. Mrs McAlister (Ireland) said she thought the word "Girls" put off possible members, but Miss Creek agreed with Miss Bain that "Friendly" was the offending word. Miss C Smith (USA) said our present title often made an opening when people queried it and gave a chance to explain our aims. Mrs McDougall (Australia) suggested keeping the initials, but that they should stand for "God, Fellowship, Service".

Mrs Barry said that she had been impressed by the fact that an outsider from the Ministry of Education had recently expressed the opinion that the word "Friendly" was one of our strongest assets. Miss Dobson (England) said that we should consider outside opinion. It was true that most members accepted it, but were we keeping possible members out by our present title?

The Chairman then said that we would make no decision as a World Council now, but that she hoped no country would make a definite change without informing other member countries. She felt the free expression of various opinions at this Council had been worthwhile and points of view could be reported back to National Councils. She read out various statements of our aims and purposes as expressed in England, USA and Australian Constitutions. The wording of these and the promises varied slightly but in general our aims, she said, were clearly the same.

## **26 June 1962 – afternoon**

### **Survey of the Function of Members over 21 years – Sponsors and Townsend Fellowship Members**

Mrs Nichols said sponsors were introduced in USA in 1947. Mrs Barry said TMF stated a little earlier. Miss Johnson spoke for USA on Sponsors. Those over age of 21 may become sponsors or branch advisers. There are some sponsor groups. Sponsors help pay expenses for summer opportunities for girls and fares for young delegates to conferences. They also present awards at Branch and Diocesan levels. Mrs Van Walkenburg said Sponsors were active in Connecticut and hold themselves responsible for repairs to Holiday Houses and also sponsor financially new GFS groups. They also raise money for Missionary projects.

Miss Perkins (Australia) said that out of a total membership of 14,000, less than 200 were in TMF groups. The Associates were largely active leaders, but some were just people in the parish interested in GFS. Some were married ex-members. They had very useful parents and friends' groups supporting branches.

Mrs Barry said that in England GFS was moving towards a break with TMF which already had a separate Chairman. The recent Chaplains' Advisory Committee urged speedy progress towards separation from the Girls' Society and possibly dropping name "Townsend". They hoped the TMF would become a lively group within the church.

Miss Creek said that in Newfoundland older members were usual in the outposts but in St Johns a separate TMF group had recently been started.

Other delegates reported on their older members as follows:

British Guiana                      Branches mainly consisted of young girls

St Kitts	Branches included older girls but many emigrate.
South Africa	Girls marry and join Mothers' Union
Japan	Members on marriage are encouraged to join the Women's Auxiliary and some become Associates
Liberia	Young members only, older girls may become branch Advisors.
Scotland	All ages but they must leave on marriage
Wales	Young members only.
New Guinea	Leave on marriage as Guild is especially for unmarried girls.

In order to clarify some doubts for reason for using the name "Townsend", Mrs McCann said she was proud that the Foundress of GFS was an Irishwoman. Mrs Townsend, who came from Kilkenny and went to live in England and there founded the GFS.

### **Cooperation with other Youth Organisations**

Mrs Perkins said that since the last discussion on this, an Association of all National Youth Organisation had been formed in Australia. Cooperation at local level with Guides was very difficult as they do not have parish companies attached to churches as in Great Britain and Ireland. Miss Edwards (Australia) said that boys and girls up to 15 and 16 preferred separate organisations but afterwards joined mixed societies such as Young Anglicans.

Mrs Mahon (USA) asked Mrs Hull to report on the GFS representation at the White House Conference on Children and Youth. Mrs Hull explained that this Conference meets every 10 years to recommend necessary reforms. It is concerned with all aspects of young peoples' lives. The GFS presented the results of a questionnaire on adolescent opinion among their members. This report "This is What we think" was often referred to in discussion at the White House as it was the only report sent in by a specifically religious group (There was a copy on the bookstall of this Council).

Mrs Tsuji (Japan) asked for more cooperation with boys' groups.

Miss Irwin (Ireland) said that in Northern Ireland all youth organisations met in the newly formed National Association of Girls' Clubs and mixed Clubs and discussed problems common to all.

Miss Creek said that she had suggested to the Bishop in Newfoundland to form a diocesan Youth Council covering all church youth organisations.

Mrs Mahon said that YMCA and YWCA now both ran mixed groups for some activities. The problem of mixed activities remained unsolved in GFS USA.

Mrs Barry said in England GFS is represented on C of E Youth Council and C of E Children's Council. In Australia the cooperation with Anglican boys was much simpler, as there was the one main C of E Boys' Society. England had at least 3. The Church Lads' Brigade, the Boys' Brigade and the junior members of the C of E Men's Society. The GFS were exploring the possibility of a link with the CLB and their Officers had been invited to meet members of English Council. Miss Barrett (England) said in some branches, boy friends were invited to occasional meetings.

### **Cooperation with Clergy**

The delegates from Australia, Ireland and British Guiana said that relations with clergy were excellent in their countries.

Mrs Nichols said GFS in USA had many good friends among the clergy especially Bishop Stephen Bayne, but many clergy needed education about the work of GFS. Mrs Hull said that recently she had been allowed to speak about GFS in some theological seminaries. The Chairman said she felt that this was a most important line of approach even if only a printed leaflet was given out to

ordinands. Miss C Smith said that in her experience in USA, clergy were reluctant to start a branch of GFS, but if they have been in a parish where there was a branch, they are keen.

Miss Barnaby (Liberia) said GFS was popular with her Bishop because of the help which had been given from USA to his Diocese. Liberia was the Mission Object of the GFS USA on two occasions. Miss Wade (England) said that her branch GFS Admission Service was included in the parish Patronal Festival service, in an effort to interest visiting clergy in GFS and it had succeeded in doing this. Miss Creek said she found the Bishops keen to extend the work of GFS but at Diocesan Synods the clergy were not always so keen. She had to ask fact fully to speak to the women in their parishes and this might result in a request to the Rector for a branch of GFS.

Mrs Tsuji said that some Japanese clergy disliked GFS as being an organisation governed by a central body outside the parish and not directly under their control. Mrs Barry said that that was a very good point and in England too some clergy opposed membership of an organisation governed from outside the parish.

Mrs Woodward said she had sent posters and information on GFS to all clergy in Connecticut and had several enquiries as a result.

Mrs Buchanan (Ireland) said she had interested clergy by asking them to mark GFS Bible essays and Missionary competitions and the clergy were so impressed by the members' standard of work that they asked for further information and she hoped several new branches were starting.

#### **Report from Sub-Committee re Next World Chairman and World Council Fund**

The Chairman reported that this sub-committee, consisting of Mrs Barry, Mrs Woodward, Miss Perkins, Miss Barnaby and Mrs Tsuji, had recommended

*"That in order to help Japan with language difficulties, the publication of the World Newsletter be undertaken as follows: England in 1963 and USA in 1964 and that these countries will undertake to produce the Day of Prayer leaflet also for that year or ask another country to do so".*

Mrs JH Edwards proposed, and Mrs Houston seconded

*"That these recommendations be adopted."* CARRIED

It was suggested that in order to save bookkeeping and exchange difficulties, each country hold its collections for the World Project and hand them over at the next World Council meeting in 1965. Some felt that this should not be decided finally until the next World Project was settled.

#### **World Council Fund – Recommendation from the Sub-Committee**

That a flat rate of 5/- per 500 members be adopted as a basis of contribution by member countries.

Miss Perkins (Australia) then proposed, and Miss C Smith (USA) seconded

*"That Directive 10 be amended to read as follows:*

**No 10 Finance.** *All member countries should, if possible, contribute to a common Fund to help defray the expenses of the country carrying the World Chairmanship. Contributions to be sent to the Secretary of the World Council for the time being by 31 arch each year. The Annual rate of contribution from each country to be at the rate of 5/- sterling per 500 members, total membership.*

CARRIED.

The Chairman then reported that under these conditions Mrs Tsuji had been persuaded to accept the World Chairmanship for 1962-65 provided that a previous Chairman or senior delegate who had experience of GFS World Councils would help her with language difficulties at the actual meetings. If Mrs Tsuji wished, a standing committee consisting of the previous World Chairmen could be formed as suggested at 1957 Council, but their work would have to be done by correspondence only. It was felt that Mrs Tsuji could call on any of these for help and advice informally perhaps without forming

them into a Standing Committee. Mrs Tsuji then rose and said she agreed to act as World Chairman under these conditions. This statement was received with much applause.

### **Time of Next World Council**

Mrs Tsuji was asked what the most suitable time for Japan would be and said that during end of April and in early May there were many public holidays, and her girls would be free to come to the meetings then.

Mrs Nichols said that USA teenager girls would be at school and college then. Miss Perkins agreed but felt that if it was going to help Japan and influence a larger number of girls thereby having it at end of April, other countries should make an effort to find girls who would be free then.

Mrs Tsuji said she would discuss it with her Board on her return and let the countries know re time of meeting later on.

### **World Project 1959-1962**

The Chairman asked about the present Woodward Scholarship holders, in case any of them needed additional help. Mrs Woodward said that the present holder was from the Panama Canal zone. Japan reported that she had already sent her World Day of Prayer collections from 1959-62 direct to Mombasa.

Both Japan, USA and England had sent in final resolutions from their Councils – that in future a definite person or country should be defined as the object of the Project and the approximate amount needed should be circulated to all countries.

Mrs Barry said that England would send £100 as their contribution for 1959-62. USA reported collections of \$US1000. Australian approximately £176. The World Secretary then announced that she had received £76 to date. When all amounts now reported are received there should be over £700.

Mrs Barry thought that many people felt it might be better to consolidate work in Mombasa so well begun, by training young leaders to carry on this work. Africa was at a crisis in its development and urgently needed leaders from its own people. Mrs Ferreira felt that until facts were found out about possible candidates and possible trainings this Council could not make a useful decision.

A decision was deferred until the projects proposed for the next 3-year period were read out. Those already sent in were:

- a) From Japan: to help one of the Oriental countries, eg. The Philippines.
- b) From Ireland: can we help to provide up-to-date Christian literature for the teeming masses who are being taught to read in our missionary schools and then through lack of Christian literature, are reading and absorbing communist propaganda?

As a result of Miss Stewart's appeal in the morning, many felt inclined to help a girl in British Guyana. Mrs Nichols said if Africa were chosen, possibly a grant might be available from the School of African Studies, Boston, which existed for this very purpose of training Africans to go back as leaders to their own countries.

As so many projects were proposed, the chairman suggested that the Council break into national "buzz" groups and report decisions after a short time.

Findings of the groups were as follows:

Australia            Instead of expense of training a girl in England, USA or Australia, why not train her in her own country, or at least continent?

Japan	Would like the East, especially Philippines; to be considered by would fall in with Council's decision.
England	Would prefer to consolidate work in East Africa with the present Project collections. The actual training to be recommended by Miss Camm and Archbishop Beecher.
USA	Would like to help Africa, if possible, through scholarship help from Boston School of African studies, where two girls might be helped.
Ireland	Defer decision on the present project till the next Project is decided on so as not to leave out British Guiana.
Scotland	No definite decision. Would like small sub-committee to investigate possible girls to be helped.

As many seemed to prefer both projects to be used to help a definite person, the Chairman asked for a vote on the Irish proposal re Christian literature, there was no seconder, so this proposal was dropped.

Miss Ash asked to what extent Protestant work was carried on in the Philippines. The Chairman replied that there was quite a large church of "Reformed" Catholics and also missions from the Protestant Episcopal church of USA. Miss Barnaby said she has worked there for many years, but it was difficult as clergy were suspicious of organisations like GFS, which they felt to be under foreign control. Mrs Woodward felt that development of GFS work there might be premature as a survey of position of Protestant churches there was being made by the findings were not out yet.

Miss Perkins proposed, and Mrs Barry seconded

*"That next World Project be to spread GFS work in the Far East"*.

Miss Lloyd suggested that as our thoughts would be towards Japan, next project might be in Japan.

Miss Sherrard proposed, and Mrs Houston seconded

*"That British Guiana be helped next time (1962-1965) by training one or more leaders."*

Miss Barnaby proposed, and Miss C Smith seconded

*"That the training of a girl from Mombasa be the present Project (1959-61) CARRIED."*

A vote was taken then on the Project for 1962-65 and Miss Sherrard's proposal of British Guiana was CARRIED by a majority of delegates.

Miss Barnaby proposed, and Miss O'Loughlin seconded

*"That it be left with Ireland to appoint a committee to communicate with Archbishop Beecher and Miss Camm about the training of a girl from Mombasa" CARRIED.*

This committee felt it should also ask the Archbishop of the West Indies and the Convent of the Good Shepherd at Georgetown re the most suitable girl to be helped by the 1962-65 Project. Mrs Simms asked that Mrs Woodward, Miss Lloyd and Mrs Lamlugh should be members of the Committee, also Mrs Ferreira, Mrs Hull and Miss Ash.

### **Wednesday 27 June 1962**

Mrs Mahon (USA) introduced the subject Fund-Raising. She said there could be fun and satisfaction in fund-raising, but it is something we have to learn how to do and learn to do it well. The main method of fund-raising in USA is during a publicity and fund drive during last week in January. The members then raise about 30% of total funds required for running GFS "Project 2000" was the name given to a new drive aimed at commemorating the 85<sup>th</sup> birthday of GFS in USA by endowing the organisation sufficiently to allow it to expand and carry it forward into the next century. The USA has 5000 parishes without any organisation for girls – leaders need to be trained for these and

a

wider, more varied programme offered. "Project 2000" also aims to develop a World Christian outlook by taking girls from the parish out into the world (Summer Opportunity etc) and bringing the world to the parish (Mission Object, study books and films and dramatics). Laymen and women are helping on committee of "Project 2000". Mrs Ferreira explained that in GFS work the total branch contribution aimed at \$US15,000, this represents 2 dollars per member – this sum however is not obligatory. No Government aid is given to GFS but a small subsidy from the church is received. The staff consists of only one field worker, two diocesan workers, one executive secretary, one programme editor, one office manager in charge of literature, one bookkeeper and two secretaries. Miss Ash gave background of GFS in Australia: 4,000,000 population mostly on east and south east coast – 14,000 GFS members and leaders. There is no central GFS setup or paid personnel – all is diocesan. The church itself has only this last year held its first General Synod. All office bearers on Commonwealth Council are voluntary, unpaid workers. Each Diocese pays to this Council 3d per candidate and 9d per member per year, to help with Council expenses, especially travelling. This gives an income of £250 per year. Literature is financed also from this and eventually brings in a small profit. The Leaders' handbook has been for years in process of revision as no one had time to work on it full time. A few dioceses, ie Sydney, have fulltime paid workers and these are loaned to other dioceses sometimes. Membership fees in Sydney diocese are 3/- for Candidates and Intermediates, 5/- for seniors. Associates and TMF. Large amounts are also raised for missions and this is regarded as a priority. Hostels make a profit of £800 approximately. Sale of uniform profit £400, Church Youth Dept grant £200, Annual sports £120, District competitions £200, Budget needed for GFS in Diocese is £2200, so the balance of £400 is raised by faith. Wages amount to £800. The offertory at annual services is given to Mission, Branches may subsidise Leader Training but not on a Diocesan level.

Miss C Smith (USA) said two methods used for branch fundraising were:

- a) Penny bags – you put in 1d for every day it rains and 2d if it snows.
- b) A tear off calendar with forfeits etc "if you forget to brush your teeth, pay 3d".

Miss Creek (England) said the following were subscriptions fixed for Members to pay to Central Funds of English GFS. Under 11 years 6d., 11-14 years 1/6d, 14-21 years 2/-, Over 21 years 2/6d. This brought in £1600 in 1961. Substantial government grants are given from Ministry of Education, King George V Jubilee Trust to help youth work, also some income received from letting part of Townsend House as offices. Diocesan funds are raised in similar fashion.

Miss Scott (Ireland) said their fees were as follows: Candidates and Prentices 6d. pa., of which only 3d goes to Central. Members 1/6 (1/- to Central), Townsend members 2/- (1/6 to Central).

Associates 3/- (6d to Central). No grants are received from Government or church.

Mrs Walker (Scotland) said their juniors under 14 paid 6d. Members 1/- minimum, Associates 2/6 and Hon Associates 7/6. Other subscribers gave voluntary donations. Central Office received half of Members' subscriptions and special efforts are made as necessary to help special Projects.

Liberia has a yearly circus to entertain the community. You pay for seats, charge even for standing and Girl Guides help to keep non-paying onlookers at a distance.

Chairman said it had been interesting comparing the practices of fund-raising in various countries and delegates could report on these to their National Councils.

Three USA speakers then presented "Give us our Dangerous Assignment"- a cry of modern youth to middle aged expressed in poetical prose – Truth and Idealism are dangerous weapons – should we entrust them to our young people?

Then 44 younger delegates and observers formed into 3 groups to discuss “How to hold the interest of teenagers in organisations” while older delegates went out for a break.

Chairman and organiser of groups Beth Irwin (Irish). Leaders of the 3 groups were: Carol Smith (USA), Yvonne Barnett (England), Joan Edwards (Australia). Reports were presented as under.

Carol Smith’s group the countries represented in my group were Liberia, Wales, USA, Ireland, Scotland, England, Japan, Australia and British Guiana. We began the meeting by briefly discussing the Choral Speaking presentation. From this discussion rose the general conclusion that materialism is posing a very real threat to today’s world of children and adults. It was also found that the girls themselves feel that children are being forced to grow up too fast. We all felt this was wholly undesirable and unwise. The girls discussed the difficulty in every branch of holding the interest of teenagers. We felt that a wise leader will understand her girls and do her best to avoid personality conflicts, which are often a cause of dividing the groups, thus making it uncomfortable for some. Several girls expressed the feeling that a varied program with some time for just talking and “being girls” was needed. It was also agreed that the leader was often the factor which governed a girl’s attendance. Some girls felt that teenage groups are sometimes neglected because they prove more problems than the younger girls. The girls agreed that teenagers do want some independence but do not want to be abandoned. We felt that twice-monthly meetings may be better than weekly ones for teenagers and that all new members should be given a chance to prove themselves.

Yvonne Barrett’s Group The general opinion in my group was that holding the interest of teenagers was extremely difficult – one of the reasons being the difficulties incurred during adolescence, others the attractions of television, cinemas, coffee bars.

(I personally felt the less one has the more one creates and asks and has, and the more pleasurable life becomes). The countries in this group put forward activities which they participated in in their Branches, and which had had some success in holding interest.

Wales – beautify demonstrations, physical training. Australia: talks on the various cancers that might interest the girls on leaving school, those were voluntary talks by friends of the leaders – Teacher. Hairdressers, Typist, Dental Nurse etc. The older ones made out a rotor and visited a Members; home on Club night, arranging an interesting theme for the evening – singing, talks on nursing, mothercraft, experimenting on tape records, Chinese teas, puppets, first aid. Training nine people in a particular branch and each three training for different things. Branch camp – spiritual camp. The church has its own camp site. On special occasions they got their mothers to sell cakes down the highway. Northern Ireland: First Aid, jewel craft, basket work. America: Arts and craft, learning about a country (G3) 3 years partaking church work, social work, leadership training conferences. Keep them busy starting branches. Achievement ladder and ribbons also worn sometimes on “Beanies” (Skull cap), Worship, Service, Recreation, Junior frolic – once a year (competitive activities). England: First Aid, King George V’s Leaders Training Corps, Duke of Edinburgh Aware Scheme, Hikes bringing in all subjects – religion, history, geography, biology, English, collecting things, everything learned in a natural, unconscious way.

West Indies: Quizzes very popular, garden parties, girls behind stalls dressed in Nursery Rhyme costumes, all day hiking, devotional meeting theme – once a quarter.

Scotland: Members after the age of 16 years. Church service, concerts.

Conclusions: These girls must have active and lively programs. They themselves must be kept busy – although they do not wish to remain completely responsible – there should be cooperation of parents – who should be invited along occasionally to meetings. If they are occupied in doing jobs that are demanding and if they are making things not just for appearance but because it will have a

purpose afterwards – they are much more interested (I think the main thing here is interest and speed – something that keeps moving and has at first quick results. If they are to be of use the girls will remain and dwell upon the subject longer. The results all round are then far more rewarding).  
Joan Edward's Group Our discussion group consisted of young embers from five different countries. – England, Ireland, Scotland, Australia and USA. Between us we found seven different ways which one or other of us had found helpful in overcoming the problem of losing our teenage girls.

- 1) Have the girls start GFS at an early age, say 7 years, so that they develop an interest in GFS which will carry them through the early teen years.
- 2) Always have a well-planned program and talk about forthcoming activities early and so whip up enthusiasm.
- 3) Intersperse GFS meetings with social events like evenings at home, parties, socials, hikes.
- 4) Give the girls responsibility such as being in charge of a younger group, taking a game or dance, leading a discussion or holding an office.
- 5) Having a definite objective like
  - a. In USA G3's or an achievement badge
  - b. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme used in England and Northern Ireland.
- 6) Recognise the work the girls do – a pat on the back for their achievements is very encouraging for the teenager.
- 7) Keep the teenager a separate group from the younger GFS girls but encourage them to help with all junior activities.

## **Leader Training**

### England

Miss Lloyd said English programs were drawn up annually on a theme at a National level and catered for four age groups, including Townsend members. Summer Schools usually studied the programs for the coming session. There were Diocesan Residential training courses for leaders and also day and evening training in some places.

There were also correspondence courses for leaders, which could be studied under special tutors appointed for each person but were much better studied in groups at diocesan level with a trained GFS organiser. The content of these courses leading up to examinations were 2 parts theory and 1 part practice.

- a) Theory. 1 Organisation, 2 What I believe
- b) Two residential weekends dealing with program planning, how to run a branch, human relationships, Christian leadership, teaching Christianity, followed by the Examiner's inspection of two actual branch meetings conducted by the candidate, who has also to write a community survey – a study of local government schools, teenagers' use of leisure time, accounts of visits to factories and institutions.

On passing the leaders examination, a special badge is worn. The new Leader's handbook has just been issued. The King George V Leaders Training Corps is largely superseded by newer methods. Isolated branches are visited by Diocesan Trainers or intending leaders do the course purely by correspondence.

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is encouraged. Under this scheme bronze, silver and gold medals are awarded for proficiency in chosen skills in four groups.

- 1 Design for living: care of hair, clothes, home decoration etc.
- 2 Interests: photography, archery, etc.

- 3 Service: First aid, home nursing etc.
- 4 Adventure: 1 day for bronze medal; 1 weekend for silver; 1 week for gold.

Wales has many isolated branches due to geographical structure and leaders need training in their own branches.

Australia. Miss Ash said that the new Leaders' Handbook about to be published in five sections:

- 1 Practical: How to run a branch
- 2 Principles: Aims and objectives of GFS.
- 3 Pivot: Instruction in Christian faith.
- 4 Progression: development of girls from children into women.
- 5 Principles of, then model plans for four consecutive meetings.

This was introduced experimentally in Sydney Diocese and if successful will form National GFS training program.

Leaders take 3 examinations:

- 1 Preliminary, before admission as Leader.
- 2 Basic, compulsory within two months of starting.
- 3 Advanced, optional exam.

Specialised training in music or drama may be carried out regionally or provincially. Leaders are trained also by watching and observing an established branch at meetings.

- a) City leaders training courses in evenings: six consecutive evenings.
- b) Residential training weekend courses.
- c) Holiday courses, up to two weeks.

Training methods are kept as informal as possible, with emphasis on "learning by doing".

British Guiana. Miss Stewart said, as was mentioned in report, they had a weekend Presidential Training and one week Summer School. Both had been very useful. The latter had included a course in puppetry as well as discussion groups and practical work. However, many in outlying districts were unable to attend residential courses and she was much interested in the English correspondence courses and wondered if they could be adapted to be passed without any residential training. Miss Lloyd and Mrs Lamphugh promised to look into this and let British Guiana know. The British Guiana Youth Council run courses in Leadership, but these are not specifically Christian.

USA. Mrs Nichols said distances made training difficult. They had only one leadership consultant at present, but the Department of Leadership arrange three annual conferences, two delegates from each diocese attend the nearest conference and learn all that is possible in the short time and convey what they have learnt to leaders in their own dioceses. The Leadership Consultant helps with this follow-up work. A leadership kit is sent to leaders unable to attend conferences. Literature is needed to reach all.

South Africa. IN her report, Miss Wilson spoke of two centres where she had held their first leader training days, which had been most successful and useful.

### **Resolution from USA Board re United Nationals**

Mrs Nichols proposed the following resolution which had been put forward by the Board

*"That the GFS, USA ask the World Council state its belief in the United National as a means to build peace and understanding among nations. Be it further resolved that programs relating to UN be provided for Juniors, Intermediates and Senior members in the next three years, the programs to be developed by a World committee to be appointed by the World Chairman.*

- 1 *Juniors to study UNICEF*
- 2 *Intermediates – Freedom from hunger (a project sponsored by FAO)*
- 3 *Seniors – Study Status of Women Commission”*

This proposal was seconded by Miss Person, who said it provided a more definite follow-up than a similar proposal at last World Council.

Mrs Ferreira said that GFS Offices in the various countries could apply to addresses in their own countries of agencies who stocked propaganda and literature about the UN. A teacher's kit was especially useful. She displayed some UN posters.

The motion was CARRIED unanimously.

The Chairman said that the references to detailed programs was new to her and she would like the help of Mrs Ferreira who was official UN Observer for GFS to UN to serve on the suggested Committee, the other members might be the same she had suggested to discuss the details of the World Project. This was agreed to.

### **Greetings**

Miss Barrett (England) proposed, and Miss Stewart (Br Guiana) seconded

*“That greetings be sent from this Council to all member countries not represented here and that a letter be sent to Miss Camm telling her of the decision to make the training of a girl from Mombasa the World Project for 1959-62 and a similar letter to British Guiana to the GFS Secretary there and to the Archbishop of the West Indies re Project for 1962-65.*

Miss Perkins (Australia) asked that the thanks of all present to the Chairman, Mrs Simms and the Secretary, Miss Scott, be recorded. This was greeted with applause.

There being no other business the 5<sup>th</sup> World Council closed.