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Leaders' =
Programme

PART 1

NATIONAL CATHOLIC GIRLS' MOVEMENT
AUSTRALIA

National Headquarters:
N.C.G.M., 379 Collins Street, Melbourne

1947

LEADERS' PROGRAMME

PART ONE

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC GIRLS' MOVEMENT OF AUSTRALIA,
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHAIRMAN, THE MOST REV.
E. GLEESON, C.S.S.R.

For this year of 1947, leaders' groups of the National Catholic Girls' Movement in Australia will direct their efforts towards a national campaign once more.

The year's programme will be divided into two parts. The first part, as presented in this booklet, will constitute a refresher course. This course will enable experienced leaders and the new members of established groups to revise and/or learn the fundamentals of the J.O.C. technique as adapted to Australian conditions for the N.C.G.M.

The second part of the 1947 programme, which will incorporate a campaign on the responsibilities of the Catholic girl of to-day, is scheduled to commence on 1st March. Therefore, it is expected that all groups will complete Part I before this date.

New groups should not confuse this booklet with the Preliminary Training Course, which must be completed by all newly-formed groups.

PRAYER OF OUR MOVEMENT.

“Dear Jesus, help me to spread Thy fragrance everywhere I go;

Flood my soul with Thy spirit and light. Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly that all my life may only be a radiance of Thine.

Shine through me, and be so in me, that every soul I come in contact with may feel Thy presence in my soul.

Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus.

Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as Thou shinest. So to shine as to be a light to others. The light, O Jesus, will be all from Thee. None of it will be mine. It will be Thou shining on others through me.

Let me thus praise Thee in the way in which Thou dost love best by shining on those around me.

Let me preach Thee without preaching—not by words—but by my example, the catching force, the sympathetic influence of what I do, the evident fulness of the love of my heart bears to Thee.” Amen.

—(Cardinal Newman)

INTRODUCTION.

REVISION! How we dislike that word, and all that it implies. Going over again the technique of the Enquiry; considering once more the method and reasons for the Gospel Discussion; deliberating again how we should make Contacts and extend our influence; reviewing our Parish Services, that is Revision. We have done it so often. Why the need for it again? Repeated revision can become so boring; and is it really necessary?

Of course Revision is boring. So much of our work as Leaders can be monotonous and boring. But, is that a reason for doing it badly? Are we going to shirk our tasks, the tasks Our Lord gives us to do, because of boredom? They are so necessary too. Perhaps we do know all about the Enquiry, the Gospel, Contact work. **But a revision of the principles gives us the opportunity of comparing that knowledge with our actions.** If we make that comparison honestly, we shall find much to be corrected. For we shall see, the most of us, how badly and carelessly we prepare our Gospel; make our Enquiries; carry on our Contact work. That discovery, coupled with or, rather, followed by a determined resolution to improve will have more than justified the six weeks or less of Revision.

However, there is another and more important task we should undertake during our Revision Period. We should look into our souls, and ask ourselves "**Have we the spirit of true Leaders?**" No doubt we had it at the beginning of our work as Leaders. Perhaps at the commencement of last year we found that it had waned and we made efforts to fan it into flame again. Has the same thing happened once more? Has the spirit of the Leader within us begun to flicker again? Each leader must answer that question for herself. But, if she finds that such is the case she must, if she would be a true Leader; if she would do great and real work for Christ in the year just starting, do all in her power to fan that spirit into a bright flame again. The spirit of a Leader is a spirit of **GENEROSITY**—generosity in giving of herself and her time and her comfort to the service of her fellow movement members; it is a spirit of **LOYALTY** to the Movement; loyalty, shown in accepting the directions of those in authority, and faithfully carrying out those directions; it is a spirit of **RESPONSIBILITY**—responsibility which shows itself in each Leader carrying out with all perfection possible her allotted task.

Generosity, Loyalty, Responsibility, these are the elements that go to make up the Spirit of a Leader. If you find, as almost certainly you will, that you have become lacking in these, then your Spirit has waned and weakened, and it must be revived. In your efforts to revive your Spirit, **do not forget Prayer**—humble, persevering prayer to Christ Your Leader. He wants to help you and He will, if you ask. Pray too, to the Holy Ghost, our Sanctifier. Even a little devotion to Him will bring wonderful results.

Six weeks for Revision! Use those weeks to advantage. Arm yourselves well for the fight that must be continued in 1947. There is still a whole world to be won for Christ, the King. And that King is depending on each and every one of you.

"FOR CHRIST THE KING, COMPANIONS, ADVANCE!!!"

PLAN OF LEADERS' MEETING

- A. 1—Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
2—Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
3—Roll Call.
4—Gospel Discussion (15-20 mins.).
- B. 5—Review of Work:
(a) Minutes of previous meeting and business arising therefrom;
(b) Report on work undertaken;
(c) Report on names for Census;
(d) Report on progress of Team;
(i) Items of the week;
(ii) Facts of Action.
- 6—Appointment of work arising out of reports.
- C. 7—Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading (8 mins.).
- D. 8—General Enquiry (20 mins.).
9—(a) Appointment of work arising out of enquiry.
(b) Read through See Section of next enquiry.
- 10—General Business.
11—Statement by each leader of duties. } 10 Mins.
12—Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing. }

FINAL PRAYERS.

Lord Jesus,

Teach me to be generous,
To serve You as You deserve to be served,
To give without counting the cost,
To fight without counting the wounds,
To work without seeking rest,
To spend my life without expecting any other return
than the knowledge that I do Your Holy Will.

PRAYER FOR THE CONVERSION OF AUSTRALIA.

O God, Who has appointed Mary, Help of Christians, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus, Patrons of Australia, grant that through their intercession our brethren outside the Church may receive the light of Faith, so that Australia may become one in Faith under one Shepherd, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us;
St. Francis Xavier, pray for us;
St. Teresa of the Infant Jesus, pray for us.

SPECIAL NOTE.

In order that a full study may be made of all Sections of the Leaders' Meeting this programme sets out particular parts for study and discussion at each Meeting—e.g., First Meeting: A 1, 2, 3 and 4 will receive your particular attention. Second Meeting: You will do that much plus the **special discussion** which is B 5 and so on until you have completed the study of the whole of the Leaders' Group and the Parish Section.

It must be remembered that although the Programme only details A 1, 2, 3 and 4 for the First Meeting, the permanent parts of the Meeting—such as Minutes, Census, Chaplain's Talk and General Business—will be included in the order in which they appear on page 1.

FIRST MEETING

A. (1) The Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady.

Does your group always have a crucifix and a statue of Our Lady prominently displayed at your leaders' group meetings? If not, why?

Why should you give prominence to the crucifix and Our Lady's statue at your meetings?

If your group has failed in the past, what can you do to prevent it in the future? e.g., appoint one person to be responsible for bringing the crucifix and the statue.

(2) Opening Prayers.

Do you always say the Rosary and the N.C.G.M. prayer to open the meeting? Have you omitted the Rosary sometimes because you have made a late start at your meeting?

Why do you start your meetings with prayer? What points about the Rosary make it a suitable prayer for a group to recite?

It is the regular practice in the Movement for the group President to lead the recitation of prayers at all meetings. Can your group introduce this if you are not already doing it?

(3) Roll Call.

This is included to ensure attendance at meetings and apologies are properly recorded. It is suggested that the minutes include the absentees rather than those present, stating whether or not an apology was received.

(4) Gospel Discussion. (15-20 mins.)

1. Explanation of the method by the Chaplain, to be followed by a brief discussion.
2. The appointment of a Leader to conduct the first Discussion. This Leader must contact the Chaplain after she has prepared the Discussion, before the Leaders' meeting. This will ensure that the Leader will have a good background on the Gospel.
3. Read through the Gospel Discussion of the second meeting.

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL DISCUSSION?

The Gospel Discussion is an essential part of the N.C.G.M. method of training. You must understand exactly what it is for and how it is to be used.

These Gospel scenes are not put before you as a mere intellectual study, to solve difficulties, to learn the meanings of strange words. They are there for one purpose—to give you a better idea of what Jesus Christ is like; and thus, you will love Him more and fight more keenly for Him. You must keep this in mind all the time—the one thing you are to do is to look at Him, to find out more about Him, to watch His reactions in various circumstances, to notice the impressions He made on those who saw and heard Him. In other words, you are learning to know Him better.

The Gospel gives us the most perfect picture we have of Christ, Our King and Leader. The scenes used have been chosen from many in its pages. These do not form a complete picture, but they give you a good idea of what manner of man He is. Use them for that purpose. The study of the meanings of individual words is useful and can be interesting—but that's not your work now. You are to find out more about Jesus Christ. The words and sentences are like the strokes of a brush painting His picture for you.

After each scene, a guide is given, mainly in the form of questions. This is to help you in your Discussion. Follow them, but if you notice anything else about Him, don't hesitate to mention it. The questions are to help you, not bind you down.

It was said these scenes tell you "What manner of Man He is." Note two things here: **What Manner of Man.** For the most part we deal with Christ as Man, but never forget that He is also God. In some of the scenes you will see Him claiming to be God and proving that He is. You know He is already, but don't let it slip out of your minds while looking at His human qualities. And, secondly, those last two words—"He is!" You are not just learning about someone who lived a long time back. Christ, your King, is living now—unchanged. As He was then, so He is now. Reigning in Heaven, near you in the Blessed Sacrament, He is "Jesus Christ, yesterday, to-day, and the same forever."

You are not asked to follow an unknown Leader—you can and must know your King. The same inspiring, clear-minded, strong Christ, Who won the Apostles, is calling for your allegiance now; He, Who longed to win all to Him, wants you to help Him reign in Australia to-day. It is for Him you fight; it is for His cause you pray; from Him will come your guidance, strength and reward. Therefore, learn all you can about Him, so as to know Him better, love Him more deeply, serve Him more loyally, and spread His Kingdom in Australia.

How is the Gospel Discussion conducted in your Group? Is every leader encouraged to take part in the discussion thus helping to make a full group discussion? Does anyone or do any few of the group dominate the discussion to the exclusion of others? What could you do to improve the position if it is not satisfactory?

Preparation of the discussion will help. In fact, it is essential, if full advantage is going to be gained from it. This means preparation by each leader as well as by the person conducting it. Could your group decide on a certain standard of preparation to be observed by each leader, e.g., daily reading of the text set for next meeting?

The questions set out after each text are to guide leaders in their meditation and discussion. You can bring out other points, too, as they occur to you. If your group has any criticisms of discussion laid down, you should notify your Diocesan or National Headquarters accordingly.

The leader concludes the gospel by making a brief summary at the end of it. Her summary is recorded in the minutes.

SECOND MEETING

- A. (1) Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
- (2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
- (3) Roll Call.
- (4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

“THE CALL OF MATTHEW.”

St. Matthew IX, v. 9-13.

INTRODUCTION.

Early in the public life of Our Lord. Others had been approached by Our Lord earlier (for example, Peter, Andrew, James and John after the miracle of the loaves and fishes—Matt. 4, v. 18-22). The incident was at Capharnaum, which was the meeting place of the three main highways of Capharnaum—the Damascus road from the North, the road from the rich coastal towns of Tyre and Sidon, and the double route South either through the Jordan Valley or Samaria that led through Jerusalem to distant Egypt. It was a real bottle-neck; and there in particular the “quislings” of the Jewish people, the publicans, collected taxes for the Romans on all passing traffic. Matthew was one of them.

- 9 Now as Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax-collector's place, and said to him, “Follow me.” And he arose and followed him. And it came to pass as he was at table in the house, that, behold, many publicans and sinners came to the table with Jesus and his disciples. And the Pharisees seeing it, said to his disciples, “Why does your master eat with publicans and sinners?” But Jesus heard it, and said, “It is not the healthy who need a physician, but they who are sick. But go, and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call sinners, not the just.”

QUESTIONS.

1. Is Our Lord just interested in the “decent” people around the district?
2. How did He get on with Matthew's friends? Do you think they were “tough”? What can we learn from Him?
3. Do you think Our Lord had anything else in mind besides just being friendly to them?
4. How did He do these men a good turn when the Pharisees started talking? What's the lesson for us?
5. Are there many Pharisees around—girls who speak uncharitably about another; never do anything to give her a hand if she's in bad company; people who have a smug satisfaction that they are in the “band-wagon for heaven,” and not interested whether anyone else wants helping or not?
6. Do you get girls like that in the N.C.G.M.?

- B. (5) Review of Work:

DISCUSSION ON REVIEW OF WORK.

Under this section each leader will report on the work she has done since last meeting. This regular reporting on work is the most important part of the Leaders' Meeting.

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting:

We include item (a), the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, under this section because in the consideration of business arising out of

the minutes it will be found that, at the last meeting various Leaders were given special duties.

(b) Report on Duties Undertaken:

This is the time under item (b) for them to report on how they got on with their special duties as mentioned in the minutes.

(c) Report on Names for Census:

Each leader will report on new names or information on her section of the census.

(d) Report on Progress of Team:

A report on the progress and action of "Teams." Up to the present the work of the National Catholic Girls' Movement has been confined almost entirely to influencing those girls who could be induced to join the Movement and come to our meetings and take part in our services and activities. In addition to this, leaders may have been exerting a personal influence on individual girls, some of whom, perhaps, did not belong to the Movement. But, on the whole, such personal influence has been sporadic and unorganised and has seldom touched any but Catholic girls.

The task of the National Catholic Girls' Movement is to change and christianise the environment of girls between the ages of 14-25. If we are to shoulder this task in earnest we must spread our net much wider. We must carry our apostolic influence to all the girls of the environment, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, and we must tackle the problems of the working environment as well as that of the parish.

In order to do this, our leaders will need to get the assistance of the ordinary members of the Movement who so far have taken little share in our apostolic work. They too must be trained as apostles or sub-leaders so that our effectiveness will be greatly increased. Indeed, we must go further than this and harness every person of good-will in the environment to the task of christianising it.

The way we propose to do this is through the "Team System." (See "Teams in C.A." by W. Daly. Price 3d., obtainable at A.N.S.C.A. Publications Department or through your National Headquarters.)

It is not proposed that we should drop what we are already doing, and change over entirely to this new method. Rather do we want to add this as a new development of our work.

If we have a parish section and a number of services in operation, then we want to keep all that going, and ADD the Team work.

It is suggested, therefore, that only some of the leaders should form Teams at once. If we have six leaders in our group, perhaps four could take over the main responsibility for carrying on our existing work, while the other two could start to form Teams.

Later, the four leaders, whose task it was to administer our existing affairs, could form Teams amongst ordinary members to help them in running the services, etc. Gradually they could hand over most of the organising work to these Teams, whilst they themselves formed other Teams. Thus gradually the whole Leaders' group would become absorbed in Team work.

Eventually all the members of the section will be in Teams and some of them may themselves be the leaders of sub-teams.

Some groups are already very worried about the weekly general meetings which they find take a lot of their time, and to which they find it difficult to get girls to come. If the leaders decide that it is advisable, the weekly meeting could be dropped and a General Meeting held only once a month. In such a case the various services could still meet regularly

once a week or once a fortnight, but it should not be necessary for all the leaders to attend all of these.

It should be emphasised that Team work will not mean that our leaders will have to put in more nights at Team meetings. All the work of the Team is done during the time normally spent in that particular sphere of the environment where the Team is formed. Only in the case of the parish team might a formal meeting be held, and even that would be a later development.

(a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.

(b) Report on work undertaken.

(c) Report on names for Census.

(d) Report on Progress of Team.

(i) Items of the Week.

(ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading.

D. (9) President asks Leaders to read the Review of Leaders' Group of the Third Meeting.

(10) General Business.

(11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.

(12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

THIRD MEETING

A. (1) Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position

(2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.

(3) Roll Call.

(4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

"CHRIST—THE MAN OF PRAYER."

Mark I, v. 35-38.

INTRODUCTION.

Time.—Second half of first year of public life.

Place.—Just outside of Capharnaum.

35 And rising up long before daybreak, he went out and departed into a
36 deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon, and those who were
37 with him, followed him up. And they found him and said to him,
38 "They are all seeking thee." And He said to them, "Let us go into
the neighbouring villages and towns, that there also I may preach."

QUESTIONS.

1. "All seek for Thee." What are some of the qualities Christ had to win such crowds of people so completely?

2. What circumstances of time and place are mentioned here with regard to Our Lord's prayer?

3. Why is prayer is important?
4. What was Our Lord's attitude towards popular acclaim?

B. (5) Review of Work:

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.
- (b) Report on work undertaken.
- (c) Report on names for Census.
- (d) Report on Progress of Team.
 - (i) Items of the Week.
 - (ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading.

(8) Discussion.

REVIEW OF LEADERS' GROUP—Continued.

MINUTES.

Have you a regular Secretary in your group? Has she a proper minute book? Does the Secretary take the minutes of each meeting? If the Secretary is not present does someone else take the minutes? The minutes should record those who are present and those who are absent and whether any apology has been received from them; all decisions taken, action planned and jobs allotted, and a report of the results of any "Enquiry," which has been done. They need not record verbatim accounts of discussions and arguments—only what was decided, what was done, what was planned. Do you read the minutes of the last meeting? Do you go over them carefully to see that decisions taken, action planned and jobs allotted are being CARRIED OUT? When leaders report on the tasks they have been allotted is the substance of these reports carefully entered in the minutes?

CENSUS.

Although we must eventually try to extend our influence to ALL the girls in our parish, our first efforts will naturally be directed to the Catholic girls. Even though we may not be able to get all the Catholic girls of the parish to join our Movement we DO want to exert our influence over ALL of them. If we are to influence them we must know them so our first job is to take a census of them. As soon as our group is formed this Census should be started. It may take months to complete it, and it will need constant revision and bringing up to date. Each leader should take a section of the parish as her Census field and it is her duty to compile and keep up to date a census of all the Catholic girls in her section.

The Census should contain name and address and all other information that can be obtained and that may be of use in contacting and influencing the girl, e.g., place of work, approximate age, family circumstances, particular hobbies or interests, nearest friends—particularly if they are in the Movement, etc.

Have we started our Census? Is it properly recorded in some readily accessible form? Have we someone to look after it? Has each Leader been given a section of the parish for her Census work? Have we been concerned with keeping our Census up to date?

CONTACT.

Once we have compiled a list of the names of girls in our Census section, we should take every available opportunity to get to know them.

We need not always call at their homes or apparently force a meeting with them, but whenever the chance occurs we should contact them and try to get on at least nodding terms with them.

If we make their acquaintance in this way, then we are in a much better position to get them to join a team or a service of the section later on.

REPORT ON TEAMS.

The first thing that those leaders who wish to form Teams must do is to decide in which sphere of their environment the first team will be formed. It could be at work or in that area of the parish around their home, or it could be in the choir, or a sodality, or the tennis club. The Team based on the place of work or the district will naturally offer much greater scope than that based on a club or a choir or a sodality, for in the latter the environment exists as a tangible thing for only a few hours a week, or even a month. Nevertheless, such places do offer good experimental ground for the formation of teams and they offer excellent opportunities of influence to the alert leader.

Having fixed upon the particular sphere of the environment in which she intends to form her first Team, the Leader then goes on to choose the girl whom she thinks will make her first Team member. Then she proceeds to build her Team on the lines suggested in "Teams in C.A." At each meeting she should be asked for a report on the progress of her Team. In addition, she reports "Items of the Week," and at a later stage "Facts of Action."

In "Items of the Week," the Leader reports things she has heard or observed in the environment—a conversation she overheard, a kind or a selfish or a mean action she witnessed, something one of the girls did or omitted to do. This serves to train the Leader to really SEE her environment, and it also builds up a general picture of the environment for the group as a whole.

When she has progressed sufficiently with her Team to DO things, she reports any action which she has planned and carried out with her Team under "Facts of Action."

NOTE.

It is necessary to issue a warning to Leaders NOT to talk about Teams or Team work outside their Leaders' Group. The work would almost certainly be frustrated if the people at work or in any other sphere knew that a Team existed in their midst. Even the members of the Team will not be conscious that they form a Team, except in special cases where the member is a Catholic and perhaps a member of the Movement. In all other cases, the Leader's prudence should tell her how much it is wise to confide to her Team members.

In the case of a Team in the parish where, perhaps, all the members are not only Catholics but members of the National Catholic Girls' Movement, they could be conscious of their membership of the Team and they might, at a later stage, hold formal meetings with a prayer and Gospel Discussion—a Leaders' Group in miniature.

- D. (9) (a) Appointment of work arising out of the Discussion.
(b) President asks Leaders to read the Review of Leaders' Group of the Fourth Meeting.
- (10) General Business.
- (11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.
- (12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

FOURTH MEETING

- A. (1) Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
- (2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
- (3) Roll Call.
- (4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

"JESUS FEEDS FOUR THOUSAND."

St. Mark VIII, v. 1-9.

INTRODUCTION.

This is the second multiplication of loaves, probably in the territory of Decapolis, and early in the third year of His public life.

- 1 In those days when again there was a great crowd, and they had nothing
- 2 to eat, he called his disciples together and said to them, "I have com-
- 3 passion on the crowd, for behold, they have now been with me three
- 4 days, and have nothing to eat; and if I send them away to their homes
- 5 fasting, they will faint on the way, for some of them have come from
- 6 a distance." And his disciples answered him, "How will anyone be able
- 7 to satisfy these with bread, here in a wilderness?" And he asked them
- 8 "How many loaves have you?" And they said, "Seven."
- 9 And he bade the crowd recline on the ground. Then taking the seven
- loaves, he gave thanks, broke them and gave them to his disciples to
- distribute; and they set them before the crowd. And they had a few
- little fishes; and he blessed them, and ordered them to be distributed.
- And they ate and were satisfied; and they took up what was left of the
- fragments, seven baskets. Now those who had eaten were about four
- thousand. And he dismissed them.

QUESTIONS.

1. This "compassion"—what is it? How can we show it toward our contact team? What about the men in the crowd who were later to call for His death?
2. Why did Our Lord work the miracle—(a) satisfy their hunger? (b) anything else? (c) just to "get them in"?
3. Does He work that kind of miracle nowadays? Too bad we missed out on that kind of thing, isn't it? or is it?

B. (5) Review of Work:

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.
- (b) Report on work undertaken.
- (c) Report on names for Census.
- (d) Report on Progress of Team.
 - (i) Items of the Week.
 - (ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading.

(8) Discussion.

THE ENQUIRY.

Are we satisfied with the way in which we have carried out our Enquiries in our group? Have we done the SEE and the JUDGE part properly? Are we satisfied with the ACTION that has resulted?

Do we really understand the purpose of the Enquiry? We are in Catholic Action in order to DO things—to change and christianise our environment. This means that we must ACT as well as pray and study. If our ACTION is to be prudent, then we must really KNOW the situation as it exists, we must be able to JUDGE it in the light of Catholic principles, and we must plan effective ACTION that will help to change the situation from what it IS, into what it OUGHT to be.

Thus in the first part of the Enquiry we collect FACTS. We talk to and observe the girls with whom we mix, we find out how they behave in a given situation—what they say and do. Then, at our next meeting, we pool and arrange these facts so that we have a picture of the situation as it really exists. In the second part of the Enquiry we examine the facts we have gathered in this picture presented to us by the light of christian principles. Is it good or is it bad? What does the Church say about it? How **should** girls behave in such circumstances?

Finally, we ask ourselves, what action can we take as a group, through our Teams and as individual apostles to improve and christianise this particular situation we have been examining?

When we are starting on a new Enquiry, do we read over and discuss the SEE questions, so that each Leader knows precisely what information she is asked to collect? Do we ever decide that a particular Enquiry has no application in our parish or is in some way unsuitable for us? This may sometimes occur and it is no use our doing the Enquiry just because it is in the programme, if it is unsuitable for us. Do we ever alter the questions slightly to make them more suitable? (This would show that we are taking an intelligent interest in the Enquiry.) Does each Leader “pull her weight” in the fact gathering? What is our average number of contacts? Is it enough to give us a real picture of the situation? Have we trained ourselves in gathering information? In bringing the conversation round to the topic we want? In drawing out information without the contact realising that she is being questioned? Do we keep a note-book and enter up our facts after each conversation, so that we can make a clear and brief report at the group meeting?

At our meeting, is the collation of facts done in an ordered and business-like manner, or do we “mess about” and waste time? Do we feel that we have really taken a Gallup Poll and that we now know the situation as it really exists?

What about our judgments? Do we make snap or slipshod judgments? Is someone detailed each time to look up points for the judgment, so that discussion will be guided on right lines? Do we make sure that every member of the group is satisfied with the judgment—that this is the situation as it ought to be.

No Enquiry is completed unless ACTION results from it. Do we plan DEFINITE and IMMEDIATE action—WITHIN OUR CAPABILITIES? Do we follow slavishly the suggestions in the programme, or do we try to use our initiative and devise our own action? Remember, we don't want vague, general resolutions that we will do something sometime, but clear, definite decisions. Are the decisions on ACTION entered in the minutes? Do we check up on our ACTION when we read the minutes of the last meeting?

- D. (9) (a) Appointment of work arising out of the Discussion.
- (b) President asks Leaders to read the Review of Parish Section of the Fifth Meeting before the next meeting.
- (10) General Business.
- (11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.
- (12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

FIFTH MEETING

- A. (1) Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
- (2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
- (3) Roll Call.
- (4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

“SET BACKS.”

St. Luke IX, v. 51-56.

INTRODUCTION.

This scene took place in the last year of Our Lord's life. He was leaving Galilee and the North for the last time and going South through Samaria intending to be in Jerusalem for the feast of the “Tabernacles” in October.

- 51 Now it came to pass, when the days had come for him to be taken up,
52 that he steadfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, and sent messen-
53 gers before him. And they went and entered a Samaritan town to
54 make ready for him; and they did not receive him, because his face
54 was set for Jerusalem. But when his disciples James and John saw
55 this, they said, “Lord, wilt thou that we bid fire come down from
56 heaven and consume them?”
55 But he turned and rebuked them, saying, “You do not know of what
56 spirit you are; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives,
but to save them.” And they went to another village.

QUESTIONS.

1. Does it sometimes happen that we are all prepared to be friendly and decent to someone, and we get a set-back from them? Did Our Lord experience the same type of thing?

2. How should we act: Vow “blood and thunder” on them; or take it with a smile? Does getting annoyed about a girl who won't respond help much?

3. Do the easiest “catches” always make the best Movement members? Can you think of examples of hard girls whom you eventually got, who turned out the best?

4. Our Lord tells us that we can't drive some devils out of people except by prayer and self-denial for them. Do we try to win girls too much with the “personality touch”; and do not realise that we must use other weapons when the fight is definitely against the devil?

B. (5) Review of Work.

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.
- (b) Report on work undertaken.
- (c) Report on names for Census.
- (d) Report on Progress of Team.
 - (i) Items of the Week.
 - (ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading.

(8) Discussion.

REVIEW OF PARISH SECTION. SERVICES.

The following is a list of various services sponsored by the N.C.G.M. in Australia. Your section will find it necessary or advisable to inaugurate and conduct many of them. Do not try to get them all going at once. It is essential to obtain the assistance of competent instructors to make certain services (e.g., hobby class, learn-to-swim class) fully successful.

SPIRITUAL.

Annual General Communion and Breakfast.
Days of Recollection.
Annual Retreats.
Recruitment of members for Sodalties.
Special Youth Sundays.
Daily Mass Rosters.
Monthly Mass and Eucharistic Rally.

PHYSICAL.

Tennis, swimming, basketball, softball, baseball, all indoor sports, learn-to-swim classes, physical education, and dancing.

CULTURAL.

Debating, public speaking, theatrical art, tours of industrial centres and firms, libraries, general meetings, general rallies, first-aid classes, Catholic paper deliveries, choirs, orchestras, National newspaper ("Torchlight"), National Leaders' Bulletin, diocesan and branch magazines, information pamphlets on N.C.G.M. organisation, leaders' training programmes, general publications.

ECONOMIC.

Savings groups, employment bureau, accommodation register, holiday camps, hobby classes, vocational guidance, rehabilitation advisory bureau.

SOCIAL ENTERTAINMENT.

Learn-to-dance classes, dances, house parties, general rallies, hikes, picnics, inter-branch and inter-organisation visits, general meetings.

SOCIAL SERVICES.

Visitation of sick in hospital and at home, excursions and/or holiday for underprivileged children of local suburbs or towns.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.

1. Peruse the above list and check what services your section is now conducting.
2. (a) Are you satisfied that they are running efficiently, (b) that the best use of them is being made by leaders to establish friendship and to make contacts as well as providing for the needs of girls in your district?
3. Could you boost those services not achieving their purpose, publicising same and, where necessary, employing competent instructors?
4. Of those services not conducted, could you look into them to see if they are necessary and practicable?
5. In the event of their being both suitable and practicable would you appoint certain leaders to find out all particulars regarding same, and if necessary, form teams to assist, form, and maintain them?

- D. (9) (a) Appointment of work arising out of the Discussion.
 (b) President asks Leaders to read the Review of the Parish Section of the Sixth Meeting before the next meeting.
- (10) General Business.
- (11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.
- (12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

SIXTH MEETING

- A. (1) Crucifix and Statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
 (2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
 (3) Roll Call.
 (4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

"HOPELESS CASES."

Luke XV, v. 1-10.

INTRODUCTION.

These two parables were spoken by Our Lord towards the end of His public life, and are rich in doctrine. Particularly do they stress the importance of diligently searching for "that which is lost."

- 1 Now the publicans and sinners were drawing near to him to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the Scribes murmured, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 3 4 And he spoke to them this parable, saying, "What man of you having a hundred sheep, and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the desert, and go after that which is lost, until he finds it?"
- 5 And when he has found it, he lays it upon his shoulders rejoicing.
- 6 And on coming home he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, because I have found my sheep that was lost.' I say to you that, even so, there shall be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents, more than over ninety-nine just who have no need of repentance.
- 8 "Or what woman, having ten drachmas, if she loses one drachma, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the drachma that I had lost.' Even so, I say to you, there shall be joy among the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

QUESTIONS.

1. How does the story of the lost sheep and the good shepherd apply to us?
2. What good qualities does the Shepherd manifest in this parable?
3. Should we N.C.G.M. leaders ever "give up" any girl as a "hopeless case," or not bother to go after the lost sheep?
4. How did the Pharises treat the "hopeless cases?"
5. How did Christ, the Good Shepherd, treat the same cases?
6. Is there a danger of our imitating the Pharisees in this matter?
7. What should be the real N.C.G.M. attitude towards the lost sheep and the so-called "hopeless cases"?

B. (5) Review of Work:

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.
- (b) Report on work undertaken.
- (c) Report on names for Census.
- (d) Report on Progress of Team.
 - (i) Items of the Week.
 - (ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Reading.

(8) Discussion.

REVIEW OF PARISH SECTION.

SECTION ORGANISATION.

During this part of the meeting leaders are asked to conduct a discussion on their parish sections: (1) To check up the personnel responsible for the organising of the various services; (2) to compare the agenda usually conducted with the one listed below; (3) to compare the syllabus items suggested here with those usually featured at their General Meeting; (4) to discuss the type of entertainment offered by the section.

Office-Bearers in the Section.

Each Parish Section should have the following personnel:—President, Secretary, Treasurer and Propagandist (for their duties please refer to the Provisional Constitution).

(1) Are all these positions filled satisfactorily?

(2) If not, what action can be adopted?

Sub-Committees.

(1) The Leaders' Group may at any time authorise the setting up of any sub-committees that it thinks necessary.

(2) At the discretion of the Leaders' Group the leaders of such committee may be either appointed by the Leaders' Group or elected by the General Members, but they shall normally include at least one member of the Leaders' Group.

THE GENERAL MEETING.

Below is an outline for a GENERAL MEETING which, once a month, should take place instead of an Activity Meeting.

1. Prayer of the Movement.
2. Talk by a Leader—e.g., "What Youth Can Give to the World" (5 minutes).
3. Minutes, General Business, Financial Statement (5 minutes).
4. Singing.
5. Short Sketch.
6. Report on Enquiries (by means of sketch or leader's talk) (30 minutes).
7. General discussion on result of Enquiries (15 minutes).
8. Games.
9. Reports by Activity Group Leaders (10 minutes).

NOTE.—Report on Enquiries (Pt. 6 of General Meeting)—it should be remembered that the fact that the Leaders have conducted an Enquiry should NOT be mentioned, nor should the actual figures of the SEE part be given. It would run something like this:—

“The Leaders’ Group has been considering the question of whether the moral relations between boys and girls today are good or bad, and they have come to conclusion that on the whole they are..... The main faults we find are..... We decided that this was a matter of some importance because..... (Judgment), and we have decided to..... and need your help.”

This report may be given in the form of one play or talk for each Enquiry done or for all three Enquiries, or could be given in the form of a General or Group Discussion lead by the Leaders. In other words, it is up to the Leaders’ Group to decide how to INFLUENCE their members according to the findings of the Enquiries.

SUGGESTIONS FOR SYLLABUS ITEMS.

Indoor Games.—Table tennis, deck tennis, badminton, batington, rope quoits, hockey, groundball, basketball.

Lectrettes and/or Demonstrations.—The following are a few suggestions:—

- (1) “How to make sprays and arrange flowers.”
- (2) “How to alter a frock.”
- (3) “How to buy food and keep it fresh.”
- (4) “How to mend electrical gadgets in the home.”

Other Suggestions.—Debating, public speaking competition, quiz contests, physical culture, cooking, millinery, pottery, etc.

SOCIAL ENTERTAINMENT.

Installation of a gramophone and pick-up creates bright atmosphere; inter-branch or inter-organisation visits, amateur hours, snail race, yes-no jackpots, community singing, swimming nights (branch may engage local baths for an hour at night), night tennis (branch may be able to hire suitable courts occasionally), night basketball, drama group.

Note.—A syllabus sub-committee should be formed to plan syllabus programmes well ahead. Programmes should contain plenty of variety and each item must be well organised. Division of section into syllabus teams, if practicable, is recommended as a means of sustaining interest.

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.

1. What conclusion did you reach regarding:—

- (a) The conduct of your section meeting? Is it properly conducted?
- (b) The syllabus items conducted at your meetings? Are these attractive and well planned? Is a sub-committee responsible for this?
- (c) The cultural and social items featured by your section? Are they satisfactory?

2. What action have you decided to carry out? We suggest you list action to be taken, and the appointment of work arising out of this discussion.

3. To put into effect the resolutions adopted.

D. (9) (a) Appointment of work arising out of the Discussion.

- (b) President asks Leaders to read Review of Parish Section for Seventh Meeting before next meeting.

- (10) General Business.
- (11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.
- (12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

SEVENTH MEETING

- A. (1) Crucifix and statue of Our Lady in prominent position.
- (2) Rosary and N.C.G.M. Prayer.
- (3) Roll Call.
- (4) GOSPEL DISCUSSION.

"HE RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE. "

St. Luke VII v. 11-15.

INTRODUCTION.

Time.—During second year of public life.

Place.—Naim, on the border of Galilee.

A bier was a kind of stretcher, on which the body of a dead person was carried to the grave.

11 And it came to pass soon afterwards, that he went to a city called
 12 Naim; and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. And as
 he drew near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being
 carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a
 13 large gathering from the city was with her. And the Lord, seeing her,
 14 had compassion on her, and said to her, "Do not weep." And he went
 up and touched the stretcher; and the bearers stood still. And he
 15 said, "Young man, I say to thee, arise." And he who was dead, sat up,
 and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother.

QUESTIONS.

1. What did Our Lord do when restoring life to this young man?
2. What moved Our Lord to restore life to him?
3. How do we know that Christ has the same thoughtful compassion to-day?
4. How does this scene show the personal interest of Our Lord to everyone?

B. (5) Review of Work.

- (a) Minutes of Previous Meeting and business arising therefrom.
- (b) Report on work undertaken.
- (c) Report on names for Census.
- (d) Report on Progress of Team.
 - (i) Items of the Week.
 - (ii) Facts of Action.

(6) Appointment of work arising out of reports.

- C. (7) Chaplain's Talk or Spiritual Blessing.
- (8) Discussion.

REVIEW OF PARISH SECTION—Continued.

CO-OPERATION WITH HEADQUARTERS.

By "Headquarters" it is meant: N.C.G.M. Diocesan Headquarters if one exists in your Diocese—if no such body exists, it is to be interpreted as meaning National Headquarters.

CORRESPONDENCE.

At regular intervals your section receives correspondence from Headquarters in the form of circulars, letters, accounts, etc. It is essential that prompt attention be given to all items appearing in correspondence. This is a most important point in which secretaries should strive to be 100 per cent. efficient. Could we check how our group has acted in this regard, and if there is room for improvement in this matter, could we make suitable arrangements at this juncture of the meeting to ensure greater co-operation in the future?

PAYMENTS OF ACCOUNTS.

If all groups realised that Headquarters have a very limited amount of capital to work with, no doubt they would strive to make prompt settlement of all accounts with Headquarters. Could we check with our Treasurer to ascertain our financial position with Headquarters, and if any action is necessary, could we aim to carry this out immediately?

PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions are the life blood of our Movement. This should be the constant thought in every member's mind, especially leaders. It is the responsibility of every section to pay to Headquarters the full percentage of all registered members' subscriptions.

It may be necessary to organise a special effort to fulfill this obligation. Remember, subs. are helping to open up the N.C.G.M. in other centres, and to make Australia a worthwhile member of the vast international organisation of Catholic Action.

Could we check with the Treasurer to see what amount has been paid in subscriptions for the year 1946? Could we budget now, and make provisions for ensuring that our quota for 1947 is paid to Headquarters?

FORWARDING OF REPORTS.

If we are to succeed as a National organisation, regular reports of all our activities, especially general enquiries, should be forwarded regularly each month to Headquarters. The Executive at Headquarters can collate all information obtained through the general enquiry, and, if necessary, plan action and make representation through the appropriate channels, and to the appropriate authorities.

Could we resolve, at this meeting, to make sure that in future, a monthly report on all our activities, as well as a report on every general enquiry, is forwarded to Headquarters?

SALES OF LITERATURE.

N.C.G.M. literature is written for the special purpose of providing publicity for the Movement and of helping members to place the aims and ideals of the Movement before their contacts and the mass of Australian youth. It is essential that we realise this, and take every opportunity of spreading Movement literature, especially "Torchlight." What has been our attitude in relation to this in the past? How many "Torchlight" are sold locally each month? Do our members sell copies at work? What is our resolutions re this matter? Could we increase our "Torchlight" order; canvas for subscribers; sell "Torchlight" after Mass? What can we do in respect of other Movement publications—"Conquest," etc.

ATTENDANCE AT DIOCESAN COUNCILS.

All Diocesan Councils meet regularly where such exist. Is your group usually well represented at these meetings? Which particular leader or leaders will represent the group at these meetings for 1947?

PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL AND DIOCESAN FUNCTIONS.

If your group is attached to a Regional Council or is a member of a Diocesan Federation of N.C.G.M. Sections, it is in duty bound to assist and participate in all functions (rallies, sports, etc.) organised by the Executives of these bodies. What has been our attitude towards this in the past? Is there any room for improvement? What is our resolution to be?

DIOCESAN SERVICES.

As the N.C.G.M. in any Diocese grows, certain services will be established on a Diocesan basis, e.g., vocational guidance, employment bureau, accommodation, etc. It is necessary, therefore, that all groups avail themselves of these set-ups. In respect of such services as accommodation, all groups are urged to canvas their districts to see how many homes will take a girl. These potential homes for youth should be forwarded to Headquarters for listing on their accommodation roster.

In view of this section, what action can we resolve to do?

NATIONAL CAMPAIGNS.

To date, two National Campaigns have been carried out by the Movement, namely, "The Family" and "Work." This year, the campaign is to be commenced at your next meeting. Every group is urged to support, strongly, this campaign by carrying out the programme as listed in the Part II Programme.

The N.C.G.M. is a representative body. One of its aims is to speak for the youth of Australia. To do this effectively, we must have the right information and you are the only person who can supply it. At this meeting, will you resolve to carry out faithfully, the proposed campaign for this year, and forward reports to Headquarters?

- (9) Appointment of work arising out of the Discussion.
- (10) General Business.
- (11) Individual Statement by each Leader of her duties to be executed before the next meeting.
- (12) Final Prayers and Chaplain's Blessing.

Nihil obstat:
W. COLLINS,
Censor Deputatus.

Imprimatur:
✠ D. MANNIX,
Archiepiscopus Melbournensis.