Entry type: Organisation
Entry ID: AWE1114

New Housewives' Association

(1946 - 1950)

Born	19460101
Died	19501231
Occupation	Lobby group, Women's Rights Organisation

Summary

The New Housewives' Association (NHA) was formed in Sydney, New South Wales, in 1946. A number of suburban branches, including Chatswood, were established. The NHA's Central Committee adopted the Australian Women's Charter seeking equal status for women, launched at the Australian Women's Conference for Victory in War and Victory in Peace, 1943. The NHA's progressive platform attracted Communist women to this working-class body. It campaigned for the reduction and strict control of prices, mainly of household commodities; equal pay for women and increased Child Endowment; and the establishment of municipal markets in order to bring cheaper goods to housewives. In 1949 the NHA supported trade-union demand for a 30 shilling increase in the Basic Wage. It published a journal, The New Housewife, and a magazine, The Housewives' Guide. In 1950 the NHA National Committee moved to change the Association's name to reflect a broader constituency beyond women in the home; this gave rise to a new organisation, the Union of Australian Women.

Published resources

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

Mitchell and Dixson Libraries Manuscripts Collection
New Housewives' Association. Chatswood Branch - records, 1947-1950, with the associated records of the Chatswood-Willoughby Prices Committee, 1948-1949

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