

CIRCULAR NO. 36.

TO ALL REGIONS.

ESTELLA HOUSE,  
47a, Main Road,  
CLAREMONT, Cape.

10th March, 1960.

The C.E. requests that all Regions will hold a national demonstration against the Senate Bill when it has its second reading in the Senate.

As much indication as possible will be given of when the second reading is due, but it is usually impossible to get information more than a day in advance, so that we hope you will have everything organised, ready to take immediate action as soon you get the date from the C.E.

It is suggested by the C.E. that Regions use placards saying " UNPACKED SENATE STILL NOT REPRESENTATIVE "

A suggested national statement is given overleaf and we would ask that this statement should appear in your Regions as near as possible to the time of the demonstration.

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION ON THE REFERENDUM.

Another suggested slogan for this demonstration has been handed in to the C.E.

" A B ARE MAJORITY IS UNBEARABLE "

(Sgd.) M.C. PETERSEN.  
NATIONAL CHAIRWOMAN.



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SUGGESTED PRESS STATEMENT ON SENATE BILL.

The Black Sash, while appreciating that a reform of the present packed Senate is highly necessary, places on record its disapproval of both the form and the spirit of the changes as set forth in the present Bill.

The Bill provides no representation at all for Africans and Asians who are more than 70 per cent of the population and wholly inadequate representation for Coloured people, whose one representative will be a White Senator, appointed by the Government. It offers no protection for racial minorities, and does not provide a genuine second chamber for revising legislation, because it gives an exaggerated majority to the party in power, and there are no safeguards against its once more being used, as in the Senate Act of 1955, in the interests, not of the country as a whole, but of a political party or of a privileged section.

The Black Sash was called into being on a wave of spontaneous anger and protest against a violation of the existing constitution, when the Senate was used for the purpose of depriving a section of the people of South Africa of their rights. It cannot approve of a Senate Bill which does not ensure that the rights of all sections of the community will be recognised and safeguarded.

(Sgd.) M.C. PETERSEN.  
NATIONAL CHAIRWOMAN.