

RECEIVED 21 MAR 1979

836/0789
0800

56 Victory House,
34 Harrison Street,
Johannesburg.
12th March, 1979.

Dear Member,

As I write this newsletter on a Mayfair pavement the Naidu's possessions are being loaded onto community development trucks. An angry crowd mills round. Mr. Naidu is shouting at G G official Van Wyk that they treat animals better. There are policeman standing by. Earlier, I had not noticed the arrival of the truck when I was supposed to be guarding the tents for Mrs. Naidu while she went to buy some meat. Mrs. Naidu returned to find me gazing vaguely down the street while behind me a huge truck had drawn up and men were quietly untying one of the tents. I had noticed a G G Volkswagen cruising and I suppose that the community development officials were waiting for a lull, and, mistaking me sitting with my feet in the gutter for a middle aged derelict, sought to carry off the Naidu's possessions before an alarm could be raised. But we fetched Eleanor Anderson from the Altaf's house nearby and with her help raised the alarm, bringing Black ^{Sash} supporters, the ACSTOP committee and the press quickly to Mayfair.

Although in the end the Naidu's possessions were removed, a concerned, jostling crowd does make it awkward for officials to carry out inhuman tasks: and it is important that those who are at the receiving end of apartheid's harsh laws should have supportive people around them.

As the National Front continues its campaign against blacks living in white areas, the Black Sash support roster must keep going indefinitely.

Through Shelley Van Der Knaap we are represented on the ACSTOP committee called to protest against these evictions and find a lot of the organizational slog has to come from the Black Sash and Race Relations whose manpower overlaps in any case. Please let us know if you can help by serving on the ACSTOP COMMITTEE or by serving on the permanent and/or emergency support rosters. At present we are using our own "private" Black Sash roster to maintain a vigil at the house of the Altafs, under threat of eviction at 55b Park Avenue (not Road) Mayfair, and at the Naidu's a few blocks up the same road. (As I write I have no idea where the Naidu's will be but I imagine they will still be on the pavement).

Despite the basic horror of it all, it is pleasant to sit for a couple of hours drinking tea (take thermoses) and chatting to those who are due for eviction or have already been evicted, their families and friends - determined, gentle people, used to hardship, whom it is an inspiration to know.

Please won't you all try and give at least a couple of hours each week to our roster. This supportive protest work is our special function.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY 4TH APRIL at 9.30 A.M

at the home of Mrs. R. Harvey, Babolink, 33 Killarney Road, Sandhurst.
Telephone No. 783/1269.

THIS TRADITIONALLY, LASTS INTO THE AFTERNOON AND GIVES MEMBERS A CHANCE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER.

PLEASE AS USUAL, BRING YOUR OWN SANDWICHES.

This time, the Regional Committee feels members should be given a chance to study in detail, the year's work and the projects on which we are currently engaged.

DRAFT A G E N D A /---

DRAFT A G E N D A

Election of 1979 Committee and Chairman.

REPORTS. National, Transvaal Regional, Treasurer, Advice Office, Saturday Club.

IN DEPTH SPEECHES AND REPORTS.

- Proposed New Constitution for South Africa - Joyce Harris
- Our efforts to consolidate opposition and alert the public
- Black Sash Deputation to Koornhof 15th March -report back Joyce Harris and Sheena Duncan
- Citizenship (depriving blacks of their Citizenship) Sheena Duncan
- Black Sash National Conference March 12th to March 15th Cape Town -report-back by delegates
- Group Areas Evictions in Johannesburg. Shelley Van Der Knaap
Judy Van Velden
Jill Wentzel
- Umzimhlope Hostel Ethel Walt
Judy Van Velden

Gita has just returned looking much better after a recuperative holiday.

Prue Croser has only had 18 responses to the "Work Form". Please could those who have not returned these do so.

Yours sincerely,

JILL WENTZEL

ACT. TRANSVAAL REGIONAL CHAIRMAN.