

56 Victory House,  
34 Harrison Street,  
Johannesburg  
1st May, 1979.

RECEIVED - 7 MAY 1979

Dear Everyone,

EX - NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Draft Minutes : There has been no reaction from any of you regarding the Draft Minutes. May I assume that they are all in order? If not will you please let me have your corrections and comments as soon as possible.

Projects : My previous circular 6/79 listed these, but I now have some progress to report from Headquarters which may be of assistance to you.

1. Bill of Rights. We feel that this is a matter which must be handled with care, and that it would be a good idea to hold preliminary discussions with the on-going Constitution group. This I shall do, with the agreement of those who attend it.
2. Advice Offices. Please remember to keep a record of all cases concerning the exploitation of labour and to forward all data to Headquarters. Action in this area will depend upon available material.
3. Rural Development : Not all Regions have the same access to rural areas to enable them to watch whatever rural development there may be or the degree of de-urbanisation of black people, but this is a project to be borne in mind by those that do. One of our members, who is going off to live on a farm, has undertaken to monitor what occurs in her area.
4. Workmen's Compensation Act, and Migrant Labour Contracts : I have written to the Secretary for Labour asking him to consider amending legislation to ensure that all employers of labour keep a record of the name and full addresses of their employees to facilitate tracing for compensation ; and to make provision for the supplying of copies of their contracts to all migrant workers.
5. Lobbying : Regions are committed to lobbying employers and Trade Unions about contracts for workers and to pressure the Government over U.I.F. payouts, pensions and Trade Union recognition.
6. Children's Rights : Pat Tucker has agreed to prepare a booklet on Children's Rights in relation to the U.N. Charter for Children, which lets you off the hook, though I'm sure Pat would welcome ideas, suggestions, etc., from you.
7. Major Concessions : Jeanette Cohen has agreed to monitor the areas in which major concessions are promised but not fulfilled, so you are let off the hook here to.
8. Housing Figures in Booklet Form : Since these figures were so convincingly presented at conference by Solveig Piper, I suggest that Natal Coastal makes itself responsible for drawing up this booklet. Natal Coastal acknowledge please !
9. Women's Charter : I would appreciate suggestions from you regarding the use to which this can be put. I have suggested that it be sent to all women's organisations, but can see little point in going to the expense of having it printed unless we can ensure adequate circulation.

10. Police Actions Booklet : We have made a firm decision to leave this in abeyance until the Police Amendment Act has been promulgated.
11. Map : It would be a major undertaking to update and reprint the map, and we are inclined to the view that this is a successfully completed project. There is unlikely to be any large demand for an updated version, though it would be possible to update the accompanying leaflet should there be sufficient demand for this. No further action will be taken unless further instructions or recommendations are received from you.

SASH : There will be no change in the printing and layout of our magazine for the May issue, and probably not for the ensuing one or two either, as Janet Sahli will not be available to edit them. We are still awaiting quotes and layout suggestions from Cape Western.

CONSTITUTION CAMPAIGN. There was a very good meeting of this group last week, at which the Constitutional suggestions of the Labour Party were presented and fully discussed.

Headquarters does not feel that the resolution passed at Conference regarding this campaign precludes us from using a car sticker or handing out a leaflet. We are considering using the slogan "Don't be Conned by the Constitution" as a car sticker, and drawing up a handout explaining the implications of the Government's proposals. Please would you let me know whether you are prepared to use such a sticker and if so how many you would require, whether you have an alternative suggestion for the wording of the sticker, and whether you would be prepared to distribute a handout.

I have written to Helen Suzman asking for particulars regarding the Parliamentary Select Committee and whether and how we should make a submission, and she has promised to let me know as soon as it has been set up.

WEEKLY DEMONSTRATIONS. We have now had three weekly demonstrations, the last being on Evictions with posters reading, "House People, Don't Evict Them" and "Plaas Onder Dak. Nie onder Arres Nie". We have had a fair amount of publicity and feel it is worthwhile pursuing this project. Further suggested posters which we intend using next week and the one after are "Informed Public Needs Free Press" and "Hands Off the Press", and the following week "Group Areas Makes People Homeless" and "House People. Don't Convict Them". Although these last two are similar to those already used on evictions we feel that it will be timely to stand again when 93 cases on evictions are due to be heard in the Courts.

Port Elizabeth and Natal Coastal have also started weekly stands.

EDUCATION FOR PRISONERS. We are represented on the local committee to press for educational rights for prisoners and two of our members are participating actively. You will remember that this project originated in Natal Coastal, and there is liaison with that Committee and presumably with committees in other Regions.

I solemnly promise to try not to bombard you with any further intimidating circulars such as this one. I have intentionally tabulated it so that it will be easy to refer to during the year. You can keep it on file and now it is over to you.

Please do keep in touch/---

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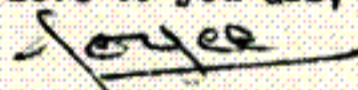
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Please do keep in touch with me. Let me know how you are faring, and if you have any bright ideas please share them with the rest of us. I shall notify all the other Regions, if you will notify me.

I'm sure you will be interested to know that Albany and Port Elizabeth been exceedingly active regarding removals from Walmer, and from Klipfontein and Kenton to Glenmore. Albany was able to effect an interdict preventing some of the removals from Kenton to Glenmore, temporarily at least, and Port Elizabeth has presented a memo, written a barrage of press letters and joined a committee representing various bodies to save Walmer.

Port Elizabeth has also printed a car sticker reading "Remove Apartheid, Not People". They are able to have more printed should any of you wish to use them. You can contact Bobby Melunsky at 177, Prospect Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth 6065.

My love to you all,



JOYCE HARRIS  
NATIONAL PRESIDENT.

P.S. CAPE WESTERN - Please will you submit your Conference expenses. We have not yet had them from you.