THE BLACK SASH CIRCULAR TO ALL REGIONS

CIRCULAR NO. 11/1980

Khotso House, 42 De Villiers Street, JOHANNESBURG 23rd October, 1980.

In terms of Section 6 of the Constitution of the Black Sash, notice is hereby given that the next National Conference of the Black Sash will be held in Grahamstown from Friday 13th March to Tuesday 17th March 1981 inclusive.

Each Region is entitled to representation at National Conference on the basis of its paid up ordinary membership as at the end of the previous financial year according to the following scale:-

PAID UP ORDINARY MEMBERS

For each additional 75 members or part thereof

DELEGATES

For the first 100 members or part thereof

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS: We remind you that if you wish to propose any amendment to the Constitution of the Black Sash, Headquarters is obliged to send notice of such amendment to each Region at least thirty days before a National Conference.

Therefore if you wish to propose any such amendment

it should reach us by 31st January 1981 without fail.

OTHER RESOLUTIONS AND ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Headquarters should circulate to all Regions Items submitted for inclusion in the Agenda in time for these items to be discussed at Regional Conferences which will probably be held in the first week in February. It will be very helpful if you could let us have such items either before the Christmas recess or before the 14th January 1981.

We will aim, as we always do, for a flexible agenda, with adequate time to discuss matters which might well arise between now and the Conference. It is not our intention to confine you in any way by asking now for Agenda items, but you probably already have certain matters in mind which you will wish to bring up at Conference, and it is a great advantage if all Regions have the opportunity to discuss them first.

JOYCE HARRIS NATIONAL PRESIDENT.

CIRCULAR NO 11 Continued

Dear Everyone,

Your short respite from me and my circulars is over. I'm afraid, as is my holiday.

Constitutional Amendments:

Please bear in mind Margaret Nash's suggested amendments to the wording of the aims and objects of the Black Sash. I foresee difficulties in reaching agreement, and would wish to be able to reach at least a broad consensus before Conference to obviate spending a great deal of time on this. It would be helpful if each of you would indicate whether or not you are in agreement with the principle of altering the wording, for it would then become clear whether or not we would then have to persist in trying to arrive at acceptable alterations.

Education: As there has been so much unrest all over the country in the sphere of education, and as this is so vital a factor in the future of our country, we feel that it would be a good idea if each of you would prepare a report for Conference on what has been happening in your Region and your involvement, if any. Please think about this.

Constitution Campaign: This is proceeding apace and there are some hopeful developments.

The Black Sash: I feel I must tell you this. On my return from holiday I naturally read the minutes of all the meetings which had taken place in my absence, and was so impressed at all that had been attempted and achieved in the fields of forced removals, justice, education and publicity, in addition to all the activity in the Advice Office. Sometimes one needs a bit of a break to enable one to look at an organisation in which one is deeply involved with fresh eyes, and my refreshed vision has been most enlightening and rewarding. It has re-inforced my conviction that this is a wonderful organisation that we all belong to. I know that I feel very proud to be one of you.

My love to you all,

JOYCE HARRIS NATIONAL PRESIDENT