

CAPE WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCILChairman: Mrs. M. Henderson.Vice-Chairman: Mrs. E. Stott and Mrs. M. Petersen.Secretary: Miss F. Thorne. Treasurer: Mrs. B. Willis.

Mrs. H. Spottiswoode. Mrs. M. Roberts. Mrs. C. van Selm. Mrs. N. Robb.

Mrs. N. le Feuvre. Miss A. Windham. Mrs. M. Wilson. Mrs. J. Pare.

Mrs. H. Struben. Miss P. Hodgson. Miss P. Denniston. Mrs. M. Stoy.

BIG DEMONSTRATIONS.

Unless unforeseen legislation comes before the House in the very near future, our next large demonstration will take place at the second reading of the proposed bill to bring about University Segregation. The Principle behind this bill is a direct deprivation of existing rights. You will all be hearing more details from your branches when the time comes, but when the bill is announced in the press, please keep the date of the second reading free.

PARLIAMENTARY SUB-COMMITTEE.

In order to study all legislation as it comes before the Members of Parliament, a small sub-committee has been formed. We are very lucky to have guidance and help from Miss E. Delbridge who has done this work for the National Council of Women for years.

EDUCATION.

(1) Lectures for Political Parties and Groups. As the Institute of Citizenship were contemplating arranging a series of lectures in the suburbs, it was decided that it would be better to let them undertake the series previously suggested by us. Being an adult educational group with no political views, they would not have difficulty in getting speakers from all parties and groups to participate. Therefore they were the ideal sponsors.

(2) Professor Cowen and Mr. George Clay. On 23rd Jan., to coincide with the opening of Parliament, two lectures were given at the Banqueting Hall under the auspices of the Black Sash. Professor Cowen spoke on "Good Government" and Mr. George Clay on "The Duties of a Citizen." The attendance totalled about 140, which was good but we still strongly urge members to attend all our lectures, as their educational value is inestimable.

The Educational Sub-Committee works tirelessly to find speakers and we feel that they have been most successful.

FUND RAISING.

The following is a list of Branches with percentages of their Fund Raising targets:-

False Bay	240%	Pinelands.....	112%	Wellington.....	67%
Elgin.....	216%	Sea Point.....	109%	Somerset West...	63%
Stellenbosch....	139%	Constantia.....	102%	Fish Hoek.....	59%
Plumstead.....	137%	Simonstown.....	88%	Wynberg.....	50%
Hermanus.....	125%	Durbanville.....	78%	Milnerton.....	46%
Rosebank.....	119%	Claremont.....	72%	Gardens.....	13%
Rondebosch.....	117%	Regional Council...	71%		

The end of the financial year is at the end of March, when we hope all targets will be reached. Congratulations to the 10 Branches which have so splendidly exceeded their expected amounts.

REGULAR CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF THE BLACK SASH.

(1) Instead of standing on vigil outside Parliament, the Black Sash, wearing Black Roses, are now attending every sitting of the House.

This covers our policy of Vigilance, Protest and Education.

(2) In connection with 'haunts' it has been decided that:-

- a) We will only 'haunt' Ministers in future on political occasions and on arrivals and departures when reliable information is received, and not at national, international, social or religious events.
- b) The Friday evening plane will be seen off.
- c) There will be a 'haunt' every Monday morning from 8.30 a.m to 9.15 a.m. outside Marks Buildings.
- d) A maximum of 18, and a minimum of 12 women should take part in each 'haunt'.

REGIONAL COUNCIL CHANGES.

It was with deep regret that we said good-bye to Mrs. Jessie Power who sailed to join her husband in London. Mrs. Power has been on the Regional Council for one and a half years and a National Councillor for a year, and during that time has given of her best to further the aims of the Sash. By her unfailing courtesy and kindness she endeared herself to Council members and Sashers alike. We wish her happiness in her new home. Mrs. Petersen is welcomed as Vice-Chairman in her place. Mrs. Grieve regretfully tendered her resignation as a Councillor due to business commitments, and it was accepted equally regretfully. Miss Denniston is welcomed in her place.

ALL BRANCHES MEETINGS.

All members are welcome at the All Branches meetings which are held at the Cecil Hotel every first Monday of the month at 2 p.m.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT DEMONSTRATION IN TOWN.

On 18th January 1957, the fifth session of the eleventh Parliament opened in Cape Town. Our demonstration to mark the opening of Parliament was divided into two parts, but both had as their theme, what we would like to see the Government do, instead of criticism of certain legislation which the present Government has imposed upon the country and on which, in the past, we have laid emphasis.

Most of the suburban stations were manned by women wearing black sashes as early as 8 a.m. or, in some cases, earlier. While some women held posters in both languages saying:- "Govern Wisely, Govern Well", "We the People Want Just Laws Justly Applied" or "Let the Courts Not the Cabinet Be Our Judges", others handed out pamphlets, Sashers displayed similar posters in Adderley Street, and at other strategic points in and near the city.

All sashers had removed their sashes and the posters were off the streets before the Governor-General and Mrs. Jansen, using the open carriage, passed on their way to Parliament. After their return to Government House, two of our members, wearing black roses, went into the Public Gallery and stayed there until the House rose.

The other part of the demonstration took the form of a float, which consisted of three figures representing the three main sections of South African society, all working together pulling a wheel, on which was written "Forward Together." The words JUSTICE, FREEDOM and DEMOCRACY were placed against three steps leading up to this tableau. "ONS VIR JOU SUID AFRIKA" was printed at the back, and the whole float was finished off with draped black sashes, the Black Rose and the Book of the Constitution.

The float, mounted on a lorry, appeared in the streets after the Governor-General had returned from opening Parliament, and headed by several cars bearing posters, but not travelling in strict convoy, it travelled up and down several of the more important streets in the city before going on to Sea Point. During the afternoon the convoy of cars and the float travelled through town and through the suburbs to Wynberg.

A vote of thanks must go to all those people who worked to get the float ready in time, and especially do we thank Miss Windham, Mrs. Struben and Mrs. Pare, for their unceasing efforts and solid hard work in this direction.

COUNTRY DISTRICTS OPENING OF PARLIAMENT DEMONSTRATIONS.

Hermanus. Ten cars, sporting replicas of the posters used in Cape Town, and carrying "Hoppers" to distribute pamphlets, drove from one end of the town to the other and back again. They then drove through Onrust and on to Caledon. We have heard that in spite of rain it was a successful and impressive demonstration.

Somerset West and Elgin. On the day before the opening of Parliament these branches undertook a house-to-house distribution of leaflets in the Strand. The next day, thirty-one cars using posters, toured Somerset West and the Strand. The rain kept people off the roads and beaches, but we understand that the demonstration caused all windows on the route to be filled.

Stellenbosch. As Stellenbosch is rather empty at the end of January owing to school holidays and the University "vac", this branch did not use posters or organise a convoy. Instead 1,200 pamphlets were sent to selected people of the town and district, including all the University Staff and prominent Nationalists.

Wellington. Wellington took a convoy to Paarl where they distributed pamphlets. This was the first time the Sash had been seen in Paarl.

Durbanville. Eight cars from this branch took part when the Float toured Goodwood, Parow and Bellville.

PROPAGANDA.

Copies of an excellent lecture delivered by Adv. D. Molteno in October, 1956 and entitled "The Twilight of South African Liberty" are now available from the office for the small charge of 3d. All members should buy a copy of this very good lecture. The booklets with the speeches of Professor Beinart, Adv. Gerald Gordon, Professor Monica Wilson and Professor Thompson are at the printers and will soon be available at the cost of 1/-

"THE BLACK SASH" By MIRABEL ROGERS.

We have heard from overseas that this book is being enjoyed by many and is proving very informative on South African affairs. (We suggest that this book will make a good present) Copies are 15/- each, but if a copy, autographed by Mrs. Sinclair and Mrs. Foley is wanted the price will be 17/6.

NEWS LETTER CROSSWORD PUZZLE WINNER. Mrs. Nash-Webber of
Pinelands.

Your Editors, "BLACK" and "SERP"