

Dear Member,

The REGIONAL CONFERENCE is being held on 12th October and there will be no All Branches meeting on the first Monday in October. A good deal of time and thought has been devoted, by Council and Branches, to resolutions for this and the National Conference. Your Branch will receive copies of these by September 21st. Please bear in mind that while each Branch will elect its representatives to the Conference every member of the Sash may attend it and speak, though only the representatives may vote. This annual discussion of aims and ways in which to achieve them is informative and helpful, and needs the expression of as many points of view as possible. We cordially invite you to come, even if it is only for part of the time.

This year the NATIONAL CONFERENCE will take place in Pietermaritzburg on 21st - 23rd October. Cape Western is entitled to nine delegates, to be elected at the Regional Conference.

GROUP AREAS: as reported in the last newsletter, sufficient signatures were collected to present the Mayor with a petition to call a public meeting about the zoning of District Six, City Central and Green Point. The petition was not granted, but the Sash is organising a public meeting on 21st September at 8 p.m. in the City Hall, to give the citizens of Cape Town the opportunity to demonstrate their support for the stand taken by the City Council in asking that the status quo in relation to Cape Town and District Six should remain. Among those who are being approached to address it is Uys Krige. You are all urged to attend and bring as many friends with you as possible.

MIGRATORY LABOUR: At the meeting of Women's Church bodies held on 21st July a tape recording of a talk by Prof. Monica Wilson was played. Both the Roman Catholic and the Methodist representatives reported heartening efforts by their organisations. It was decided that the meetings should continue, but that the time had come for the Sash to fade out. In future Mrs. Birt will organise the meetings and the Sash will continue to help with secretarial work.

The tape recording of Prof. Monica Wilson's speech is now available.

ALL BRANCHES: As reported last time Mrs. Roberts addressed the Institute of Citizenship on "The Evils of Migrant Labour". It was an excellent talk and Mrs. Roberts was asked to repeat it at the August All Branches meeting.

She traced the historical and legislative background to a system that treats human beings not as ends in themselves but as means to the ends of others - as mere units of ("cheap") labour with no right to family life. Indeed for millions of Africans Mrs. Roberts showed there is no RIGHT to be, to live or work, anywhere in the land of their birth: all existence is by permit. To fears that there would be "flooding" of urban areas, and gross unemployment and housing shortages, if Africans could move freely, she answered that these problems of "industrial revolution" have been met all over the world by the organised use of this or that technique of economics - not on a racial basis, with all its injustice and cruelty as well as its socially wasteful stupidity: and certainly nowhere in the world has a modern society claimed to "solve" its unemployment problem by chasing the unemployed away! (to go and starve somewhere else). All the iniquity of migrant labour was justified on the grounds of "seperate development" - but the Government is clearly determined to continue to base the entire national economy on Black labour, and "you cannot seperate yourself from a man if you persist in riding on his back".

Die Burger's claim that this Government's policy is for "seperate freedoms" would make some sense if the Whites of South Africa had the slightest intention of doing without Black labour. They had not. "What they intend" she said, "are arrangements whereby a Black man, if he wants to feed his children, can get to sleep with his wife, if he's lucky, for about three weeks a year; and whereby he has absolutely no bargaining power in his job: inferior wages and conditions are greatly superior to being endorsed out. The name of these arrangements is not 'seperate freedom'. It is migrant labour."

Roneoed copies of the full address are now available.

MULTI-RACIAL PARTY: In July another very successful multi-racial party was organised and catered for by Rondebosch. There were about 50 people present and everyone felt it to be a really worthwhile way of establishing friendly contact.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: During August Mrs. Robb addressed a meeting in Pinelands and Mrs. Ritchken spoke at an Elgin meeting.

APPEAL LETTER: By the end of July the total response to this appeal was R1,315.90 from 64 donors.

FETE: Please remember the needlework stall, and give your contributions to your Branch Secretary. You are reminded that the Fete will take place in the Claremont Civic Centre on November 7th.

ATHLONE ADVICE OFFICE: The number of cases dealt with during June and July were:

Men endorsed out	81
Women " "	96
Miscellaneous	137
Old Cases	404
Paarl cases	8
Total	<u>726</u>

Average per day: 17.

While our workers are faced with the fact that the pace of endorsing out is steadily and rapidly increasing, and that even Africans who legally qualify to remain here are being sent away, it is encouraging that there still are cases where they are able to establish the right of individuals to remain in, or to return to their area.

One of our greatest problems, and almost the greatest need at present is to make the public aware of the disastrous effects of the pass laws and influx control on human lives. One way - and probably the most effective - in which this can be done is in private conversations at home, at tea-parties and on other occasions; and a first-hand knowledge of what is happening to people, their wives and their children is necessary if such talk is to be convincing. We would urge you to spend a morning in the Advice Office, and to bring at least one friend with you, so that you may see and hear for yourself.

It is...

It is for this reason that we ask you to make a special effort this year to see that every member of the Sash not only visits the office herself but brings other South Africans to see our work.

We have sent copies of the special number of the magazine "Let no Man Put Asunder" to our major donors and other interested people. It has just appeared and has a number of most excellent and interesting articles, well worth the reading.

Mrs. Birt took 30 young members of the Christ Church, Kenilworth, Fellowship on a tour of Langa and to the Advice Office. It was a startling revelation to them, and a number have offered to help at the Advice Office during the Christmas vacation. We want to urge all our members who can do so to visit Langa. Permits are necessary, and can be had from Mr. Worrall at the Administrative Offices in Langa. The best time for such visits is 3-4 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

Our workers interviewed eight cases at Paarl, and took them to Mr. du Plessis, the new Municipal Bantu Affairs Officer. He was helpful and promised to look into each case.

Mrs. Robb went with Dr. Wollheim to see Mr. Franken about one Paarl case that exemplified the problems confronting more than 100 families known to us there.

Elgin reports that its Advice Office is open every Wednesday. There have been two new cases and four others have returned for further advice. Some Coloured people have come for advice on housing, and the workers have been able to help some of them.

For your interest here is one of the many cases dealt with at the Athlone Advice Office recently:-

ANGELINA M. was born in Cape Town in 1945. At the age of 14 she went to Herschel and returned at the age of 17 in 1962. She lived with her father in lodgings. Her father is a qualified man, but has been unable to get a house as his wife has left him. In 1963 we assisted her to apply for a reference book. On 10th July 1964 her book was stamped giving her permission to remain here until 26th July 1964 and then to leave for Herschel. On 27th July she applied for an extension to her pass, but was refused. On 28th July we wrote to Langa asking them if she was not the unmarried daughter of a qualified man, and therefore under Section 10(i)(c) of the Urban Areas Act was she not entitled to remain here with her father? We also pointed out that she had no relations in Herschel. She came back to us the same morning with her reference book stamped giving her permission to remain here under Section 10(i)(c), Act 25 of 1945.

We are often asked why it is necessary for us to run this office. This type of case makes our work worthwhile. Without our help this girl would have been sent to Herschel away from all her relations. We were very touched by her gratitude and joy at receiving this permission.

STAND: 17th June - against Bantu Laws Amendment Bill.

LETTERS...

LETTERS AND STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS:

June: On Bantu Laws Amendment Bill.

July: On Family Day.

Reply to Mr. Bernard Newman's statement on freedom of movement in South Africa.

On the bomb outrage.

A statement commenting on remarks made by the Chairman of the Bantu Affairs Committee in Paarl.

Reply to Die Burger's accusation that we were condoning the outrage.

August: On Peter Brown's banning.

Yours sincerely,



MOIRA HENDERSON
CHAIRMAN.