

Dear Member,

We want to remind you that every member of the Black Sash is welcome to attend the All Branches meetings on the first Monday of every month at 12 Noon in St. Saviour's Church Hall, Claremont. Only the official representatives of branches are entitled to vote, but all may come, and we would urge you to attend at least some of the meetings. It is difficult to keep up a lively interest in any organisation unless one hears at first hand what is discussed and done. We are sure you will find it rewarding, and we will be glad of your contribution to discussions.

The Black Sash has continued making representations against zoning, and in particular, during the last months, compulsory segregation on beaches. Splendid work was done by our members in Simon's Town and Kalk Bay, a report on which will appear in the Magazine. Of the R100 debt incurred by the Coloured fishermen and residents at Kalk Bay for legal advice, the Sash guaranteed R50, and meanwhile the fishermen put up collection boxes for their own people, and from these small contributions eventually collected R75.

At Simon's Town Mrs. Willis and her co-workers collected 1,004 signatures against zoning, and have carried on an unwearied, well-informed and inspiring fight. Miss Henshilwood at Kommetjie and Mrs. Coplans at Clifton collected both facts and signatures, in their capacity as residents, to urge against the taking away of beaches from non-Whites.

A letter of appreciation was sent to Mr. Tyers for the fight he has put up against labelling beaches and for providing adequate facilities for non-White users of beaches; and as citizens we manned tables in the city and suburbs to collect signatures to support the City Council in this matter.

A letter has been sent to the Regional Under-Secretary of the Department of Planning protesting against enforced segregation on beaches, and the Sash was represented at several of the public hearings before the Board, concerning the demarcation of beaches in the Municipal area and other areas.

There will be a Protest Meeting against Proclamation 26 which circumscribes freedom of association at places of entertainment and freedom to choose where to hold such entertainment, in the Drill Hall on Monday 26th April at 8.15 p.m. Invitations are being sent to non-political entertainment and sports bodies, ratepayers associations, civic institutions, members of the Provincial Council, all opposition M.P.'s, bodies concerned with civil rights and social welfare, and others. We hope for a very large meeting, representative of all sections of the community. Please come, and urge or bring others. Mrs. Roberts will be in the chair, and we intend to have a number of speakers, each speaking very briefly. The following have agreed to speak:-

The very Rev. the Dean of Cape Town	Rev. McBride	Mr. Rufus Kenney
Prof. Donald Inskip	Mrs. M. G. Roberts	Chev. J. Pothier, K.S.G.
Mr. Donald Molteno, Q.C.	Dr. Oscar Wollheim	Cecilia Sonnenberg.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of a beloved and much valued member in Mrs. Conroy, late chair for Somerset West Branch. We offer our sympathy to her family, and to that of Miss van der Byl, another member we have lost by death.

We are glad to announce the co-option of Mrs. Stoy to the Council.

False Bay...

False Bay and Simon's Town held a multi-racial party on March 16, at which there were 54 guests, 20 of whom were non-White. It was highly successful, and an Indian guest wrote a most appreciative letter of thanks.

The Elgin picnic was as enjoyable as ever, a pleasant and friendly day out, with delicious food, and abundance of beautiful produce to buy. It has become one of the Sash red-letter days.

For the Fete the following stalls have been arranged:

Claremont and Plumstead	- delicatessen	Gardens	- teas
False Bay and Fish Hoek	- Tombola	Rondebosch and Pinelands	- cakes
Rosebank	- books	Somerset West and Elgin	- produce
Simon's Town will have book sales.		Wynberg	- White elephant.
Regional Council	- flowers		

For the needlework stall every member is asked to make two attractive articles, particularly babies' clothes.

#### All Branches Meetings:

In February Mrs. Ritchken read a most interesting account of the fight to preserve the rights of the non-White fishermen and residents of Kalk Bay. It will appear in the magazine.

In April Mr. Molteno spoke on the new Group Areas Proclamation, which interferes with attendance at sport meetings and other places of entertainment. He gave some account of the Group Areas Act of 1950, which provided for separate areas for occupation by the different races, and of the later proclamation which defined occupation not as "habitual physical presence on property or for a substantial period of time", as in the original act, but as "presence for certain limited periods for the purpose of attending entertainment or partaking in refreshment". This applied to licensed restaurants and cinemas. The new Group Areas Proclamation has extended this to cover all places of public entertainment. Mr. Molteno stressed the fact that the proclamation is so general that a great deal of uncertainty exists as to what does and what does not fall under its provisions. It affects any performance, concert or theatre, athletic match or contest, possibly art exhibitions and agricultural shows, possible amusement parks, side shows and such like, indoors or out of doors.

It also covers segregated entertainment in proclaimed White or non-White areas, so that, for example, a White audience could not see King Kong, or a non-White hear the Vienna Boys Choir, unless a permit is obtained. He explained how the "colour" of a building outside a group area is determined. In his opinion the proclamation does not cover political or business meetings or lecturers; or entertainment in private houses, provided they are not open to the public.

This talk was particularly helpful as background information for the protest meeting on 26th April.

#### Advice Office:

A comparison between the Athlone Advice Office records and the figures given by the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development of Africans endorsed out of this area is of interest.

In 1963 the official figure for both men and women is 3,763 and for 1964 it is 4,870. The Advice Office figures for the two years are 1,248 and 1,250 respectively. It would appear from these figures that at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the men and women endorsed out of the municipal and Divisional Council areas call at the Athlone Advice Office.

The figures for the three months ending in February 1965 are:

Men endorsed out	92	For this period:	
Women endorsed out	137	Contract cases	65
Miscellaneous	173	N/F cases	144
Old cases returned	459		
Total number of interviews	<u>861</u>	Of the N/F cases:	
		55 came to conceive	
Average per day - 17		56 came for medical treatment	
		25 to visit	
		8 displacement and other reasons.	

There were 28 visitors, 8 from Cape Town, 7 from other parts of South Africa, and 13 from abroad, including Swami Mankatasananal.

The following is a case from the files:

Virginia Ntikinca came to Cape Town in 1952. She worked in Cape Town to support herself and her child as she has not lived with her husband since that date. He is a chronic T.B. case in a Johannesburg hospital. She has other children and applied to Langa for permission to take them to the Transkei for schooling. She left her employer, for whom she had worked for nine years and with the knowledge of the Langa Registering Officer she proceeded to the Transkei. She was told that she should apply through her local magistrate for permission to return and was given a stamp in her book - permission to take the children to Transkei, dated 22.1.64 and valid to 22.11.64.

These dates however were put in the wrong way round. In November 1964 she applied for permission to return but received no reply. In desperation, realising that a year had lapsed she returned to Cape Town on 1.2.65 exactly one year and nine days later.

On reporting to the Registering Officer, Langa, she was endorsed out to leave area by 16.2.65. We referred her to Registering Officer, Langa on 9.2.65 but she was told again to go home and get a permit from the magistrate if she wished to visit the area.

We then took her to Langa where she was given an extension of one month to collect her goods. She tried to obey the law, but fell foul of it because the Department delayed sending her permission to return.

She now has to return to Mount Frere to live with her mother who has a large family and where she will be unable to earn to support her children.

The official agreed that there was very little chance of her being allowed to seek or accept work in any urban area. Since March 1959 women have not been allowed to enter many urban areas for the purpose of work. Temporary permits to visit their husbands or relatives in these areas may be granted but not permits to work.

Stand:

There was a new form of stand against unjust laws in February. A lorry carried a streamer with the words "Legal now, unjust forever", and posters around the sides citing some of the worst legislative acts. One member sat next to the driver and others took turns at sitting and standing on the lorry, while it cruised round the city and suburbs. Despite a heavy shower of rain that gave it a somewhat bedraggled look, the workers were undaunted, and were rewarded with appreciation from many non-White onlookers, and from an overseas visitor.

Letters and statements in the Press:

January - Professor Simons' banning.

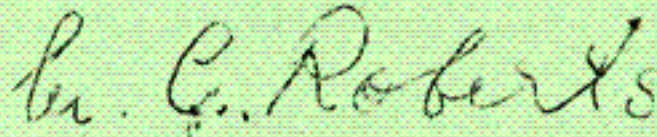
February - Beach apartheid.

- Segregated audiences.

- To Die Burger about a cartoon featuring the Black Sash, thanking it for the publicity, and explaining the purpose of our stands.

- The banning of Mr. Zackon.

Yours sincerely,



M. G. ROBERTS.  
CHAIRMAN.