

Dear Member,

The end of the Parliamentary Session brings a welcome pause for breath, even though it is only a pause. This year has seen further drastic inroads on the Rule of Law and the rights of the individual, not to mention further violations of language in the use of words like "communism", "terrorism" and others. A recent decision that we welcome is that Bills are to be published in the Gazette beforehand, and not sprung on Parliament, as so often in the past, before either side of the House has had time to read and digest them.

Since last we wrote to you the Black Sash has continued with its various activities to try and help victims of our laws - by writing, speaking, advising and giving help at the Advice Office.

#### GROUP AREAS:

When it was known that an area in Lansdowne/Claremont was to be proclaimed for White residence, a meeting was organised in the area, at which Canon Hodson presided and Professor Molteno spoke. Mrs. Birt had had excellent maps made of the parts that were affected, a great help in clarifying the position. The residents were given information and advice on how to help themselves, and a committee formed itself out of those in the body of the hall, to give advice on how to formulate objections to evacuation and evaluation.

At the hearing of the Woodstock/Salt River group Areas Board Mrs. Versfeld and Mrs. B. Jaffe represented the Sash.

The question of providing further help and information to the victims of Group Areas Board decisions is being investigated and meanwhile members are reminded that the Citizens' Advice Bureau does valuable work in this field.

To visit the beach at Mnandi set aside for Africans costs those in Nyanga 10 cents, and those in Nyanga 15 cents for a single journey by the one bus that runs every halfhour on Sundays and public holidays during the summer. One wonders if there is much overcrowding at the beach!

A pamphlet has been printed in Xosa informing Africans in the townships of the dangers of changing their employment and consequent endorsing out, and of the various jobs that are open only to those who qualify to live here. A list with some of these facts appears later in this letter.

#### CONFERENCE ON POVERTY:

The Black Sash was represented at this conference, called by the Anglican Church, by Mrs. Robb, Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Hartford.

A recent number of OUTLOOK, a Lovedale periodical devoted to African interests, carried an article by Mrs. Robb, "Africans in the Western Cape", based on information got at the Advice Office.

#### SURVEY ON LOCAL LABOUR CONDITIONS:

As the Sash does not feel that it is qualified to make this survey, as was proposed by National Conference, members of the University staff have agreed to undertake it, and the Advice Office will give all possible help in information about transportation costs and the like. Information provided by the Conference on poverty will also be available.

A TEACH-IN ON MIGRATORY LABOUR:

It is hoped to organise this during the September University vacation.

PERSONAL:

We heartily welcome back our Mrs. Eulalie Stott from her visit overseas as the guest of the English Quakers, and look forward to hearing of her experiences.

We have had much pleasure in congratulating Professor Molteno on his University promotion, and have given him a pipe and a tobacco pouch with the Black Sash badge on it at his request.

In May the Council had a visit from Mrs. Cluver, who reported briefly on Headquarters and other Sash activities.

ALL BRANCHES:

The May evening meeting proved a great success, with a larger attendance than is usual at the daytime meetings. In particular a number of young women who cannot leave work, homes and children by day, were able to attend. Our next meeting will again be in the evening, at 8 p.m. at Mrs. Robb's home, Silverhurst, Alexandra Road, Wynberg. Mr. David Welsh will address us at 8 p.m. After this there will be an extraordinary Regional Conference to deal with Cape Western resolutions for National Conference. You are asked to make a special effort to attend this meeting.

At the May meeting Mrs. Robb spoke on "Value your African Employee", an excellent and informative address which has since appeared in The Black Sash. In June Mrs. Versfeld gave us a delightfully lively and entertaining report on the Group Areas Board meeting at Woodstock, and on the hearing of the appeal before the Supreme Court in Christine Nqwandi's case. An account of the case and the Judge's finding appears under the Advice Office report.

BRANCHES have reported the following talks: Mr. Adam Smal on "Ourselves and our Society"; Mrs. Roberts on what the Black Sash has done and what we can do; Mrs. Ann Susman on the Kensington Creche at Windermere and Meals on Wheels for elderly non-Whites; and Mr. John Sprack, vice-President of N.U.S.A.S. on his visit to the Tribal Colleges.

Rondebosch Women's Club met on May 2nd, with 10 members, 12 Coloured, and two African visitors, and in the course of a happy evening Mme. Eynaud spoke on "Helpful Hints for the Housewife", and demonstrated making doughnuts.

MULTI-RACIAL PARTIES:

Simon's Town and False Bay had a very successful Supper Party at which there were 48 in all, half-and-half Whites and non-Whites. Conversation flowed freely, and no need was felt for films.

Elgin hopes to have a multi-racial garden party in November.

Sash Pamphlet....

SASH PAMPHLET:

Mrs. Herbstein drew up a draught pamphlet stating what the Sash does and urging women to join it. This was sent to Headquarters, who welcomed the idea of distributing such a pamphlet, but redrafted the original. After much consultation we made a modified version, including elements from both forms, and this has been sent to Headquarters. It will be discussed, together with Headquarter's version, by the Regions, at our Regional Conference on October 2nd, and at National Conference, when it will be decided whether our modifications will be accepted, or whether we shall ask to use our own version, as better suited to our needs.

STICKERS:

Please use the stickers that you will find in your envelope to stick on the back of your letters. More are available at the office, for yourself and your friends.

MORNING MARKET:

This will be held at the Claremont Civic Centre on Saturday, November 18th. The stalls will be:  
Claremont & Plumstead - Delicatessen. False Bay - Bargains Galore.  
Gardens - Teas. Regional Council - Flowers & Needlework.  
Rondebosch - White Elephant & Children's Rosebank - Books.  
Corner. Wynberg - Cakes.  
Somerset West & Elgin - Produce.  
Simon's Town will have its own Bookstall.  
Volunteers to run a Boutique are earnestly called for. A most profitable stall.  
Please don't forget to make two attractive articles of needlework and a cake.

ADVICE OFFICE:

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
Men endorsed out	35	35
Women endorsed out	15	12
Miscellaneous	46	48
Old cases	84	102
Number of interviews.	<u>180</u>	<u>197</u>

Average per day - 9.

Visitors: three from the U.K. and one from Cape Town.

We have had the thrill of our lives in winning two cases in the Supreme Court this month, and having a charge withdrawn in the Magistrate's Court.

CHRISTINE NQWANDI came to Cape Town to marry Sepo Jelashe (who has been in Cape Town since the age of two) in January 1965. She had no permission to come to Cape Town so returned to the Transkei, obtained a permit and came back to Cape Town. Mr. Jelashe has a house in Guguletu, registered in his name, which he shares with his mother. Christine was endorsed out on 1st March 1965. Through an attorney she appealed to the Commissioner of Bantu Affairs Department but her appeal was not successful. She was arrested on 26th October 1966, defended and found guilty of being in the proclaimed area without permission although the Magistrate accepted that her husband is a qualified man. Her attorney appealed to the Supreme Court against the Magistrate's decision.

On 18th May 1967 the Judge allowed her appeal. He states that to satisfy the provisions of Section 10(1)(c) "the accused is not required to prove that she has permission to remain in the area but merely:-

- (1) That she is the wife of a Bantu mentioned in Paragraph (a) or (b) of the subsection (Section 10(1));
- (ii) that she lawfully entered the prescribed area and,
- (iii) that she ordinarily resides with her husband in the area."

He also stated that in the State vs. Maphela case 1963 it was decided that the expression "ordinarily resides" refers to a lawful residence which is not terminable at any moment.

The conviction and sentences are set aside.

On 23rd May 1967 Mrs. Jelashe was given a permit entitling her to one year's residence. She has lost her reference book. Langa refused to give her the necessary forms to apply for a new one. ~~This matter is now being dealt with by her attorney.~~

FRANCES PATU came to Cape Town in 1964. In 1966 she married Robert Kombela who was born in Windermere in 1943 and has lived in Cape Town all his life. They resided together in a house belonging to her mother-in-law. In February 1967 she was refused an extension to her pass. She continued to reside with her husband. She was arrested on 2nd May 1967 and charged with being in this area illegally. The case has been remanded to 8th June 1967 pending the outcome of the Nqwandi appeal. Her attorney has been notified that the case will be withdrawn on that date as her case was identical with that of Enid Mjakuca which we have since won.

Temporary houses in Guguletu are to be demolished in order that permanent ones may be built on the site, and the inmates are being turned out although they are legally in the area, some of them qualified,\* though not (since they are women) for permanent houses, and have paid their rent up to date. They have been told to find lodgings, but can find no one prepared, or for that matter, able to take in large families with luggage and furniture. One woman, Mirriam Sivambjono, was found sitting crying outside her house, L 510, N.Y.1, surrounded by her furniture. Her rent had been paid, her reference book was in order, and her daughter had been born here 21 years ago. She and her son and daughter had been told to look for lodgings. So far 24 families are involved, but we are told on good authority that 600 families are to be similarly unhoused. The fact that this is being done in the Cape winter means that they are forced to leave the area where they are legally entitled to be, as they have no choice.

\* It is now Government policy that only male heads of families are recognised as eligible for permanent houses.

The office has been working hard, with and without the assistance of firms involved, to trace the Africans who have unclaimed money owing to them under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Administration of Influx Control was tightened up this year, and the following are some of the provisions:-

1. No matter how long the African can prove that he/she has lived and worked in Cape Town, he/she is endorsed out on completion of a job if it is not 15 years since he/she first registered. We have had several cases of women who have written

proof of continuous residence in Cape Town since the 1940's but who have been endorsed out because they only registered in 1954 - the date when most women in this area were first required to do so.

2. No employer who did not employ an African on August 31st 1966 may do so in future. Nobody may employ more Africans than they did on that date.
3. No African may change his job unless he is a qualified man - instead of being allowed to accept the new job he is endorsed out.
4. Only qualified men may be employed as vehicle drivers, floor sweepers and cleaners, domestic servants and gardeners, newspaper-sellers, ice-cream vendors, stable boys and grooms, delivery men including milkmen, petrol pump attendants, Bantu clerks, packers and time keepers.
5. Contract labourers are now only introduced in a few unskilled categories such as builder's labourers, coal-heavers, dock workers and seasonal farm labourers. Up to now all milk deliverymen have been African - mostly contract labourers. Now they must be Africans who qualify or Coloured men.
6. A prospective employer, whether industrial, commerce or domestic, has to have a certificate from the Department of Labour saying that there is no Coloured person available for the job - this often takes several weeks to obtain.
7. Legal wives of qualified men are being endorsed out after several years residence with their husbands on the grounds that they originally entered the area on a visit and therefore cannot be said to have "ordinarily resided" with their husbands.

LETTERS TO THE PRESS:

We want to congratulate members who have sent in a number of excellent letters to the papers under their own names. This is something of value that every member can do, so please keep it up. Official letters were:-

May 8th: on "The Judges' role" and habeas corpus (Cape Times).

May 17th: on African schooling and Sir Robert Birley's statements. (Cape Times).

June 6th: On the Terrorist Bill (Cape Times).

Yours sincerely,

*M. G. Roberts,*

M. G. ROBERTS  
ACTING CHAIRMAN.