

Dear Member,

The highlights of the last quarter of 1967 were the Regional and National Conferences and the Morning Market. At the Regional Conference we discussed resolutions for the National Conference, and heard the very excellent reports that we have come to take for granted from our Chairman and from the Director of the Advice Office. The former was roneoed and copies of it sent to the Branches, and the latter is available in the Office. The Treasurer's Report for the year once more called forth our gratitude for the competence and devotion of our Treasurer, for whom no amount of work is ever too much. Mrs. Wilks also read to us the paper shewes to present to the National Conference on "Communication and Persuasion", an analysis which is of the greatest interest and relevance at the present time.

In her report on the National Conference given to the November All Branches meeting, Mrs. Robb said that it had been the most successful Conference the Sash had had, and attributed this largely to the excellent "fact" papers that were presented at Conference instead of discussion of resolutions, much of which had often in the past proved unfruitful. These papers came from various Regions, and a number of them have appeared in the Magazine, including two from Cape Western. A most valuable delegate had been Mrs. Jackie Beck, whose legal knowledge and experience had been of great help in many of the discussions. Transvaal Region has agreed to continue to act as Headquarters for this year.

The Morning Market was a great success, and our sincere thanks go to Mrs. le Feuvre for her efficient organisation. Bishop Russell opened the Market in an excellent speech, and a very satisfactory public was there to hear it. The takings on the day amounted to R1,720.02, and the total amount to date is R2,714.09. This is more than we have ever raised in the past, and an encouragement for the future. The many members who convened, manned the stalls, and otherwise helped, are to be congratulated on their hard work. The only cause for serious consideration next year was that the supply of delicatessen and fresh produce and cakes were far below the demand. Helpful suggestions to prevent this happening again will be gratefully received.

The Prohibition of Improper Interference Bill, prohibiting bodies in any way political from being multi-racial, was sent to a Select Committee before the end of its Second Reading last Session. As this Committee was to hold a sitting in Cape Town, Headquarters asked Cape Western to give evidence before it on behalf of the Black Sash. Mrs. Wilks, Mrs. Robb and Mrs. Roberts constituted our delegation, and under the inspired leadership of Mrs. Roberts acquitted itself brilliantly.

BRANCHES AND ALL BRANCHES

At the September meeting of All Branches Mr. Dison gave an informative talk and answered questions on certain aspects of Group Areas, particularly on the valuation of houses.

At Elgin and Rondebosch Mr. John Sprack spoke on his visit to the Tribal Colleges, Mrs. Daphne Wilson to False Bay on Night Schools, and at Claremont, Mrs. Stott spoke on impressions gained on her travels and showed some of her slides.

Rondebosch had a Bring and Buy, and a plant sale, with teas, ice-cream and lucky dips in the garden of one of the members, and were fortunate in having
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six Coloured friends, members of the Tuesday Club, with them. They raised R42.65 for their stall.

On 31st October Rosebank gave a multi-racial Supper Party at which there were thirty people present, including 17 visitors. It proved a delightful occasion and everyone enjoyed the refreshments and the conversation.

At a meeting of Branch Chairmen it was decided that it would be a good thing and infuse new life into the Region, if each Branch were to undertake the special study of some specific subject. Rondebosch undertook the study of Group Areas in Paarl, and False Bay its own Group Areas situation.

GROUP AREAS PAMPHLET:

This pamphlet has been drawn up, very largely by Mrs. Willis, and is being verified by the Department of Community Development before being printed. It will be available for all who are affected and need information, and copies will be sent to the Citizens Advice Bureau, to Village Management Boards and to the magazine.

GROUP AREAS HEARING:

Mrs. Birt and Mrs. Burton represented the Black Sash at the hearing on the Lansdowne/Claremont areas, a report of which has appeared in the magazine.

ADVICE OFFICE:

1st October 1966 to 30th September 1967.

Men endorsed out	282
Women endorsed out	223
Miscellaneous	450
Old cases returned	<u>1,183</u>

2,138

Average per month - 178.

We have over 10,800 cases on our files.

DINAH MANGALI came to Cape Town with her employer - a dominee in the Dutch Reformed Church - in 1940, worked in Durbanville for many years and is well known there. She is widowed and has three adult children here and an adult son and teenage daughter at school in Molteno.

Dinah first became ill and had to leave her job. She reported to Registering officer in Nyanga East and was told that she must vacate her house and find lodgings which she did. She was given a number of extensions to her permit. During this time she did charring jobs twice a week in order to pay rent and support herself. On 17th October 1967 she was told to leave the area by 17th November 1967. She does not qualify in law because she did not register within 72 hours of 24th June 1952.

The employer for whom she chars is trying to persuade the authorities to allow her to remain in Cape Town in his employ. Her daughter Philda who is unmarried and was out of the area from 1947 to 1959 at school has permission to reside here until 18th April 1968.

STANDS:

- September 9 : against Group Areas at Simon's Town. Eight Sash members stood in half-hour relays during the morning, and from 11 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. over sixty people, including about 30 members of the public, stood with the posters used at Kalk Bay.
- " 23 : against Municipal Library apartheid in Wynberg. There were 37 members and two members of the public. The posters read: "Library Apartheid Forced on the City Council"; "Library Liberty is lost"; and "Another pointless insult to the Coloured people".
- November 11 : 13 to 15 members of the Sash from Elgin, Stellenbosch and Cape Town stood at Somerset West in half-hour relays for two hours, in sympathy with those affected by the local group areas proclamation. Posters were: "We mourn the loss of livelihoods and homes", and "We mourn the loss of this old established community".

LETTERS:

- September 1 : on the Simon's Town Group Areas proclamation. (the Argus).
- " 14 : on Library Apartheid (Cape Times).
- October 9 : on the deportation of John Sprack (Cape Times)
- November 13 : on Dr. Hoffenberg's banning and Mrs. Joseph's reimposed house-arrest. (Cape Times).
- December 9 : on Human Rights Day (Cape Times).
- December 23 : on Christmas and the family. (Cape Argus)

We congratulate those members who have written letters to the press under their own names. Please remain vigilant.

In the death last month of Mrs. Meg Wilson, the Black Sash records sorrowfully the loss of one of its oldest, most loyal and most faithful members. From the earliest days of the Sash movement, Mrs. Wilson associated herself with its principles and activities. In the days when its main activity was its public stands of silent protest, she was a familiar figure on each and every occasion. Later, while she could still be counted upon to swell the ranks of the demonstrators on such occasions as the Sash decided that this was appropriate action on their part, she rendered regular and devoted service on the Regional Council and as a voluntary worker on the staff of the Advice Office.

We are deeply grateful for her contribution to the causes which keep us together and inspire our existence.

Yours sincerely,