

Dear Member,

You may have read Nadine Gordimer's opinion on freedom of expression when she was interviewed recently in England before returning to her native South Africa. She puts forward the belief that Whites in South Africa with a liberal outlook seem to face a choice between going into exile or living a disengaged life for themselves and their families. While respecting the reasons of those who leave the country, Miss Gordimer has found a third way of living - that of the writer who could not find herself deeply involved in or committed to any other country or society than her own.

"My feeling" she says, "is that there is another choice you can make. It is to stay and do whatever you can, especially to use whatever talent or influence you might have. To speak out against the wrongs in that society from within. I do think that while there is a moral disadvantage in continuing to live under white privilege - which I fully accept - there is also a moral disadvantage to protesting against apartheid from outside".

It is through the Sash and its activities and interests that many of us are able to pursue this third way of life - this is our way of resolving the personal conscience.

During the last three months,

the most worrying issues have been

I. Bantu Laws Amendment Bill. This drastic bill which we had hoped would not be brought up again this session, did come up again but had to be shelved.

II. Loss of University Freedom

III. The General Laws Amendment Bill (Clause 29) (B.O.S.S.) with all its far reaching powers was also passed towards the end of the session.

and this is what we have done!

Two lunch hour stands were held on the 19th and 20th June. Sixteen members were present on the first day and twenty-two on the second.

June 11th was the 10th anniversary of the promulgation of the Act which ended academic freedom at the Universities. A stand was held from 4.30-5 p.m. Posters read:

Right to decide who shall teach
 " " " what to teach
 " " " whom to teach.

21 (members) present

A letter was sent to the press. We were pleased the Act received much criticism from various legal personalities and groups.

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| <p>IV. Re-zoning of School Street, Paarl. It has been proposed that this Coloured area, proclaimed Coloured in 1962, should be re-zoned White.</p> <p>V. New Group Areas: Diep River, Maitland Garden Village and Raapenberg.</p> <p>VI. 180 Days Detention Law</p> <p>VII. Population Registration Bill became an Act.</p> | <p>The Sash has made an application to lodge objections for hearing to Department of Community Development</p> <p>Letter published in the Argus on July 22nd.</p> <p>Letter to the press on this law, mentioning the arrest of Iram Haroun.</p> <p>A letter was sent to the press but not published.</p> |
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ATHLONE ADVICE OFFICE: M.S. from the Divisional Council portion of the Peninsula, has been packed off to Witzieshoek, a resettlement village in the Eastern O.F.S., at the age of 70. Having lived here for twenty-nine years, she has fallen under the official eye as a genuine "surplus appendage", unqualified because she registered in 1955 and not even working in the sense required. She is a full-time grandmother and that she can go on being because the grandchildren, two of them, are going with her. Her daughter, their mother, has accompanied them and may return to her registered job when she has seen the old lady settled with her children. They have no relatives anywhere. The working daughter-cum-mother will send money to Witzieshoek, but how long will Granny be able to manage those growing children?

ALL BRANCHES: At the all branches on June 2nd, held at Mrs. Robb's house, Rev. Theo Kotze spoke on Religion in an Apartheid Society. Reports were given on Rosebank's Sash party and on the Tuesday Club. There was no all branches meeting in July as the Regional Council was in recess, but on August 4th an Extraordinary Regional Conference and All Branches was held at Callow Hall. The Regional Council's resolution "that in future National Conference should be held in the second half of February, in order to enable University members to attend as both delegates and speakers, and that the first one should be held in 1971 in Cape Town" was voted for unanimously. Mrs. Beck spoke on "The Past Parliamentary Session". A tape recording was made and is available for branches.

NUMBERS TO REMEMBER: 8 more prevented from attending meetings recorded in the Gazette. Three new members have joined the Sash.

DATES AND PLACES TO REMEMBER:

October 13th

- Regional Conference at Callow House, Kenilworth

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DATES AND PLACES TO REMEMBER (contd)

- October 21st - 24th - National Conference at Pietermaritzburg, Natal.
- November 15th - Morning Market. Please note this corrected date which gives members two weeks more time to work for the market.

Our sympathies go out to Mrs. Newbery on the death of her husband. We are sorry to learn of the deaths of Miss P. Spilhaus and Mrs. Hogg.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Birt.

MARY BIRT
ACTING CHAIRMAN