

Dear Member,

Since our last letter the Republic of South Africa has celebrated its 10th anniversary, an occasion which gave rise to much questioning in the minds of many. A 24 hour vigil on the steps of St. George's Cathedral, an inter-denominational service and a distribution of pamphlets were the outcome and many Black Sash members joined in the prayers and the vigil.

#### Stands

The stand every Friday against Sec. 6 of the Terrorism Act will continue until Parliament rises at the end of the session. The posters for this read:

1. How many detained without trial?
2. Solitary Confinement is mental torture.
3. How many are still detained?
4. Continuous interrogation is torture.
5. A poster with a human figure in outline with a question mark inside.
6. Detained in February. Who are they? Where are they?
7. When will they be charged?

A banner reads: "Charge or Release"

A stand was held on the Heerengracht on the evening of the opening of the Nico Malan Opera House. There were two stands, one from 6p.m. - 6.45 and another from 7.30 - 8.15. Both stands were well attended. The posters read:

1. Culture knows no Colour Bar.
2. Never have so many paid so much for so few.
3. Built by public funds but closed to the greater part of the public.

#### BANTU SCHOLAR FUND

A sum of R100 has been sent to this fund as a contribution from the Black Sash.

BONNIEVALE REMOVALS

As a result of representations, four members of the Sash went out to Bonnievale where Africans are being turned out of their homes, even when they are qualified to remain. In response to our report the "Cape Times" sent out a reporter and a photographer. Unfortunately a motor accident prevented their getting there but the "Cape Times" has promised to send another reporter.

MORNING MARKET: Saturday 20th November, 1971

Mrs. Shepherd will be the Convenor with Mrs. le Feuvre as Assistant Convenor.

Produce Stall - Somerset West supported by Elgin

Teas Gardens/Seapoint

Rosebank Books (contributions to be given to Mrs. Knaggs, 53 Alma Rd., Rosebank) or left at the office.

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Flowers Regional Council, Miss Henshilwood Convenor. (Please remember to plant cuttings etc., now)

Gifts Galore & Connoisseur's Corner False Bay

White Elephant Claremont

Boutique Mrs. Wilks and Mrs. Andrews

It has been suggested that the central branches should pool their resources and work together to supply Delicatessen, Cakes and Children's Corner.

Icers for Christmas cakes are urgently required, please contact Mrs. Shepherd.

ACTION PANEL

For Fact-finding and bringing problems to the notice of the Regional Council. Offers of help with this will be welcomed by the Convenors, Mrs. Finsen, Mrs. Shepherd and Miss Peta Lomborg.

CHARTER OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Several replies have been received.

Members are urged once again to make certain that they are on the Municipal Voters' Roll. The last meeting called by the Mayor of Cape Town on the subject of the removal of the Coloured Vote proved how essential it is that all who qualify should be able to express an opinion.

We are pleased to report a steady increase in new members to all of whom we extend a hearty welcome.

#### LETTERS TO THE PRESS

1. To the "Argus" on 15th March re the Bantu Affairs Administration Bill. While this Bill provides that Africans who qualify under the Urban Areas Act to live and work in one area will not lose this right by living and working in another area, there is concern that local authorities no longer will have control (on any level) over the interests of Africans working in their particular area. Such things as the administration of the local townships and improvement of amenities will now be in the hands of newly appointed Bantu Administration Boards.
2. To the "Cape Times" on the 14th April, on detainees under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act. In February an unknown number of people disappeared - arrested in terms of Sec. 6 of this Act. Our letter drew attention to the sinister mystery attending these arrests in that no further information concerning them has been made available.
3. To the "Cape Times" on 19th May on Re-settlement townships, with special reference to the courageous stand made by the Rev. David Russell on behalf of the widows of Dimbaza. It was gratifying to note that the Cape Times in an editorial took up our suggestion that there should be a full-scale and impartial investigation into conditions obtaining in these townships.
4. To the "Argus" on 20th May re the Abuse and Dependence producing Rehabilitation Centres Bill. The Black Sash condemns the proposed arrest and indefinite detention ON MERE SUSPICION as included in this Bill.

5. To the "Cape Times" on 26th May concerning the Bonnievale Removals. As a result of a visit by members to Bonnievale it was discovered that Africans, in spite of qualifying to remain in the area, and working permanently there are being refused permission to continue to work other than as contract workers living under bachelor conditions which are to be provided by their employers. Their families are being resettled in the Ciskei and Transkei. The area in which they lived was declared Coloured, in 1967, and without alternative accommodation (of which there is none) local authorities are able to "re-settle" these people in terms of the Bantu Laws Amendment Act passed early in 1970.

Yours sincerely,

*Barbara Wilks*

**B. Wilks.**  
**Chairman.**