

BLACK SASH CAPE WESTERN REGION

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 1974

No.59

Dear Member,

The Regional Council apologises for this "mini-edition" of the usual Newsletter, but with the Morning Market just behind us and the Christmas recess ahead, we have been pressed for time.

First of all there is good news about the Morning Market held on November 23rd at the Claremont Civic Centre. All Stalls were up on their takings over last year's totals and the present over-all figure is R4022 with more to come. The Region's grateful thanks go to Mrs. Aitchison, who as convener bore the heat and burden of the day, and to Mrs. Coplans, who arranged for the excellent publicity that we were given by the press. Hopefully this good result will enable the Region to keep abreast of the inflation during the coming year! However, if anything is certain, it is that costs will continue to rise, so we ask you all to think ahead and work towards an even better result next year. The Claremont Civic Centre has already been booked for the next Morning Market on November 8th, 1975!

Will you please try to reserve March 11th, 12th and 13th, 1975 as these are the days on which the Black Sash National Conference is being held, here in the Western Cape. This Conference has a special significance as it marks the 20th birthday of the Black Sash; it will also be the occasion at which Mrs. Sinclair will resign from her office as President of the Black Sash. We feel sure that all members will wish to be present to pay tribute to Jean Sinclair, to whose inspiration, dedicated service and tenacity, the Black Sash owes its existence.

Below are items of interest to which we would like to draw your attention:-

REGIONAL CONFERENCE: Office Bearers for 1974/75

Chairman	Mrs. M. Burton
Vice Chairmen	Mrs. N. Robb, Mrs. B. Brock and Mrs. A. Stekhoven
Hon. Secretary	Mrs. M. Barker (alternate to Mrs. Robb)
Hon. Treasurer	Mrs. D. Andrews.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY DECEMBER 10th: Note the Black Sash letter to the Press and the Press Conference called by the Black Sash at the Athlone Advice Office.

LETTERS TO THE PRESS: the following were published:-

Cape Times, September 13th on District Six

Cape Herald, September on District Six

Cape Times, September 18th on the S.A.B.C. series, "Student Activism".

Cape Argus, September 25th on NUSAS and Student Activism

Cape Times, September 20th on The Defence Further Amendment Act

A letter was sent to the Cape Times on November 27th on the SASO and BPC detentions.

STANDS;

Friday, September 20th at lunch time in Thibault Square protesting against the Defence Further Amendment Bill. Pamphlets in English and Afrikaans were handed out.

Tuesday, November 5th at lunch time with a pamphlet hand-out in Thibault Square, followed by an evening stand outside the Red Cross Hospital, against Banning.

PETITION

During September the Black Sash mounted a petition in the suburbs of Cape Town, in Fish Hoek and Simonstown, calling on the citizens of Cape Town to support their Mayor's call for a halt to the development of District Six for exclusively White use and occupation. 1,610 signatures were collected which were handed to the Mayor on October 23rd and forwarded by him to the Minister for Community Development.

The Christmas Recess is from December 13th to January 13th, 1975.

So we come to the end of another busy year and on behalf of the Regional Council, I thank you for your co-operation and wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely,

M. Barker

Mrs. M. Barker
Hon. Secretary

P.S. We should like to draw your attention to one aspect of the UCT Summer School. During the week Feb. 3 - 7th a course of 8 lectures and panel discussions will be held on "Migrant Labour in the Western Cape" at 5.30 and 8.15 pm (R6-00). This is the business of the Black Sash and if it is possible for you to enrol please contact the Centre of Extra Mural Studies, U.C.T.