



Umbutho Wamalungelo Obuntu CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE Burgerregtevereniging



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NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1986

CENSORSHIP

THE STATE OF EMERGENCY DECREE OF 21 JUNE 1986 BANNED THE LEAGUE AND 118 OTHER ORGANISATIONS FROM PUBLISHING ANY STATEMENT

SUBSEQUENTLY THIS PART OF THE DECREE WAS WITHDRAWN. THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE DECREE STILL REMAIN. ANYTHING WHICH IN EFFECT THE MINISTER OR POLICE COMMISSIONER DEEMS "SUBVERSIVE", IS A CRIME IN TERMS OF THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT'S THIRD STATE OF EMERGENCY

ONLY MATERIAL CHECKED BY OUR ADVOCATE CAN BE PUBLISHED IN THIS NEWSLETTER.

NAT "REFORMS" ARE:

"LASH, HOSTAGE, POGROM"

- CHAIR REVIEWS 1986

NINETEEN EIGHTY-SIX is the third year of our revolution, and counter-revolution. For human rights, two dimensions of this tower above all others, Keith Gottschalk, Chairperson, told the AGM.

First, the Government's grudging, gradual ad hoc abolition, under pressure of rebellion, of racist laws is a watershed in South African history. It is the biggest such trend in South Africa since 1910. It is arguably the biggest such trend ever.

Usually the police cease to enforce one or other racist law in Progressive Party constituencies for two or three years. Then the law is formally repealed. Beach apartheid and the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act are examples of

this. Group Areas laws are no longer enforced except in National Party constituencies.

Even before the National Party Government, the trend was towards more, not less, segregation. The post-1948 Government simply accelerated the permanent push to segregation, made it systematic, and ruthlessly abrogated the rule of law to enforce it.

Prior to 1948, the United Party Government also launched school witchhunts against "try

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for whites"; limited state housing subsidies to only segregated housing schemes; and extended the colour bar in jobs. The key decades in extending school segregation between "white" and "non-white" pupils in Cape Colony schools were prior to Union: 1892 - 1909.

One can argue the case that the only measures in our history against racial oppression - Ordinance 50, the abolition of slavery, the non-racial class franchise - were imposed on the Cape Colony, against the settlers' will, by British imperial power. And the settlers worked unceasingly to undermine such checks for a rising colour bar through ever-harsher Master and Servants laws and disfranchisement.

Second, the other major dimension of the present spiral of rebellion and repression is a deterioration in remaining human rights. It is a watershed for state lawlessness and insurgent fratricide.

Amnesty International reports that detention, torture and assassination are used by almost two-thirds of governments in the world. League members will follow this, as well as assassination and disinformation campaigns in the media, such as the CAPE TIMES, WEEKLY MAIL and SASH magazine.

I want to here discuss three government techniques which have not received as much editorial analysis of their consequences as they might: the lash, the hostage, the pogrom.

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AGM REPORT

1987 COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:

Sir Richard LUYT

CHAIRPERSON:

Keith GOTTSCHALK

SECRETARY:

Debbie LEVITT

TREASURER:

Doug CORNELL

MEMBERS

Ralph AITCHISON

Michael BRIGGS*

Mary BURTON

Dot CLEMINSHAW

Noelle COX

Dennis DAVIS

Andy DURBACH

Jack HEEGER

Margaret LINDSAY

Janine RAUCH*

* Elected by the University of Cape Town Students' Representative Council.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Keith GOTTSCHALK

THE LASH *Cont. from Pg. 2*

The Government has taught its opponents that it is acceptable to assert authority through the whip. The Government has been teaching its opponents intensively.

Since 1984 there have been increasing reports of police using whips on illegal crowds and meetings to disrupt them.

It appears as if the Government has legitimated the whip, as a respectable, normal instrument for upholding authority. It has rendered respectable the concept that suppressing your opponents meetings is a legitimate prerogative of authority. Signs are not wanting that Government practice is internalising such attitudes amongst some rank and file opponents.

The now-banned Congress of South African Students, COSAS, launched a campaign in 1984 to abolish corporal punishment. Within two years the Mamelodi Youth Congress - also a Charterist organization and UDF affiliate - had disciplinary committees whose constitution specifies lashes. (WORK IN PROGRESS, 41 (1986) p 8) Flogging is widely used by tribunals calling themselves "People's courts", and, for example, during the attempted disruption of the 1986 exams on the Rand.

Similarly, academic boycott campaigners at UCT broke up syllabus lectures by a visiting academic who proclaimed he came to defy the academic boycott.

The Government has of course stopped UCT teaching by not one visiting lecturer, but over twenty-five professors and lecturers, through listing as communists, banning, deporting or refusing renewal of visas, or refusing entry visas.

The Government and its

propagandists depict disrupting your opponents' meetings as legitimate, rendered respectable as "upholding the law". Those asserting the right to hold an opposition meeting are defamed as law-breakers, if not criminals and subversives.

That such decrees are selectively applied, with the most massive Inkatha outdoor rally unhindered, but even indoor UDF and Muslim meetings physically and chemically assaulted, only gives the impression that it is legitimate for authority to itself be lawless.

It is a sobering thought that South Africans under the age of THIRTY - the majority - have no experience of living in a country where the opposition has the right to have outdoor protest meetings, processions and rallies.

It is a sobering thought that South Africans under the age of SIXTY have never voted in an election where the government changed through lawful, peaceful means.

People's experience shape their perceptions. The chickens of violating human rights are now coming home to roost.

AGM REPORT

Perhaps the most ghoulish violation of human rights has been the new King Creons who prevent the black Antigones burying their dead, killed by police, without the police demonstrating their power to attend the funerals of their victims, and kill again. All lawfully.

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THE HOSTAGE *Cont. from Pg. 3*

The Detainees' Parents Support Committee documents the detention on 26 August 1986 of the entire Radebe family in Soweto. Those detained included the family's children: Matthew, 15; Zwelli, 6; Lucky, 5; and Traiphena, one month old.

The Special Branch were seeking Amon Radebe, 18, who was not at home.

The DPSC notes that this is not an isolated example: "Taking families as hostages appears to be designed to force activists to give themselves up in the hope that their families will be released." (CAPE TIMES 1 December 1986)

The PFP Unrest Monitoring Group has protested about a seventy year old father in the eastern Cape who was told he would be detained until his son, alleged to be an ANC guerilla, surrendered to the police. At least one case in Cape Town of the Special Branch detaining a father, mother, brother & sister until the wanted son surrendered to the SB is known.

Being next of kin of a wanted person is not lawful grounds for detention in South Africa. The League urges human rights lawyers to seek an ultra vires declaration in such cases.

Further, the practice of taking hostages is prohibited by

the four Geneva Conventions as a war crime equal to killing POWs.

THE POGROM

There are four differences between the biggest Tsarist Russian pogrom against the Jewish community at Kishinev at Easter 1903, and the pogrom at Nyanga Bush, Nyanga Extension, Portland Cement Camp and KTC in May and June 1986.

First, the Kishinev pogrom was not precipitated by Jewish militants killing seven members of the Black Hundreds, nor by their forcing Moldavian housewives to eat packets of Omo to make them boycott Russian shops.

Second, the Kishinev pogrom of Easter 1903 killed 49 Jews and destroyed the homes of 7 000 Jews. In the Nyanga-KTC pogrom of Winter 1986, Witdoeks killed 79 persons, and destroyed the homes of 70 000 persons.

Third, the West condemned the Tsarist garrison of troops and police at Kishinev for merely standing by. At KTC the victims are suing the police for allegedly escorting and protecting the progrom vigilantes.

Fourth, Tsar Nicolas II's Government did not call the Kishinev pogrom "urban upgrading".



SOLITARY CONFINEMENT:

CHAIR DETAINED

- UNFINISHED 1985 AGM

POLICE Brigadier Swart's decree, in terms of State of Emergency powers, banned the League's 1985 AGM from discussing the detention of their own Chairperson.

Keith Gottschalk, the Civil Rights League chairperson, was detained without trial from 28 Oct - 7 November 1985. He notes:

"After I was released people's reaction was invariably to question me about only the physical aspects of my detention cell: food, sanitary and washing facilities.

"When answered in the affirmative, they assume all was well. This leaves the ex-detainee thinking he or she must be inadequate to still feel mentally disorientated.

"That the worst is the invisible dimension of solitary confinement, the psychological torture of boredom, 24 hours per day, sensory and intellectual deprivation, is not sufficiently realised by most enquirers.

"My detention is about the third shortest known: eleven days. As a middle-aged, middle-class white, my detention conditions were less harsh than the great majority of detainees - black youths. Little beyond anxiety happened to me for three months after my release. Then it had consequences out of all proportion: relentless and unprecedented insomnia for the next three months, depression and irritability.

"This makes us appreciate the toughness and commitment of those held in solitary confinement for not 11 days, but 11 weeks or 11 months - and who then return to their voluntary service for political, trade union or human rights organizations.

"I want to mention two further points pertinent to other detainees. Where the gut

reaction of visiting judge-presidents to complaints is to justify what is complained of, detainees naturally do not believe the efficacy of the system of judicial visits.

"Further, the bulk of cases where detainees lay charges or sue for torture concern interrogations in police stations, not prison cells. Clearly judicial visits should include detainees in police station lock-ups.

"Last, the Prisons are obsessed with ramming religion down your throat until you choke on it. Whereas detainees who are believers were permitted not only bibles but also a variety of theological works, I was denied atheist literature. I was forced to listen against my will to broadcasted daily prayers, including abusive sneers mocking my atheism, plus a one hour religious harrangue on Sundays.

"The Prison authorities refused to switch off or disconnect their Orwell-style loudspeaker in the detention cell. I complained to the visiting Judge-President that the South African establishment was the first to protest when Christian or other religious prisoners had their belief mocked or were denied scriptures in Soviet jails. Yet the Nationalist Government applies such treatment in reverse.

"He snapped: 'We don't cater for minorities.' "

Clearly, Government rhetoric that their policy is based on "protection of minorities" is selectively invoked.

CONFERENCE; NEW MEMBERS:

CRL IN 1987

KEITH GOTTSCHALK, the Chairperson, analysed challenges facing the League.

"Both myself and my predecessor were voted to the Chair during a mid-career crisis", Keith Gottschalk told the AGM. "The time has come to take stock of the cost of this to the League.

"In any organization, it is the responsibility of not the Secretary, the Treasurer or other committee members, but the Chairperson, to establish goals, give direction, and set the pace. Any criticisms I make are above all criticisms of shortcomings in my own leadership.

"First, I get a sense that the League comprises a number of good individuals doing good individual things: writing letters to the press, and contributing to the organizations on which they sit, such as the Sash, ECC, Repression Monitoring Group. But there is no sustained League project, giving us profile and purpose.

"The Civil Rights League supports and donates to the End Conscription Campaign, the Repression Monitoring Group, and backs joint activities with the South African Institute of Race Relations, National Council of Women and Sash.

"But the League dare never let backing other organizations become a substitute or, instead of a supplement to its own activities, however unwittingly. Even invitations to support other organizations only arise out of the League's standing through its own actions and reputation.

"Second, for whatever

historical reasons, the League has missed the bus on a number of occasions.

"Compare the League with the (USA) American Civil Liberty Union and the (UK) National Council for Civil Liberty. They perform some of the service done in South Africa by the Defence and Aid Fund (banned in 1967), Dependents' Conference, Black Sash and other Advice Offices, S A Institute of Race Relations, Repression Monitoring Group, Legal Resources Centres, and Lawyers for Human Rights.

"The League must reach the critical mass for a self-sustaining chain reaction, whether by fund-raising or sharing with cognate human rights associations.

"That is, the means for an office with a secretary, with a John Kane-Berman or a Mary Burton as a virtually fulltime chief executive. Fulltime in the sense of making human rights, and the League, that persons's prime commitment for intellectual and emotional energy as a career, or service equivalent to a career.

"During 1987 I am simultaneously chairperson of the Civil Rights League, and the University of the Western Cape Centre for Research in Africa. Neither will start 1987 with a secretary; neither has office accommodation.

"My academic career requires me to complete a doctorate this year, and deliver four academic publishing commitments in the next six months. In the longer term, I confront a career choice

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CALL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS BILL:

“ENACT UNIVERSAL DECLARATION

THE CIVIL RIGHTS LEAGUE urged the South African Law Commission to support the necessity for a justifiable bill of human rights. Sir Richard Luyt, President, Keith Gottschalk, Chairperson, and Dennis Davis, UCT Law professor and committee member, urge:

“FIRST, any Bill of Human Rights must be not a propaganda genuflex, but justiciable.

It is all too common that the preamble to a country's constitution contains sanctimonious reference to human rights, or even to the guidance of God, but persons, or even clergy and entire congregations are deprived of human rights, or detained without trial in that country.

Numerous third world oligarchies have so undermined their credibility. The Human Rights guarantees in Stalin's 1936 constitution for the Soviet Union are perhaps the most widely quoted example of this.

Such practices result not only in derision for the Government concerned. They provoke irreparable cynicism towards the very concept of Human Rights. They provoke contempt for the concept that constitutional rights might provide a better safeguard than revolutionary war as a process to obtain civil rights.

Already, the traditional appeals of Black South Africans for constitutional guarantees of human rights are becoming eclipsed by the formation of a Black Lawyers association to campaign against the concept of a human rights bill in South Africa. The Civil Rights League urges the Law Commission to recommend forcefully that a Bill of Human Rights should be justiciable, or not introduced at all until the Government concedes the necessity of this.

A justiciable Bill of Human Rights in the constitution

brings with it two consequences:

(a) The sovereignty of Parliament is subordinated to the constitution, as in the USA or Federal Republic of Germany.

(b) The Judiciary uphold their prerogative to annul statutes violating the constitution, as was done in the Cape Province disfranchisement test cases of the 1950s, and is currently done for delegated legislation.

There is no reason to fear that this would further drag the judiciary into the arena of political controversy. The present legal system requires the court to enforce racial and coercive laws considered illegitimate by the majority. This, the Hoexter Commission noted, causes many to perceive, or misperceive, the judiciary as part of a resented government and its policies.

The legitimacy of an independent judiciary will be immeasurably enhanced in the eyes of the majority through the public role of upholding individual human rights against abuse of power from government agencies.

This is in the interests of the judiciary and magistracy under both present and future governments.

SECOND, the classic task of concepts of natural or divine justice, and the Bills of Human Rights which set down such concepts into legislation, is to redress increasingly the imbalance of power between ruler and ruled: to defend the weak against the powerful, the poor against the wealthy.

RATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS"

— LEAGUE

Periodically, the imbalance of political and economic power enable the powerful or wealthy to subvert constitutional human rights provisions. These are then perversely manipulated to perpetuate malpractices: dictatorship against the rightless, racism against the disfranchised, or corporate abuse of consumers and workers.

The rhetoric of both USA segregationists of the 1960s, and the Soviet Government, emphasise "states rights, not human rights". The consequence of this, of course, is to undermine the prestige of federalism and socialism respectively as efficacious solutions to problems of society.

Similarly, wealthy classes and doctrinaire believers in laissez-faire periodically seek to manipulate human rights into "property rights". This invariably means perpetuating the power of property owners over powerless consumers, tenants and employees.

The consequence of this is to discredit the legitimacy alike of both a market economy and human rights. Entrenchment of "property rights", in their usual meaning, would certainly have blocked many of the state's measures to uplift "poor whites".

THIRD, any Bill of Human Rights in South Africa, will above all else be judged specifically by:

(a) whether or not it restores the rule of law, by terminating detention, banning of persons, meetings and organizations,

house arrest, and reverses the dramatic extensions of the definitions of 'justifiable homicide' in the police laws.

(b) whether or not it criminalizes apartheid laws and practices, viz. discrimination on grounds of colour, race, "population group", ethnicity, or "nationality";

The right to life, the right to liberty, the right to bury one's dead without disruption must be central to any justiciable Bill of Human Rights. The most fundamental amongst Human Rights should be non-derogable, even during States of Emergency. An example would be freedom from torture, including physical and psychological torture, such as solitary confinement.

Further, should any Bill of Human Rights evade outlawing, or actually entrench apartheid laws and repressive practices, under whatever euphemism, it will confirm disbelievers in constitutional reform in their need to seek other methods.

For example, the State President's fullpage press adverts earlier this year pledged the restoration of South African citizenship; an end to pass raids; and an end to forced removals.

But subsequent legislation to date excludes the restitution of citizenship to six out of 7,5 million of those deprived of it. The "Offices of Community Services" persist in pass raids, now renamed "trespass raids", on compounds. These Governmental departments, reinforced by police and the army, persist in

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RIGHTS *Cont. from Pg. 9*

new forced removals at Brits Oulokasie, Langa at Port Elizabeth, and Lawaai kamp at George. Mr. P.W. Botha's old constituency.

Naturally this grievously harmed the President's credibility with the majority of our people, as an HSRC report noted.

Government leaders and their supporters make clear that their concept of a Bill of Human Rights is to rename current apartheid laws and practices, such as school and suburban segregation, as "group rights".

Should this occur with any Bill of Human Rights, the consequences would be not to reduce resistance to school or other apartheid. The consequences would be to shatter the plausibility of Human Rights bills - and constitutional reform - as alternatives to continuing revolution and civil war.

Any Government will of course select from a commission's report what matches its current needs and policies, as much as letting a report influence its policies. The incumbent Government's newspapers note that some government supporters oppose current reforms, so slowing down their pace.

This is all the more reason that the South African Law Commission's report should help the Government educate its followers to the necessity for accelerated reforms, and pressure the Government to accept limits to the power of itself and its successor governments.

It is now over ten years since the South African representative at the United Nations, then Mr Pik Botha, expressed his Government's support for the UNO Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Civil Rights League strongly urges the Commission to recommend making the Universal Declaration of Human Rights justiciable in South Africa."

1987 *Cont. from Pg. 7*

between the commitments and achievements prerequisite for pursuing primarily academic writing and teaching, or primarily human rights organizing and campaigning.

"Further, each of us has a political style and sensibilities shaped by the experiences of our own generation. It is in principle undesirable that any one person, or set of friends of same generation, should remain indefinitely setting the tone of an organization.

"I propose the self-denying ordinance of the US constitution: a maximum of eight years in office as chief executive. I have already served two years.

"Let us set the League two goals to challenge us.

"First, I propose our major activity for 1987: a conference of all human rights organisations in South Africa to vigorously challenge the Government's actions and omissions in its response to the Law Commission proposals on a Bill for Human Rights.

"The League is the obvious association to take this initiative.

"Second, by the time I and most other current members of the executive leave office, the League and its committee should have achieved the "majority rule" we urge as a prerequisite for democracy in South Africa.

"The League should become more representative of South Africa's people. Two dimensions of this are that a majority of new members should be younger and darker than at present. This is one prerequisite for a viable organization fighting for human rights in South Africa."

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PEN FRIENDS?

Doug Cornell, League Treasurer, reported to the AGM that 15% of League members are "loyal loners." They live on farms and in dorps, isolated from other League members, and any media except the SABC and SATV.

All town or other members who would like to adopt an isolated League member as a pen-friend are urged to send their names and phone numbers to Doug Cornell. Either write to Box 394, Claremont, 7735, or phone him at (021-) 69-3510.

Doug is compiling a pen-friend register of our isolated country members.

BRIAN BISHOP

The Cape Town office of the South African Institute of Race Relations dedicated its committee room in the memory of Brian Bishop, previous Chairperson of the League.

Sir Richard Luyt, League President, Keith Gottschalk, Chairperson represented the League at the ceremony on 20 October.

BISHOP - BLACKBURN TRUST

The Trust's bank account for donations is at the ABC Branch of the Standard bank, Adderley Street, Cape Town, a/c 070520984.

LIAISON

The League and the End Conscription campaign attended and sent messages of support to each others' AGMs.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

☒ BOX 394
CLAREMONT
7735

DI BISHOP WRITES:

Dear Civil Rights League,

Thank you very much for your letter of 18 September 1986 and the enclosed cheque for R 1 000. This has been safely deposited in the Molly Blackburn-Brian Bishop Trust account.

I feel very moved by the generosity of the league. It was such a wonderful gesture to add to the already generous individual contributions by League members in order to donate R1000 in total to the Trust. Thank you very much indeed.

We are at present writing a brochure about the Trust and its aims and objectives. It will be wonderful if there is a growth in support for the Trust so that imaginative ways of furthering Molly and Brian's work can be considered. I shall keep you informed of future developments.

Please know that I so very much value and appreciate the encouragement and support of the Civil Rights League in so many ways.

1987 *Cont. from Pg. 10*

"Brian Bishop said at his last committee meeting: 'The most important thing I didn't have time to do when I was League Chairman was to launch a membership drive.'

We must make this the League's priority.'

DENNIS DAVIS' COLUMN:

FROM PASS LAWS TO ALIENS ACT

WHEN P W BOTHA committed the government to removing the existing influx control legislation many felt that he now meant business. South Africa was to follow a path of clear, unambiguous reform. Less than a year later, it has become clear that the government has no such intention. Influx control is here to stay, this time, in another, more subtle form.

The Abolition of Influx Control Act which became law on July 1, 1986 repealed a range of laws contained in a schedule to the Act. The list includes all the legislation comprising the core of the 'pass laws' as we previously knew them. The Urban Areas Act is now repealed in its entirety.

The implications of the repeal of these laws are far-reaching. Thus –

- * Africans no longer need any exemption or permission to live or work in an urban area;
- * Employers are able to employ whom they wish, without the need for any exemption or permission from a 'pass office';
- * Africans are legally entitled to bring their families to the place in which they are living or working.

The 'Abolition' Act is comprehensive – but it is fatally flawed because it does not address at all the question of citizenship and it still allows for influx control by use of squatting and sium legislation.

The rules relating to the acquiring of South African citizenship are complex, but they hold the key to the new dispensation for without South African some 7 million Blacks who lost their citizenship when the TBVC Countries 'became' independent are as vulnerable to government control of their presence in urban areas as was the case under the old system. The State uses the Aliens Act, interlocking with the

revocation of citizenship from Xhosa-speaking South Africans, to perpetuate the Coloured Labour Preference Zone Policy.

More insidious however has been the manner in which, from the inception of the Act, the government has engaged in a policy of forced removals to ensure that urban Black communities reside where the government so desires. Crossroads, Langa (in the Eastern Cape) and Duncan Village are just three well known examples of this new policy to remove communities which have resisted previous attempts of relocation, whether by means of bulldozers, detaining the community leadership, exploiting divisions within the community or between different communities and relocating them in areas far removed from their previous homes, often in areas which have no economic or social infrastructure. For a small insider group of Blacks an upgrading scheme will be initiated in the old area – reward for services rendered!

In all these cases the limitation of land plays a crucial role in the process of control. Small wonder the government has no intention of abolishing the Group Areas Act. By the control of land and the restriction of citizenship, the government has developed a devastatingly effective policy mix by which to continue the control of the urban Black population.

STOP PRESS

FOR THE SECOND ISSUE RUNNING, OUR NEWSLETTER WAS HELD UP BY ANOTHER STATE OF EMERGENCY CENSORSHIP DECREE, WHILE AT THE PRINTERS.

WE REGRET THAT THIS DECEMBER 1986 NEWSLETTER ONLY REACHES YOU IN JANUARY 1987.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Some League press releases are wholly or partly unpublished. They are accepted by some newspapers, but not others, around the country. CRL News briefly summarises these, to inform members on what your League attempted.

Dot Cleminshaw, committee member, published letters in Cape Town newspapers

(1) condemning student disruption of an academic lecture by Connor Cruise O'Brien;

(2) demanding the release of Janet Cherry (End Conscription Campaign, Port Elizabeth); Trevor Manuel (UDF, Western Cape); and father Smangaliso Mkatshwa (SA Catholic Bishop's Conference) and all other detainees.

AGM REPORT

PIM GOLDBY

The League heartily thanks its honorary auditors, Messers Pim Goldby and Associates, for continuing to act as the League's honorary auditors, a task they have done for many years in the past.

Especially thanks to Mr Cotton for his work and support.

DONATIONS

The League says a big thank-you to Miss M Shingler, of Cambridge, East London, who donated R 2 000. The treasurer proposed to the AGM that she be regarded as the first life member of the League.

SECRETARY: VOTE OF THANKS

Bea Cornell, our secretary, reported that six members resigned or lapsed, and twenty-six new members joined the League during 1986. It is especially pleasing that virtually all the new members are young; many being articulate professionals.

Bea Cornell regretted that her health forced her to resign as League secretary. The AGM expressed its appreciation with a bouquet and a round of applause.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The League's financial position improved due to the raise in membership dues. Printing, postage and stationery costs more than doubled, accounting for the main rise in expenditure.

The League also donated R443 to the Brian Bishop — Molly Blackburn Trust, so raising the R557 of members' individual donations to a round one thousand rand.

	1986	1985
INCOME	R3 672 12	R2 596 89
EXPENDITURE	R3 443 01	R2 442 31
Cash at hand	R2 217 32	

AGM REPORT

TREASURER APPEALS:

DUES NOW DUE!

The ordinary membership fee of R7 annually now only covers the costs of the expanded newsletter.

In the two years since membership fees were raised, the League, like its members, suffered over 33% inflation in its costs.

The League still cannot afford office rent. This imposes on the secretary the burden of keeping at her home all the League records and materials. This situation is inherently unsatisfactory. It means the League's address and post box must change every time the secretary changes.

The Secretary's honorarium needs to be raised in 1987 from R 100 to R 125 per month.

The League plans on a basis of anticipating the present rate of inflation will continue. We might be more realistic in planning for a higher rate of inflation.

The AGM approved the Chair's motion for a rise in membership fees. Keith Gottschalk urged that this should be on the principle that pensioner rates should be subsidised, with salaried members shouldering the burden of increase.

MEMBERSHIP DUES MINIMA:

Pensioners, unemployed, on fixed income or limited means: at least R 2

Students: at least R 4

Salaried persons: at least R10

Donor members: at least R20

Overseas subscription to newsletter: UK £ 12 or US \$ 20.

PLEASE HELP THE STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA BY SENDING THE LEAGUE YOUR RENEWAL TODAY!

Prompt payment enables the League to benefit from the interest, and plan publications and meetings with confidence. Please post your membership renewal fees now to:

The Treasurer
Civil Rights League
P O Box 394
CLAREMONT
7735

Ph: (021-) 693-510

**HAVE YOU REMEMBERED
THE LEAGUE IN YOUR WILL?**