

Banned**books:****Secretary
convicted**

PC16/5/31/52



THE personal secretary of the banned Anglican priest, Rev David Russell, was convicted in the Wynberg Regional Court yesterday of possessing banned publications.

Mrs Dot (Dorothy) Cleminshaw, 67, a former worker for the banned Christian Institute, pleaded not guilty to possessing four copies of The Rioter's Digest, which was banned in 1976, and Steve Biko's book, I Write What I Like.

She said she had forgotten she had the copies of The Rioter's Digest, and was unaware that Biko's book was banned for possession.

OFFICE SEARCHED

On April 9 Detective-Sergeant Gideon Basson searched her office in her house in Cannon Road, Newlands, and found the publications.

Mrs Cleminshaw, who said she had been interested in political affairs and human rights for about 30 years, said: 'I was amazed when I heard Biko's book was banned.' She was using the book for academic purposes, she said.

The magistrate, Mr M M M Symington, said a woman in her position should be 'a bit more on her toes about banned publications than the ordinary member of the public,' and would not accept that she was unaware that the book had been banned.

Sentence was postponed until Mrs Cleminshaw's appeal against a previous conviction of distributing banned publications has been heard.

Mr L van Brada appeared for the State.

Ans 16/8/79

2, Buchan Road, Newlands, 7700.

PC16/5/3/1/52

9th August, 1979.



Dear Peter,

I am sorry I just could not put the task of writing about the background to the strikes high on my agenda. There are several other things that have to come first with me, many of these arising from my work with David and Crossroads. I had hoped to ask some folk here much better fitted to write on this subject, but found we were in the traditional July exodus from Cape Town, schools and the university being closed. I hope you saw that Jan Theron had been acquitted, a most appropriate verdict. The whole issue of workers rights and the two recent strikes remains highly unsatisfactory. Given the vast pool of hungry, unskilled people in this land, I don't see much improvement in the situation, and as for the various Codes of Conduct, they can never amount to any really significant pressure on employers to do the right thing. So it is an uphill battle and I take off my hat to the Jans of our country.

About Eddie, you and I are now in complete accord. I intend issuing a list of initials and a lump sum figure, and an invitation to anyone to have a look at my records, which are supervised by Norman. In any event, from the start I had not intended to identify individual amounts when handing over the lump sum to Eddie. I understand he is now aware of what I am doing and it is o.k.

About Sylvia, yes the fees for this year have been looked after by someone else ~~xxxxxxx~~ up to now, but I told her that if the boys do well and she runs into any financial problems this year, she must come back to me. Actually, Max Milner and Tom Walters (the latter to the extent of co-signing as surety for a study loan for the older boy) have helped this year. The boys do seem to be getting on all right. Thanks, Peter.

Ernie wrote to say he'd be down here at the end of July and would contact me, but hasn't done so. Thank you for explaining about the fund.

I would like you to have this memo on David and my recent legal entanglements. It cannot be published as the matter is still before the courts, but is background information of the kind I think friends should have.

I must say it is good to see this Scorpio bunch in court. Welthagen and Beelders have previously been convicted on such charges. (See R.R. Surveys 72 and 73). Let's hope justice will be done. I think a tactical error was made by the right wing lunatic fringe in South West when they listed the names of Mr. Justice Steyn and Gen. Geldenhuys among the "masons and anti-christ" in poisonous leaflets. Suddenly the authorities feel threatened from the right as well as the left. During a previous case against the abovementioned, certain items of evidence mysteriously vanished during a postponement of the trial, so that charges had to be withdrawn. I wonder if they still have friends in our local SB?

I am sorry to have taken so long - I see your letter was dated 15th July, so our apologies are mutual.

Stay well, Love,

Dot

I don't know if enclosed
is meant for P.B.
hence opened it. D.