

M.R. 121

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A report to the National <sup>Executive</sup> Working  
Committee of the African National  
Congress ~~Women's League~~.

From the A.N.C. W.L.

28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1956.

The above Committee was elected to office on  
the 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 1955, at a conference held at  
Bloemfontein O.F.S.

The state of our Organisation is as follows  
1, I.V.L. The I.V.L. Province has improved, it  
has 29 Branches and its membership is 1670.  
though 13 Branches have not yet reported  
its membership.

2, ~~Finance~~ Right up to know the financial  
~~position~~ is at the back.

3, The political consciousness of our member  
ship has improved. This was proved by  
the activities of women against the rent  
increase, the Bantu Education Schools, and  
the great ~~Demonstration~~ demonstrations to  
the Native Commissioners against the extension  
of passes to African Women, and further  
the I.V.L. Provincial Executive <sup>of the Women's League</sup> invited all  
provinces to go ~~demonstrate~~ <sup>again</sup> against the  
extension of passes to African Women, together  
with the Federation of S.A. Women

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to the Union Building; <sup>was</sup> with the result that there was a large <sup>presence</sup> attendance of women of all races from all walks of life; <sup>was</sup> it is to be regretted that despite the <sup>the</sup> rise in membership & improvement of in the political consciousness of the members the financial position remains comparatively poor the net cash at hand is ~~no~~

Arrest. The National President was arrested under the permit law. & Mrs Sesula under the same law and both were ~~sentenced~~ <sup>fine</sup> for which was paid by the organisation Mrs Seloko of Moxteroria <sup>was also arrested</sup> and <sup>was after a</sup> long struggle discharged. <sup>however the struggle against her dismissal from location is still contested in the court of appeal</sup> <sup>Receipt</sup> Mrs U. Harhe <sup>was</sup> ~~de~~ <sup>de</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>court</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>appeal</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>still</sup> <sup>contested</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>court</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>appeal</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>Union</sup> <sup>Building</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>time</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>her</sup> <sup>arrest</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>was</sup> <sup>after</sup> <sup>wards</sup> <sup>withdrawn</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>Mrs</sup> <sup>Moremia</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>Klerkedorf</sup> <sup>whose</sup> <sup>case</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>still</sup> <sup>pending</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>High</sup> <sup>Court</sup>.

O.F.S. The O.F.S. Province has improved it has 11 Branches. and its membership is 1781.

Finance It is regretted that the financial statement was not included in the report  
3, The political consciousness of members has improved it has reflected its self in the establishment of 1 <sup>new</sup> Branches. it was again

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proved by the activeness of women when 300 women demons. to the Native Comm. on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 1956. as result many other demonstrations were held, and further women 21 delegates attended the historic demonstration held at Pretoria also against the extention of passes to african women

Arrest: 18 women were arrested under the permit law and were fined £2 each; ~~but they were released after~~ and 10 arrest were made after 143 reference books were burnt and each of these women were bail out at £50. each and the bail bond amounted to £400. of which the <sup>O.P.C. & A.P.C.</sup> Organisation is working very hard to raise that money. On the 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 1956 All the cases were withdrawn and the Provincial Secretary Women's League I.W.L. who <sup>was the</sup> was also arrested and sentenced, <sup>two months</sup> ~~and~~ case was then appealed ~~and was won~~ and bail at £40 was fixed; and sentence set aside on the 13. August 1956 <sup>inception of</sup> 1d one ~~of the~~ Durban accused who failed to attend court <sup>on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 16 women,</sup> on the said date ~~she~~ was fined £50; Durban. The Durban Province has improved it has 17 Branches and its membership

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is not reported.

Finance it is regretted that the financial statement is not included.

3 The political & consciousness of Women has steadily improved. This was proved by the activeness of women during the campaigns against the extension of passes to African women, when a memorandum was on the pass issue was handed to the City Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1956 and that and that 872 Women demonstrated to the Native Commissioner on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 1956: and further this women had delegates to the historic demonstration held on the 9<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1956 at the Union building against the extension of passes to African women. Further Madresoda Berth Mhize & Austa Kuzwayo were expelled from Congress on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1956, because of their unsatisfactory activities.

Max Report from the Cape yet.

The total report of our membership is not given now because we have not got reports as yet from all other provinces, and on the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1956 an sum of £17.6.2 was donated for the Winberg Case.

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**RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961**

**TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961**

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