

LOGOS

Christian Anarchist Bulletin
35 Natal road, Thornton Heath, CR4.8QH
November 653.7546

This issue of LOGOS is short, rushed out, and in the nature of an SOS - I am sorry it is scrappy.

On December the 20th the Springboks are due to play at Twickenham.

Considering the proximity to Christmas the Stop the Seventies' Tour Committee has asked Jean Sargeant as CNA representative to organize a christian contribution to the protest demonstrations.

The STST committee is to meet - with others invited for the occasion - at Jean Sargeant flat, Flat 2, 41 Ladbroke Grove on the 24th of this month - next Monday. CNA had previously called a meeting at DSHouse (6Endsleigh St.) on the same topic on the 26th and the two will coordinate.

As will be seen later in these minutes civil disobedience will be proposed, but it will necessitate a fairish number of volunteers for activity and pledges in advance to make it worth going ahead.

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Last meeting November 15. Next meeting November 13

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Meeting held and as usual will be held at St Paul's Vicarage, Bow Common, E.3 preceded by vespers - in the church - followed by time for silent prayer and meditation.

Meetings held as usual at 8.00 PM , Vespers 7.30

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Minutes of the meeting of November 15, at which Jean Sargeant spoke on action against

Apartheid in Sport.

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Attendance: Ian Annetti, Fr Gresham Kirkby, Fr. Andrew King, Jean Sargeant,
Dave Poolman, Laurens Otter.

Sam Wolf is writing a book on anarchism in Britain and was present and at his own request is described as an observer.

Apologies from Ann Vogel and Frank Marmoy.

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Before the meeting proper the following announcements and matters of business came up: IKON has been received by various people from S.W. Africa, it is an excellent Christian radical paper (or so Dave Poolman and I think) Dave has had a second issue, I have written enquiring where to send money in Britain and for a bundle for the Christian anarchists. The same source also sends a duplicated sheet of South West African facts.

Cambridge anarchists have brought out a smartly produced pamphlet of six essays, which was again highly considered. I had sent an addressed envelope for everyone on our mailing list; but have since heard that (a) Cambridge anarchists are unwilling to fold their paper as LOGOS is folded for posting, (b) that they can only send it if I send money, and I fear LOGOS costs me enough - so anyone interested please write to Cambridge: Rachel Hambridge, Newnham College.

Andrew drew attention to a report in the Church Times of a speech of the Bishop of Exeter, and I was deputed to reply on behalf of the group.

At Frank Rowe's request, Dave Poolman gave details of a case in New Ham where a coloured family are being constantly attacked - bricks through windows - by a known group of (apparently) apologetic jobs. A constant left rota of sitters in the area is being organized as witnesses, and since the police certainly have positive evidence of the culprits and refuse to act, Ron Bailey has advised on legal precedents. Support is wanted, but and it must be very much but it is not wanted to risk driving the bunch of kids into the arms of serious fascists by making too much politically out of it. Anyone near enough please contact Frank at 100 Henderson road, E.7, but please at this stage no publicity.

Andrew said the last meeting had finally sent the NCCL a guinea; that PN had neither acknowledged nor published his reply to Allen Skinner's challenge that christians are not prepared to defend their position.

Attention was drawn to unpleasant clerical letters in the Times: two: one from the Dean of Rochester in favour of conscription, and another from a priest favouring the Springboks.

..... Jean:

Jean's paper took the form of a proposal for action, with background recapping of the impossibility of moving M.CC without direct action, with the fact that now very few sporting bodies do play South Africa, the three upper class sports; Cricket, Rugger and tennis being the exceptions - no mention was made of Polo... She also touched on the latest pamphlet on South African armaments et alia which has elaborated on earlier anti-apartheid material, referred to various other demos. To the fact that the South African Daily Express prints details of demos over here; to the present split in the Nationalists and Dr Hertzog's secession to form a yet more extreme nationalist party, opposing the concessions Vorster has made to Maoris coming to play in S. Africa.

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I should have mentioned under busines but it is relevant at this point that the meeting was very heartened to hear just before we started of the successful demonstration at Swansea that took over the pitch; and ~~of~~ the day before of Bishop Crowther's arrest at the White House; - an action which with the Bishop of Monmouth's support for the anti-apartheid vigil made the Anglicans amongst us less ashamed that usual of the heirarchies of our church. No doubt for most it must be as impossible to envisage the C of E becoming a revolutionary movement, as it was for the contemporaries of Galilleo to envisage the Earth going round the sun; but, nevertheless it moves.

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So in this context Jean mentioned that the Stop the Seventies' Tour Committee had asked her as CNA-CHURCH representative on the committee to organize a christian contribution to the Twickenham demonstrations on the 24th. It was felt that as the demo was to be in three sections we should take over one part:

- some would be picketting outside;
- some would be inside shouting slogans;
- some would go in as spectators and try to occupy the pitch.

Many of us - while not wishing to detract from the Swansea success or denigrate the

other actions felt that none of these adequately show Christ. In particular the image of Christians standing impotently at the gates, while serious and determined opponents of racism risked assault and arrest inside, seemed obnoxious to some. It was felt that there should be a specifically christian and civil disobedient action. An open intention to sit, turning up at the gates - with tickets to use at one gate - with the intention of occupying the pitch for the duration of the advertized game; as we used to do with rocket bases seemed possible, and as with Ruislip, this being a christian demo - it ought to have clergy, preferably vested - and the intention should be to hold a service.

Against this view Dave Poolman felt that any demo at Twickenham was at the wrong place, and we should go to a South African Bank or financial interest. We all agreed that as a general rule this was more important but only he believed that this would have more impact at that precise moment.

Also Gresham objected to attempting to force a service on people, as also to using prayer as a weapon. Others of us held that in the sense indicated the Early Church had done both.

Considerable discussion of the form of service, it was thought that perhaps an attempt should be made to get one Anglican, one R.C., one Free Church minister present and so either have a joint ~~xxx~~ service or three separate ones (a fourth - Jewish was also indicated if available) and hold a joint service or perhaps separate services, the field should be large enough. As to form this ranged from the comination (my suggestion) to Dave's idea that we should look for a West Indian revivalist so that there could be a West Indian revivalist service there. Jean as a West Indian would know more, those I have met have all been pietist and wouldn't dream of breaking the law.

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I should like to suggest at this stage that this is not an agape, we should soundly denounce the evil, however non-violent we should be to the evil doer, and that the commination "the declaration of God's wrath" (which like excommunication is usually shunned by liberal-minded christians because of its misuse) correctly used to denounce those who by their acts are deliberately setting themselves apart from God and God's people and damaging the unity of mankind is appropriate.

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From this meeting Jean will take suggestions to her meeting of the 24th - mentioned before and all written views from those who cannot attend are requested. Laurens