AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR FREEDOM OF OPINION AND RELIGION

ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 1, 1963 – MAY 31, 1964

PUBLISHED BY
THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
1 MITRE COURT BUILDINGS, TEMPLE,
LONDON, E.C.4

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

is supported entirely by the subscriptions of its members and the donations of its supporters. It is independent and impartial in its endeavour to bring hope and release to all those who are persecuted for their beliefs.

Among those who support AMNESTY's appeal for funds to carry out its work are:

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Great Britain · Professor Martin Buber, Israel Roger Baldwin, President of the International League for the Rights of Man, U.S.A. Pablo Casals, Puerto Rico · Danilo Dolci, Sicily · Professor Erich Fromm, New York and Mexico · Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks, Great Britain · J-F. Lalive, Switzerland . Professor Salvador de Madariaga, Spain · Yehudi Menuhin, Great Britain Professor Gunnar Myrdal, Sweden · Pablo Neruda, Chile · Professor Robert Oppenheimer, U.S.A. · Alan Paton, South Africa · Abbe Dominique Pire, Nobel Prize winner, Belgium · Mr. Walter Reuther, International President of the United Automobile Workers, U.S.A. · Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Gabon · Sean MacBride, S.C., Secretary General of the International Commission of Jurists Professor Z. K. Matthews, South Africa · Philip Noel-Baker, M.P., Nobel Prize winner, Great Britain · Professor Giorgio La Pira, Mayor of Florence, Italy Professor Julius Stone, Australia.

Funds are held in Britain under the terms of 'The Prisoner of Conscience Trust', of which the trustees are representatives of the principal religious denominations and political parties. Rt. Rev. The Bishop of Birmingham (Anglican), Professor Ritchie Calder (Humanist); Ian Gilmour, M.P. (Conservative) The Rev. Dr. I. Grunfeld (Jewish); F. Elwyn Jones, Q.C., M.P. (Labour); Dr. Ernest Payne (Baptist); The Most Rev. Archbishop Roberts, S.J. (Roman Catholic); Jeremy Thorpe, M.P. (Liberal).

Donations made to 'The Prisoners of Conscience Fund' by way of covenant rank for recovery of income tax at the standard U.K. rate by the Fund as it is a registered charity.

INTRODUCTION BY DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER

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The work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is designed to bring an easing of international tension. A century ago, when the clashes in the world were fought between national armies, the Red Cross movement introduced the idea of humane treatment of the wounded, and exchanges of Prisoners of War. In this age the clashes are not between nations, but between ideologies and races; and there are just as many victims as in the old days of open warfare on the battlefield.

The AMNESTY movement, which draws its supporters from all countries, races and religions, seeks to secure humane treatment for these victims of the tensions which convulse so much of the world. And like the Red Cross movement, it is particularly concerned to bring about the release of men and women who, through no fault of their own, are imprisoned because they support an idea which, for the time being, is unpopular in their own country.

I believe that world peace can only be achieved when there is freedom for men of all politics, religions and races to exchange their views in a continuing dialogue. For this reason I would particularly ask all those who are working in their different ways towards world peace, to make their contribution, preferably by active service, or, failing that, by financial contribution, to this great new endeavour called AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL.

Albert Schweitzer

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Article 18. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

OBJECTS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

The AMNESTY movement is composed of peoples of all nationalities, politics, religions and social views who are determined to work together in defence of freedom of the mind.

The spread of dictatorship, the tensions that have resulted from the Cold War, and the increasing cleavage between races of different colour, have combined to make state persecution of the individual the gravest social problem of the 1960's.

The principal object of AMNESTY is to mobilise public opinion in defence of those men and women who are imprisoned because their ideas are unacceptable to their governments. It has been formed so that there should be some central, international organisation capable of concentrating efforts to secure the release of these 'Prisoners of Conscience', and to secure world-wide recognition of Articles 18 and 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Essentially an impartial organisation as regards religion and politics, it aims at uniting groups in different countries working towards the same end – the freedom and dignity of the human mind.

The method by which the AMNESTY movement focuses attention on those imprisoned in violation of Articles 18 and 19 of the Universal Declaration, is that of 'adoption'. Members of the movement in different countries form themselves into Groups willing to adopt these 'Prisoners of Conscience', one from the East, one from the West, and one from the Third World. The Group uses every endeavour to induce the three governments involved to release these 'adopted' prisoners, and in the meantime works to improve his conditions and to achieve any financial distress among his dependents.

BRITISH SECTION

The British Section was independently constituted in June 1963, when a written constitution was adopted, provisionally for one year. This included the election of a fifteen-member executive committee, six of whose members would be representatives of the THREES Groups.

GETTING BIGGER

Groups of Three. Although the AMNESTY movement has completed three years of 'hard labour', the beginnings of the Group system is younger by several months. At the end of our first year we could account for a total of forty active Groups, mostly in Great Britain. By the end of the second year our figures shot up to 260. This year the number of Groups have gone up to almost 350.

Cause for satisfaction does not come solely from an increase in numbers. It has been pleasing to see where and how some of the groups have been formed. Two have begun in Catholic Convent schools, one was started by the managing director of a factory after he had seen the television programme. A third meets in a Moslem mosque where it was formed.

Their effectiveness is indicated by the increasing number of governments which pay serious attention to a group's activities. And their most valuable weapon is still publicity. The Eltham Group were fortunate enough to have the chance of publicising one of their cases by the most powerful of all the media, television. It was the continuing prevention by the Portuguese authorities of Mrs. Mabunda being allowed to join her husband, the Rev. Elias Mabunda, here in England. The couple had been separated nearly two years. On the afternoon that this report is being written Mrs. Mabunda is due to arrive at London Airport.

Another pleasing advance has been the amount of public confidence which is now shown in us. All shades of political belief now seem satisfied that no particular one predominates in our own colours. Twice all-party groups of M.P.s have chosen to make their representations to foreign governments through AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – once to the King of Morocco and then to President Nkrumah. Several members of the House of Lords are now members of the movement. Our expertise in all to do with the persecution for belief is acknowledged by the frequency during the year with which we have been approached for information and comment by institutions varying from national newspapers and trade unions to the *Encyclopaedia Britannica.*

Human Rights Day. Though most of our efforts are on behalf of the sufferers it is still an important aim of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL to create a climate of feeling which will lead to there being fewer of them. Emphasising the importance of Human Rights Day helps this. On Human Rights Sunday, 8th December, the B.B.C. television programme 'Meeting Point' was devoted to our work. Two days later representatives of all Christian denominations and none, together with religious leaders of the Moslem and Jewish faiths joined in a ceremony of commemoration at St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street. Miss Jacqueline du Pre kindly played a cello piece by Bach, and Cy Grant and the Rev. Pere Duval each sang and played their guitars. The wife of Heinz Brandt who was nominated as '1963 Prisoner of the Year' came specially from Germany to receive the ceramic plaque on behalf of her husband. She also performed the ceremony of lighting the AMNESTY candle which was mounted on a plinth in the nave of the church. The event was well covered by Press and TV representatives and a photograph of Frau Brandt kindling the flame occupied the whole of the front page of *The Times Weekly Review* besides being reproduced in the *Guardian.*

Those members who had been present at the 1962 ceremony and had heard recited the Litany for the Persecuted by Salvador de Madariaga were able to hear it set to music by Thor Pierres. Copies of the music are still available at Head Office.

Many requests for sermon notes and readings were received from all over the country, principally from ministers of the Unitarian church. This was largely due to the excellent publicity provided by Alistair Ross writing in *The Inquirer.*

Relief Department. This is another department whose activities have been firmly circumscribed by limited funds. Nevertheless, several cases of worthy need have been met, and a sum of ninety pounds raised by a group of Spanish exiles and sympathisers was distributed on behalf of their countrymen imprisoned in the jail at Caceres. A sum of £90 a month has been distributed for several months past to prisoners' families in South Africa. Several parcels of clothing have been despatched to Spain.

Conferences. With very little help from Central Office the Undergraduates group at Birmingham University arranged a conference in March on 'Is the one-party state inevitable for Africa?' The complete success of the occasion encouraged this very enterprising group to consider arranging another similar venture in the autumn, this time concentrating on the Far East.

Contact between Groups and Central Office. Feeling that this was a

bit rarefied the Committee decided that the General Secretary should begin to visit groups in the provinces. Up to the time of writing twenty groups have been visited, as widely spread as Belfast and Broadstairs.

Art Sale. In the quest for funds time and again we cast our nets and are grateful for every little sprat that comes up. Just occasionally though, the catch is bigger. Probably the richest haul this year was due to the hard labours of Mrs. Marian Sander and Peyton Skipwith who organised a sale of works they had begged from the sketchbooks of many famous artists including Annigoni, Graham Sutherland and Ben Nicholson held at the Holland Park Gallery. With lively auctioneer Roy Brooks baiting the hook the final netting was in the region of £1,200. It is impossible to express the gratitude we feel towards Mrs. Sander and Mr. Skipwith for the work they put into this achievement.

Finance. Even when our hearts are gladdened by a spontaneous donation the pessimist could easily reflect that this is no guarantee of our solvency for next year. That is why we are trying to establish a *regular* source of income. The various things kept on sale, particularly around Christmas, have contributed towards this. Twenty thousand copies of the greeting card, designed by Mrs. Diana Redhouse were sold, as well as several gross of ball-point pens each one inscribed with AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. Seals for envelopes were also available together with the publications listed on the back page of the April bulletin.

New Members. This is by far the most satisfactory way of ensuring that dependable revenue which is so essential for planning ahead. Five thousand members (and we should be able to manage this number from a population of 52 million) would do much to lighten the burden of the Hon. Treasurer. At the moment the numbers stand at about 1,500.

Staff. Albert Lodge took over the appointment of Secretary of the British Section in July 1963. After being with the movement from the beginning Miss Chris Chattin left at the end of January. She had been responsible for administration during all of this period and her thoroughness and reliability were admired by all who worked or had business here. Mrs. Marlys Deeds who had acted as Groups Adviser has now incredibly found time to take over much of the administrative work besides continuing to advise the Groups. In this she is now helped by Mrs. Eileen Speller who comes in three days a week. Eileen Benjamin, shorthand typist for eighteen months, left at the end of April and her place has been taken by Anna Braithwaite.

Executive Committee. Elected at the 1963 A.G.M. were:

Peter Archer (Hon. Treasurer)	Duncan Guthrie
Eric Baker (Vice-Chairman)	Kenneth Lee (co-opted)
Peter Benenson	Norman Marsh
Louis Blom-Cooper	Andrew Martin
Maurice Cranston	Hugh O'Shaughnessy
Len Davis	Tom Sargant (co-opted)
Leonard Deeds	Leonard Schapiro
Lionel Elvin (Chairman)	Clara Urquhart
Maurice Foley, M.P. (Vice-Chairman)	Neville Vincent
	Henry Warner

To retire – Maurice Foley, Maurice Cranston and A. N. Other.

Group Representatives Elected. Miss Gwen Lawrence (Oxford Group), Mrs. Diana Redhouse (Architects' Group), Mr. Geoffrey Bindman (Greenhill Group), Mr. Alan Cooper (Sevenoaks Group), Mr. Len Davis (Universities Representative), Mr. Gordon England (Westminster Group).

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT REPORT

1st June, 1963 – 31st May, 1964

This is the Third Annual Report of the AMNESTY movement. During the first two years the British Section acted as the International Headquarters and the reports of the British Section cover the international activities of the movement. This report is issued by the newly established International Secretariat on behalf of all the National Sections.

The decision to establish a separate International Secretariat was taken at the 1963 International Assembly held at Konigswinter from 20th to 22nd September. In accordance with that decision the International Secretariat began to function in London on 1st November.

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE

At Konigswinter the Assembly elected a five-man International Executive to supervise the functions of the Secretariat. The Executive was elected on a linguistic basis, there being one representative of the English, French, German, Dutch and Scandinavian language areas. Sean MacBride of Ireland, representing the English-speaking world, was selected by the Executive as its

Chairman. Peter Benenson agreed to act as Honorary International Secretary for one year and was co-opted on to the Executive, of which the other members are Maitre Nicolas Jacob, Herr Ulrich Gembardt, Dr. Herman Todts and Adv. Bent Knudsen. The Executive held its first meeting at Konigswinter immediately after the Assembly, its second in London in December 1963 and its third in Antwerp in April 1964.

PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE LIBRARY

The International Secretariat contains the 'Prisoner of Conscience Library'. This, the first-established of all the organs of the AMNESTY movement, has during the year developed into a considerable undertaking. Mrs. Christel Marsh, who remains in general charge of the Library, has devoted her own energy to the extremely responsible and difficult task of selecting the prisoners to be 'adopted' by the movement's 360 adoption-groups. The card-index system at the end of May 1964 included 2,800 separate cases of imprisonment in apparent violation of Article 18 or 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; these were spread over eighty-three different countries.

The greater number of cases become known to the Library through reports in newspapers, journals and the monitored reports of radio broadcasts. The press-cutting section of the Library under Mrs. Iolanthe Elek covers eight of the world's leading daily papers and approximately 100 weekly or monthly journals. Experience has shown that references in newspapers and news-broadcasts are frequently too brief to provide sufficient material to compile the 'case-sheet' which is sent out to the Group whenever a prisoner is 'adopted'. Fortunately, as the movement's existence is more widely known, more detailed information about prisoners is sent direct to the Library. This information comes from a variety of sources: international organisations, human rights bodies, political parties, religious denominations and from families and friends of prisoners themselves. In respect of certain countries the Library has been able to establish a reliable information service which sends news whenever a 'Prisoner of Conscience' is arrested, sentenced or released. But censorship of mail and intimidation makes it difficult to extend the regular information service.

INVESTIGATION BUREAU

At the end of the year under review the International Secretariat established within the Library an Investigation Bureau. This Bureau, which consists of volunteers under the direction of Mrs.

Maureen Teitelbaum, is responsible for finding out more information about those cases of imprisonment which appear to fall within the 'Prisoner of Conscience' definition. The Bureau examines all the information including that coming from press-cuttings and prepares the 'case-sheets' when there is enough detail in hand. Where detail is lacking, a volunteer is given the name of the prisoner and asked to try to discover the circumstances of his arrest, the nature of the charge, if any, the address of the prison and that of the prisoner's next-of-kin.

RESEARCH BUREAU

At its meeting in London in December 1963 the International Executive recognised that the system of 'individual contacts' had outgrown its usefulness. During the early days Groups were given with each adopted prisoner the name of at least one 'contact' to whom to write for further information and advice. Due to the rapid increase in the number of Groups – 70 in 1962, 260 in 1963 and 360 in 1964 – the patience and time of many of the individual contacts was in danger of exhaustion. Accordingly it was decided to prepare a 'background paper' in respect of each country which could be sent to the Group along with the 'case-sheet' of the prisoner to be adopted. A Research Bureau was established to prepare these background papers, which give a survey of the political and religious situation, of the types of political or religious prisoners, and the conditions under which they are held, of the means of making contact with the prisoner and his family, and of the men and women of influence within the country who might be approached with a request to support the Group's plea for clemency. The Research Bureau, like the Investigation Bureau, consists entirely of volunteers. The first papers prepared were subjected to close examination by the International Executive at its meeting in April 1964, when it was decided that Miss Hilary Cartwright, Head of the Research Bureau, should be authorised to delete or re-write any passage in a paper which appeared to be biased. Although the 'background papers' contain a great deal of previously unpublished information it was decided to retain them as confidential documents within the movement. At present the papers on Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Rumania; on Spain, Portugal, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia; and on Burma, Ethiopia, Mexico, Pakistan and Paraguay have been completed.

Each Thursday morning there is held a Library Meeting attended by all full-time workers where world developments during the previous week are considered. A revolution, change of government

or proclamation of an emergency usually produces a crop of political prisoners. The Library Meeting decides what steps are to be taken to obtain reliable information about the new arrests. The Meeting also decides in cases of doubt whether a prisoner is to be regarded as a 'prisoner of conscience', and advises on the priorities for adoption between different categories of prisoner and different countries.

PUBLICATIONS

The International Secretariat issues a quarterly journal entitled *Eustomy* (January, April, July and October) which is sent in bulk to National Sections for distribution to members either in its original English form, or in translation. In addition, the Secretariat sends round to Sections and Groups outside Britain a quarterly Bulletin (February, May, August and November) which gives information about the decisions of the International Executive and news about forthcoming meetings and events. The Secretariat has produced and made available a special Greetings Card to Prisoners designed by the British artist, Haro. Together with the British Section it has prepared and had printed a 1964 Christmas card, suitable to be sent either to prisoners or to members' friends. On Human Rights Day 1963, thanks to the generosity of the British Section of the International Press Institute, a special commemorative newspaper was produced entitled *World Conscience*.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The appointment of the Chairman of the International Executive, Sean MacBride as Secretary-General of the International Commission of Jurists has led to closer co-operation between the two movements. Regular contact with the International Committee of the Red Cross is maintained by both Sean MacBride, who now works in Geneva, and by Peter Benenson. The association with the International League for the Rights of Man has extended during the year to include a number of the League's affiliates, in particular the Inter-American Association for Democracy and Freedom which advises the Library on cases of imprisonment in Latin America. During the year the movement has also established fruitful contact with the World Veterans' Federation, which has taken several initiatives in the field of human rights. A hopeful development has been the recently-established contacts between the movement and some of the lawyers' organisations in Eastern Europe.

As always the movement has kept in touch throughout the year with the Human Rights Divisions of the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Both the British and French National Sections have been active in seeking to secure the full adherence of their governments to the European Convention of Human Rights.

DELEGATES' MISSIONS

The number of these missions has once again increased. With the growth of membership of the various National Sections it has been possible to take advantage of the business or professional journeys of several members in different countries to gather detailed information or to make representations for clemency. The nature of some of the missions and the identity of those who have undertaken them render it undesirable for a full catalogue to be printed in this report. Almost all the members of the International Executive have undertaken missions during the year: Sean MacBride to Spain; Nicolas Jacob to Morocco; Ulrich Gembardt to the Southern States of the U.S.A.; Bent Knudsen to the Lebanon, and Peter Benenson to South Africa.

ADOPTION GROUPS

The increase in the number of adoption-groups to 360 includes a welcome broadening of the movement, since the greatest growth has come in countries outside Britain where there are now just over 100 groups. Up to the end of May 1964,

1,357 Prisoners of Conscience have been adopted;
329 have been released;
938 of the number presently under adoption are persecuted for political reasons;
78 of the number under adoption are practising ministers of religion.

Since the beginning of 1964 the British Section has produced a monthly News Sheet for Groups, which gives the latest news about releases, quotes from prisoners' letters and the advice received from contacts. The News Sheet reports on the activities of Groups, making known techniques which have proved effective. Copies of the News Sheet are sent to Groups outside Britain.

RELIEF WORK

At the December meeting of the International Executive it was decided that Groups should, if their resources permit, undertake relief work on behalf of non-adopted prisoners. A number of

Groups have responded to this suggestion and have raised money which has been sent either direct to families or to funds established on their behalf.

The International Secretariat has principally been concerned with the problem of relief to refugees from South Africa. In November Lt.-Commander Michael Cunningham was sent to Southern Africa with the title of 'Asylum Counsellor'. His object was to negotiate with governments to insure that the provisions of the 1955 U.N. Convention of the Status of Refugees were observed, and to see that staging posts were established to facilitate the movement northwards of refugees. Cmdr. Cunningham's tour of duty came to an end in June 1964, when the objects of his mission were satisfactorily accomplished. The report on the problem of refugees in the British High Commission Territories published by the International Secretariat in November 1963 remains the only impartial review of the situation, and has been several times quoted in the United Nations and the British Houses of Parliament.

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

The efforts made by the movement to secure public commemoration of Human Rights Day, the anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, met with a growing response in 1963. Mention is made of some of the ceremonies organised and radio and television programmes promoted in the reports of the National Sections printed below. The International Secretariat commissioned a musical setting for Salavador da Madariaga's 'Litany for the Day of Human Rights', which was sung in London for the first time on 10th December, 1963. As has been the tradition, the name of the symbolic 'Prisoner of the Year' was publicised throughout the world by the movement on Human Rights Day. It is gratifying to note that all the 'Prisoners of the Year' have been released: Christopher Payi, a South African student held prisoner in Portugal (1961); Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Moslem disciple of Gandhi detained in Pakistan (1962); Heinz Brandt, Socialist Trade Unionist imprisoned in East Germany (1963).

FINANCE

The International Secretariat set its budget for the year 1963-64 at £10,000. Although it is unlikely that the target figure will be achieved by the end of the financial year, 31st October, it will have been possible to carry on the greater part of the work which the

Secretariat set itself thanks to revenue received from the following sources:

Contributions from National Sections varying from a minimum of £25 to the £3,000 given by the British Section;

Membership subscriptions and donations from members living in countries where there is as yet no National Section;

Donations from the Prynce Hopkins Foundation and the United Automobile Workers' Union of U.S.A.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Much the greatest contribution has come, as in the past, from the men and women who have given so generously of their time to work in the office and in their own home. Those who receive salaries accept remuneration on a scale much below that prevailing in the commercial world. Those who give voluntary service, regularly or occasionally, number nearly fifty. Of these several come to the office each day, paying all their own travelling expenses. It is impossible to quote all the many names in this roll of honour, nor would any wish to be singled out since the principal reason why they work so unstintingly is because they have come to regard themselves as a team united by the spirit of practical compassion with which AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL is animated.

AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA. There are eleven groups of three in the Victorian Section. All the groups are now meeting regularly, usually during the first week of the month. This ensures that even if letters have not been answered the group is meeting to seek out other ways and means. It is important that communication be kept between members of the groups between monthly meetings. During the year case histories were prepared by the Secretary which were then distributed to members and forwarded to London. Shortly afterwards, London advised that it had adopted this method of keeping members up to date as to the history of each particular prisoner. It was also decided during the year that some novel method was necessary to deal with the case of the lack of response by certain governments and in particular the Communist government. It was proposed to institute the idea of a prisoner of the month. It was hoped that all members of the Victoria Section and of other Australian Sections and overseas groups would be contacted and that they would write on behalf of the particular prisoner in the hope of bringing about a response by the sheer quantity of the

letters sent. About forty-seven letters were sent and the response from overseas groups all over the world was considerable.

It was decided during the year to publish a monthly bulletin and this was implemented towards the end of last year. The Bulletin will be registered as a newspaper and it is intended that all the members should receive a copy. A copy will also be sent to the International Secretariat.

A student conference was held on 7th March. It was organised by the Sassafras group and thirty-two members, mainly students, were present.

A Human Rights Day Ceremony was held on 10th December. The ceremony included hymns and readings appropriate to the theme, 'Prisoner of Conscience'.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. There is now a group at the University of Western Australia; this is the first group to be formed in Western Australia.

NEW SOUTH WALES. There are now seven groups of three in N.S.W. including a recently formed group in Lane Cove, one of the Northern suburbs of Sydney. The total membership has increased considerably during the past year.

A talk on the work of Defence and Aid was given to the N.S.W. Section by Edward St. John, Q.C., Secretary of the Australian branch of the I.C.J. There was a collection after the meeting; and several valuable contacts were made. A talk was also given by Dr. McGeorge, a leading authority on penology, on 'Sedition, Paranoia and Constructive Reform' with special reference to the work of the AMNESTY movement.

The first edition of the quarterly news sheet has been published. An annual subscription of £A15 has been sent to the International Secretariat.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. At present the one group in South Australia is at the University of Adelaide. It was formed a year ago and there were originally about thirty paid members. One of the difficulties, however, is that as it is a University group, it is difficult for the members to meet during the vacations and some of the members have left to take up teaching posts in other parts of the country.

There was an attempt to start a second group at the University and although the group has not materialised, those who were concerned with it, are now sending money regularly to a coloured woman in South Africa, whose husband died in prison.

Enquiries on behalf of a seventeen-year-old East German student have not, as yet, brought any response. The adopted Spanish prisoner has been released and enquiries have now been made as to the charge and the length of imprisonment of his replacement, a Portuguese lawyer. The most tangible success has been in helping a Pondoland tribesman in South Africa, who was banished to Dreifontein soon after completing a two-year prison sentence. Money has been sent to him and in addition money, food and clothing has been sent to his family. Letters of protest have also been written about the fact that his wife has not been allowed to visit him; the group having helped provide the fare.

TASMANIA. There is so far only one group in the Tasmanian Section but there is a possibility of another group being formed at the Tasmanian University.

Mrs. Rolls who runs the Hobart group, spoke to a meeting of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the donations have been sent to the South African prisoner adopted by the group. Another talk, this time to the United Nations Association, is planned for Human Rights Day.

The group is in touch with the Australian Section in Victoria and supported this group in sending letters to the South African Minister of Justice protesting against the arrest of Helen Joseph.

DENMARK

The Danish Section was founded in December 1962 and it now consists of fourteen groups of three. There are 110 paying members. At a meeting held on 5th May, 1964, a constitution was drawn up. Each group appoints a representative and at the Annual General Meeting five members are elected onto the Executive Committee.

Publicity: Press conferences were held in connection with Peter Benenson's visit in June 1963 and Sean MacBride's visit in January 1964. A play for small children dealing with human rights was broadcast on the radio. Daily and monthly newspapers have published articles on the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL and further articles should be published in the future.

Other Associations: Talks have been given about the work of the AMNESTY movement to several associations. The Danish Section is in touch with the Danish Red Cross, WFUNA, World Association of Federalists and several other associations. The Section is also in contact with the religious minorities.

Human Rights Day. A meeting was held in July to make preliminary

arrangements for the commemoration of Human Rights Day, on 10th December.

Missions: Bent Knudsen went to the Lebanon in June 1963 as the representative of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. One member of the Danish Section has been to Prague and two have been to Spain and Portugal.

Relief Section: This is a comparatively recent part of the Section's activities. Relief is being sent to Egypt, Poland and Mozambique. In addition, money is being sent to two South African families.

Income: The income of the Section has so far been about £640. £50 has been sent to the International Secretariat this year.

Christmas Cards: Several hundred Christmas cards were sent last year and greetings cards were sent at Ramatdan. A few parcels have also been sent.

Letters: In addition to the letters written in connection with the adopted prisoners, the Danish Section appealed for clemency for the eight Baha'is in Morocco and for Julian Grimau in Spain. Letters were also sent to President Nasser when he was in Yugoslavia and again when he was in Addis Ababa, and a letter in Russian was given to Kruschev during his stay in Denmark in June 1964. This letter explained the aims of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL and asked for an amnesty for 'prisoners of conscience', mentioning specific cases.

GERMANY

Since the Annual Meeting at Koenigswinter, the German Section has been endeavouring to set up Groups of Three. There are now sixteen groups in different parts of Germany.

The Handbook for Groups of Three has been printed in German and has proved useful as a way of encouraging new members to join a group.

The Section has good relations with the press and radio and arrangements are being made to televise a programme dealing with the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. Reports on the work of the AMNESTY movement have appeared in several newspapers and in a leading illustrated periodical. There have also been broadcasts over the radio.

The release of Heinz Brandt earlier this year has encouraged groups to continue with their efforts.

The fourth meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Hamburg over the weekend of 4th and 5th July.

IRELAND

There are now eighteen groups in the Irish Section, the majority

being in or near Dublin, including one group in each university in Dublin. During the last year four groups have amalgamated with others or have had to cease their activities owing to members going abroad and four new groups have been formed. The total membership is now 156.

Thirteen of the Section's adopted prisoners have been released within the last year, one has died and two have had to be abandoned, one because it was felt that nothing further could be done by the Irish Section and the other because it was found that he did not come within the ambit of the aims of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. The released prisoners came from the following countries: South Africa, Greece, Portugal, Spain, Southern Rhodesia, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the United States and Togoland.

Relief has been sent to prisoners and their families in Burma and Czechoslovakia and a contribution has been made to the support of a South African prisoner subject to a ninety-day detention order.

A handbook has been prepared which sets out advice on the running of a group and the information embodies much of what has been learned by experience during the past two years.

Twenty-two committee meetings were held during the year. The Flag Day that was planned had to be cancelled due to the lack of volunteers to act as collectors. Human Rights Day, however, had coverage on radio and television, and in newspapers and magazines and tribute was paid to the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. Messages of encouragement were received from the Worker's Union of Ireland and from the Irish Association of Civil Liberty. On December 10th the Irish Section joined with the Irish United Nations Association and the Association of Irish Jurists in sponsoring a meeting. The speakers were the Archbishop of Dublin Dr. Simms, Mr. P. C. Moore, the Chief Justice Mr. Cearbhall O Dalaigh and Mrs. Josephine McNeill, the representative of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. Copies of the newspaper *World Conscience* were distributed at the meeting.

The Irish Section had its own Christmas card designed by Mr. Louis Le Brocquy. Half the stock was sold and it is hoped that the rest will be sold this year. A list of twelve prisoners of conscience was provided for members, newspapers and interested individuals.

The Section has printed its own leaflet on AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, and its own membership form and banker's order.

During 1963–64, £75 has been contributed to the International Secretariat in London and a further £50 is promised.

ISRAEL

The Israel Section was founded on 13th April, 1964. As it was a relatively small Section, it was decided at the meeting that for the time being it should consider itself as one 'Group of Three', with each of the three local branches, Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv and Haifa, adopting one prisoner. In Haifa Mrs. Bella Ravdin has made contact with two Kibbutzim, one in the north, Matouba, and one south of Haifa, Ma'ajan Zwi, which may eventually form groups.

Four newspapers, two Hebrew, one English and one German, have agreed to publish articles on AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL or to allow members of the Israel Section to use their paper for publishing articles. It is felt that these publications have had a good effect and that those who read them were impressed by the idea of the AMNESTY movement. Justice Haim Cohn, Judge of the High Court at Jerusalem, has given two lectures on the plight of the 'Prisoner of Conscience' and on the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. In addition, Justice Cohn gave a talk on human rights over the wireless on 10th December as he had done on previous years but this time mentioning AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL and the work that it does.

Contacts have been made with the Jerusalem branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and as a result, several new members have joined. In Haifa contacts have been made with the Bahai Sect. Moslem and Christian students have shown interest. Two students have now joined and it is expected that others will join in the autumn.

The Israel Section printed its own 'statement' in Hebrew and many members have already asked for copies for distribution among people who are interested. For the Jewish Feast of New Year on 7th September, special cards are being printed which will be sold in shops and to members.

The sum of £83 (sterling) has been raised by the Section, of which £25 has been contributed to the International Secretariat in London. The Jerusalem branch has opened its own account for subscriptions and this money will be used to cover running expenses and the cost of publications.

ITALY

The Italian Section has a total of eight groups. A gradual increase in the membership is expected during the coming year, mainly through personal contacts. There will also be a renewed effort next year to work more closely in association with other organisations concerned with human rights.

There has been some publicity in newspapers and magazines but not as much as was hoped.

The income for the year was approximately £96 (sterling) of which £25 was sent to the International Secretariat to cover the annual subscription of the Section and about £12 was sent to South Africa. In addition, members have personally sent £24 to Greek and South African prisoners. Some parcels have also been sent to Spain and Portugal.

SWEDEN

The Swedish Section was originally created by a small group in Gothenburg. During the year steps have been taken to extend the Section's activity and place it on a nationwide basis. Peter Benenson was able to speak on the radio and television during a visit in April. This led to a meeting of people interested in AMNESTY work in Stockholm on 21st May. There are now Groups in Stockholm and Uppsala in addition to the revitalised Group in Gothenburg.

CANADA

The Canadian Section was founded at the end of November 1963. There are now three groups, two in Montreal and one at York University, Toronto. In Montreal there are a total of fourteen members, including several married couples. The group in Toronto has very recently been formed so the membership is still small but it should increase in the autumn when the University term begins.

Publicity: An article of good length appeared announcing the establishment of the Montreal group. A ten-minute talk on AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL was given over the local station of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Groups of Three: A total of six prisoners have been adopted by the two Montreal groups. In the past six months, many letters have been sent out to contacts and to governments but, as yet, few replies have been received. So far no direct contact has been established with the prisoners or with their families.

Interest: Enquiries have been received from a number of individuals and groups. In most instances it was suggested that they contact the London office and form groups of their own.

FINLAND

A group has recently been formed at Hamina and it is hoped that another group will soon be formed in Helsinki.

BELGIUM

There is at present one group in Antwerp, which in addition to working for its adopted prisoners, has taken on the responsibility of sending a sum of money regularly to a family in South Africa.

The Section has contributed £50 towards the expenses of the International Secretariat.

The third meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Antwerp over the weekend of 18th and 19th April.

SWITZERLAND

There are now two groups in Switzerland, one in Geneva and one in Lausanne.

NORWAY

The Norwegian Section now has six groups, the number having doubled since last year.

Before Kruschev's visit to Norway in June, the Norwegian Section sent a letter to the Russian Embassy in Oslo, to support the Danish Section's approaches to Kruschev.

During a visit to Norway in January, Archbishop Roberts, one of the trustees of the 'Prisoner of Conscience Fund', spoke about the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL on the Norwegian radio.

Information has been obtained about one of the Section's Portuguese prisoners from the P.I.D.E. The information was given to the Norwegian Red Cross through the Portuguese Red Cross.

The section has contributed £10 to the International Secretariat.

U.S.A.

There are at present three groups in the United States; one in New York, one in Washington and one in Santa Paula, California. The group in New York has heard from the East German authorities that their prisoner in East Germany has had his sentence reduced.

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WAYS OF HELPING
IN THE UNITED KINDOM

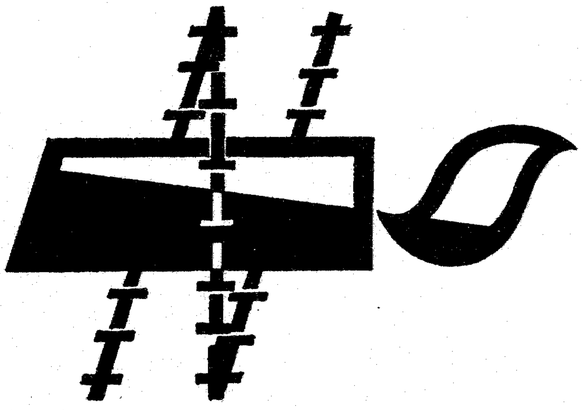
1 At the present time the most urgent need is for funds. Any individual over the age of 14 can become a member by paying the minimum subscription of £2 a year; for this you will receive all our literature including the Annual Report, the Monthly Newsletter, Investigators' Reports, etc. You can pay £1 a year and receive only the Annual Report. Local organisations can affiliate for £3 a year and national organisations for £5 a year. Join yourself and try to get a local or national organisation with which you may be connected to affiliate.

2 Offer to help the Librarian by taking over responsibility for following up cases from a particular country. (This is only practicable for those who live in the London Area).

THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

3 Take the initiative in forming a Group of Three or write to the central office asking for others in your area who may be interested. Three families joined together make the basis for a good group, but local organisations may also be interested in 'adopting' three prisoners and their families.

4 Get your local paper, magazine or journal to publish something about the AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL movement.

5 Offer to speak to local organisations about the work of AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. (Speakers notes provided.)

6 Make a donation to THE PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE FUND.