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MINUTES of the Committee Meeting held at 15 Sloane Court West
on Thursday 10th November 1977.

Present: Mr. D. Webb (National Organiser)
Mr. W. Wright (Hon. Secretary)
Mr. E. Miller
Mr. E. Goodman
Ms. P. Manson

Apologies: Mr. G. Fowler
The Lord Norwich
Dr. Brian Richards

1. The National Organiser called the meeting to order at 7.37 p.m.
2. Mr. Webb explained that it was likely that a Conservative MP would shortly be joining the NCROPA Committee which, with Mr. Fowler (Lab) and Mr. Freud (Lib) would give the campaign a tri-party status. Mr. Goodman suggested that this fact should be emphasized in the soon-to-be reprinted NCROPA letter headings; also that the words 'anti-censorship' should be inserted to make doubly clear our opposition to censorship.
3. The Minutes of the last Meeting held on 18th August were approved by the Committee.
4. Mr. Webb brought the Committee up to date with his voluminous correspondence since the last Meeting. This has included:
 - a) Writing to the Home Secretary in retort to Mrs. Thatcher's request for changes in the obscenity laws. A reply to this letter was received from the Principal Private Secretary to the Home Secretary.
 - b) During the recent police raids on London film clubs Mr. Webb sent a 90 word telegram remonstrating against this action to the Home Secretary at the Home Office with a covering letter to his Brighton Conference hotel.
 - c) Following the removal of NCROPA posters and leaflets from London film clubs Mr. Webb wrote to the Chief Commissioner Metropolitan Police demanding their return - covering letters were sent to Director of Public Prosecutions, Attorney-General, Home Secretary and Chairman, Council for Civil Liberties. The result of this appeal was satisfactory but the curt letter received from the new head of Scotland Yard's Obscene Publications Squad encouraged Mr. Webb to write again to the same authorities demanding a proper apology.
 - d) A letter of Mr. Webb's was published in The Times newspaper on the subject of censorship.
 - e) Mr. Webb sent a duplicated letter to all NCROPA members urging them to write to the Secretary of the Government Committee of Inquiry into Obscenity and Censorship.
5. Among other Committee members - Mr. Miller has written personal letters to many public figures on the censorship issue and is now something of a regular correspondent in the letter pages of the Evening Standard; Mr. Goodman similarly has been far from idle in his correspondence with public figures on NCROPA's behalf and Mr. Wright has been writing to students unions in various universities and colleges asking them to display our posters and support the campaign.

6. Mr. Webb explained how a leading supporter of NCROPA had originally offered £1000 to enable us to place two advertisements in the national press. At the last minute however after everything had been finalised it became apparent that only £400 of the money was forthcoming which was £80 less than was necessary for the cheaper of the two adverts. Consequently the advert has at least temporarily been dropped.

7. On the question of the recent GLC 'Clean Up London' campaign Mr. Webb gave details of the letter sent to every member of the Greater London Council and read some of the replies received. Mr. Goodman had also written to Mr. A. Wilson of the GLC Film Viewing Committee over the vexed question of censorship.

8. The Committee agreed to send £10 as an affiliation fee to the National Council for Civil Liberties. NCROPA are thus entitled to make clear their link with the NCCL on documents and letter headings etc and our posters and literature will be available from the NCCL's proposed Rupert Street bookshop.

9. Mr. Webb said that NCROPA has a copy of the recent Belsen Report on TV violence should Committee members wish to study it.

10. The legal section which forms the first part of NCROPS's evidence to the Williams Committee - prepared by Mr. Goodman - was amended and approved. It is hoped that other sections will include medical and psychological evidence in addition to studies of The Arts, cinema clubs and ethical factors to provide as complete and concise a defence of pornography and so-called "obscene" publications and attack on censorship as is possible.

11. The date of the next meeting was fixed for THURSDAY 1st DECEMBER 1977 unless to the contrary.

12. The meeting officially ended at 10.40 p.m.

W.J. Wright
Honorary Secretary