
CAMPAIGN

AGAINST CENSORSHIP

(THE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 on Wednesday, 14th May 1986

Mr. Ted Goodman (Chairman) took the Chair.

Apologies for absence were received from B.A.Farrell, Ivan Geffen, Clifford Hanley, F.E.Lawrence, T.A.Plumley, George Scott, and Bernard and Patricia Williams.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the 1985 Annual General Meeting were approved.

2. Matters Arising

- 2.1. Dr. Hunnings agreed to draft a letter to the Chairman of the British Board of Film Classification, bringing the Campaign to his attention, for the approval of the National Council at their next meeting. (Note: a letter was sent and acknowledged. Council also obtained a copy of the Board's first annual report in its role as state video censor.)
- 2.2. No charitable arm of the Campaign could be established while there were so few people available to administer the Campaign's affairs. People wishing to contribute to an anti-censorship charity to be referred to the A.E.Trust.

3. Annual Report

The Annual Report was accepted. The following points arose:

- 3.1. Rendezvous contact magazine would not be appealing against conviction. Mr. Goodman suggested that when the DPP took over the Crown Prosecution Service the Campaign should write to him and urge that there should be no further prosecutions for the offence of conspiring to corrupt public morals. (Note: this was done. Self-censorship and careful wording can now be observed in the contact ads. of some magazines.)
- 3.2. Winston Churchill's Obscene Publications (etc.) Bill was in process of being talked out. It was pointed out that some MPs had responded to pressure from interested groups and another time these should be contacted and mobilized.

4. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The Hon. Treasurer reported that a small loss in 1984/5 had been followed by a larger one (around £800) in 1985/6. He expected a continued deficit this year and hoped to balance accounts in 1987/8. The loss was mainly on an advertising campaign.

Enquiries to the Secretary, 25 Middleton Close, Fareham,
Hants, Tel: 0329-284471

Fluctuations in expenditure were inevitable from the nature of the organisation, but he had prepared a budget. This provided for 3 issues of Uncensored and rather fewer Council meetings. He proposed that all funds over a basic £3000 should be treated as working capital, the reserve £3000 would be broached only in special circumstances by a formal vote of the National Council. He recommended no rise in subscriptions for the coming year but that efforts should continue to obtain renewal of outstanding subscriptions and revision of long-standing Banker's Orders. He expressed CAC's gratitude to all those who had made donations over and above subscription to the work of the Campaign.

Mr. Goodman thanked Mr. Lyons for his very clear report and accounts and commended him for being prepared to spend money as well as secure it. Acceptance of the Report and Accounts was proposed by Dr. Hunnings, seconded by Mr. Stein and passed by the meeting.

5. Uncensored

It was agreed that Mrs. Hayward should assemble the material for the next issue with the help of Mr. Lyons and Dr. Hunnings.

6. Election of Officers and Council

Mr. Rosen had resigned from Council but all other officers and members were prepared to stand again. There being no other nominations, they were re-elected. Professor G.T. (Gerry) Fowler, head of N.E.London Polytechnic, had agreed to become President. The Meeting was asked to confirm him in office. A resolution to this effect was proposed by Mr. Lyons, seconded by Mr. Stein and passed nem. con. Dr. A.R.Moore agreed to be co-opted on to the National Council as an ordinary member.

7. Resolutions

No resolutions had been received.

8. Other business

- 8.1. Mr. Miller and Mr. Stein would be attending the memorial meeting for Fanny Cockerell on 17th May.
- 8.2. Dr. Hunnings had attended the AGM of NCCL as the Campaign's delegate. (CAC is entitled to two, but Mrs. Hayward was unable to go because of illness.) He reported that the Campaign's resolution, a deliberately contentious one expressing reservations about the Data Protection Act, was the only one to be defeated outright. However he considered that the exercise had been a useful one. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Hayward, seconded by Mr. Miller, and passed by the meeting.
- 8.3. NCCL had also approached CAC on the question of reform of Customs legislation in the wake of the Gay's the Word case. It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should write to them expressing support and offering co-operation.
- 8.4. Mr. David Webb, Director of NCROPA, had resigned as a member of CAC for the prevention of misunderstanding or conflict of interest such as had arisen in the past. Close liaison between the two organisations would continue.

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