

legal, economic and social disabilities of women, but not at all in order if you actually want to do something about the dreadful disabilities suffered by Black women.

So the conflict grew through Tuesday and Wednesday, expressed more in the conversation of like-minded groups during tea breaks than in the more healthy open forum of the sessions. In response to the escalating ill-feeling, the organisers (full credit to them for being able to make arrangements at such short notice), scheduled a special lunch-time session to allow people who were not featured on the official programme a chance to speak.

Most women there came away from this session feeling that all had been smoothed over, so maybe it is unreasonable of me to complain, but I received a strong impression that we talked *past* each other, not *to* each other, so we thankfully cheered the two delegates who denied that there was a conflict at all and blamed the Press for

making it all up. We had found a scapegoat.

We did not resolve anything, but took refuge in our shared courtesy to leave it there. Probing each other's wounds had just before too painful.

There were relatively few Black women there, and those who did come were not on the whole representative of radical Black thinking. Radical women had refused the invitations, or withdrew at the last minute.

This is part of the reason for the feeling of depression with which I left Grahamstown. If we cannot even bear to hear the truth when voiced in quiet and gentle voices, how will we encounter the truth when it is shouted at us?

So many women were saying what a wonderful week it was, and how wonderful it was that we, Black and White, had lived together, eaten together and talked together for the first time.

The trouble is that it is too late for first times, and we are overshadowed by the fear that the first time will also be the last time.

Jean Sinclair

The election of Jean Sinclair by readers of the Johannesburg evening newspaper, *The Star*, as Woman of the Year, is a tribute indeed.

And the honour is all the greater because it was bestowed by a spectrum of women, most of them, probably, uncommitted, some, perhaps, even hostile to the principles for which the Black Sash and Jean Sinclair stand.

It is recognition of determination and dedication, of care and concern, the qualities for which Jean is admired and loved by everyone who knows her.

The Black Sash is proud that Jean's years of hard work have culminated in so fitting an accolade.

Eulalie Stott

The Black Sash is also proud that one of its longest-serving and most active members, Mrs Eulalie Stott, has been elected a member of the Executive Committee of the Cape Town City Council, which makes her one of the five managers of the Cape Town Municipality. This is well-merited recognition for services rendered, and we congratulate both Mrs Stott and the Cape Town City Council.