

# Blind banning

*Daily News*  
14 Aug. 1980

IT is probable that Olive Schreiner stands in South African history as our most important literary figure and equally probable that a new authoritative biography should become required reading for all students of literature. That such a study has been produced and has been hailed by leading contemporary author Nadine Gordimer as a "remarkable piece of scholar-

ship" should be cause for satisfaction. Sadly, however, there will be little satisfaction for South Africans; they will have to travel overseas if they wish to read it. Because one of the authors, Ruth First, is a listed communist, the book has been banned, this in spite of the fact that it has no political content. It is a seemingly blind application of the law.