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Sir,

May I answer some of the questions put by your correspondent, V. Kunene, in a recent issue of Contact? Your correspondent's first two questions deal with Mr. Ngubane's attendance at the Pan Africanist Conference and have already been answered by him. The third question asks if the Liberal Party is against (i) the ANC, (ii) the Congress of Democrats, (iii) New Age.

In reply to (i) and (ii) the Liberal Party is not against these two organisations and has repeatedly worked with them in the past on matters of common policy. In reply to (iii) the Liberal Party applauds much of what New Age does to expose the practical effects of apartheid, while disagreeing with much of its comment on international affairs.

Question Four: The Liberal Party's attitude to the Congress Alliance is set out in the reply to the previous question.

The Liberal Party does not support the Freedom Charter. Some of its provisions are acceptable, other socialistic provisions are not compatible with the Party's declared policy.

The aim of the Liberal Party is universal suffrage, which may or may not be achieved by stages.

Question seven asks if the Party supports capitalism or socialism? The Party stands for private enterprise but recognises the responsibility of the State for the provision of large-scale social services.

Finally your correspondent asks whether the Liberal Party agrees that (i) the masses must be organised before a change in the status quo can be brought about and (ii) that the basic causes of injustice, race discrimination and apartheid are economic?

In reply to the first part of the question, the Liberal Party does not think or plan in terms of amorphous, impersonal "masses". It believes that it is imperative that people of all races should be organised if the status quo is to be altered.

The Liberal Party does not hold the view that economics is the basic cause of racial discrimination. Whilst it may be an important element in the situation it is possible to quote many examples of the economic interest of the whole community being sacrificed in order to further racial discrimination.

(SIGNED) PETER BROWN
Pietermaritzburg.

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