

REFERENCES

- (1) Verbal statement by KwaZulu Urban Representative.
- (2) "Report on Influx Control in the Durban Functional Region" for the Urban Foundation by JLR Dalberg, 1983, pg. 21
- (3) Ibid
- (4) Parliamentary reply to PFP MP, Mr P. Soal's, question on housing.
- (5) Township Managers' Reports.
- (6) Inkatha Institute 1983: Survey conducted for the Urban Foundation.
- (7) Hostel Manager's estimate.
- (8) As per (6)
- (9) Minutes of City Council's resolutions June 2, 1987 and **Daily News** June 3 1987.
- (10) "**Malukazi Issue and KwaZulu Policy**," J. Bhengu and C. Fourie "Malukazi Issue and KwaZulu Policy", **Inhlabamkhosi**, October 1983.
- (11) Research conducted in Afrika and Mgaga shack areas in conjunction with the University of Natal under the auspices of the Urban Foundation. □

by Peter Brown.

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC ASSOCIATION

In the last issue of REALITY there was a brief mention of the formation of the Liberal Democratic Association.

Individual Liberals are involved in a wide variety of anti-apartheid organisations but they have no home of their own. The Liberal Democratic Association is intended to fill this gap, not by trying to draw its supporters out of organisations in which they are active, but by providing a meeting point for them where they can discuss and think through the implications of support for Liberal principles in the future, and from which they can disseminate their ideas to other people and organisations.

The Association is a non-racial body whose members are asked to commit themselves to the following principles of liberal democracy:

1. Equal political rights for all, with regular, free elections;
2. Basic freedoms for all citizens with special emphasis on freedom of the person, of speech and conscience, of movement and residence, assembly and association;
3. A constitution which accepts the principle of majority rule modified by
 - (i) guaranteed individual rights; and
 - (ii) minority participation in decision making; and
 - (iii) measures designed to bring about cooperation and collaboration between social and cultural groupings within the society;
4. Open government and accountability to the people;
5. A just economic system which provides a balance between public and private ownership, control and initiative, and a more equal distribution of resources;
6. An independent judiciary with government under law.

and to declare their opposition to:

- (a) Discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex or belief and to all laws which give effect to such discrimination;
- (b) Cruel and inhuman measures or actions designed to bring about or to prevent social and political change;
- (c) All forms of totalitarianism.

In order to see how the application of its principles might work out in practice the Association is establishing four working groups to make suggestions for future policy in four important fields – economic, political, civil liberties, and the administration of justice. These will be **suggestions**, not fixed and immutable policy statements from which the slightest deviation becomes a heresy. The Association will be hoping to persuade critics of Liberalism that these suggestions offer the best basis for maximum freedom for everyone in a future non-racial South Africa. In turn it will be happy to be persuaded by them if they have something better to offer.

Within the limits of its principles the Association's approach to the solution of our problems will be as flexible as possible. South Africa has suffered enough at the hands of doctrinaire ideologues unendingly committed to their Utopian dreams. Dr Verwoerd was our classic example. Like all of his kind the **plan** became more important than people, who, if they got in its way, were simply brushed aside or trampled underfoot. We cannot afford another experience like that, whether the architects of the new **plan** are of the Right or the Left.

The task of Liberals in 1987 is to convince a sceptical audience that what they advocate is better than what anybody else does. Collectively, through the Liberal Democratic Association, they must now produce the facts and arguments to carry that conviction. Individually they must continue to involve themselves fully in whatever anti-apartheid activity best suits their own temperament and talents. Their ideas and their involvement will decide the extent of their influence on the future. □