

by whatever means available (eg. by writing to the press; by issuing pamphlets) so the villains are exposed.

This is the least we can do for the brave five. If not, we will be in default and unwillingly become part of the machinery to silence the voice of resistance.

FIGHT THE JULY 1988 RENT INCREASES!

A number of townships around Durban are faced with massive rent hikes as from July 1988. Responding from instructions from the Houses of Parliament to local authorities, the Durban City Council has "surveyed" incomes, "re-assessed" rentals and presented the increases as if the more than 15 000 tenants have a choice in the entire process.

A warning must be sounded as the amounts payable presented are merely the rentals and excludes electricity, water, rates and general lighting costs. It is only a matter of time before these costs increase as well. The cost of both water and electricity has increased at least twice each over the past two years.

What about medical costs, transport, food and clothing? As from 1 April 1988, even pensioners and grantees have had to pay for treatment at hospitals and clinics run by the Natal Provincial Administration. The Phoenix Community Health Centre, built at a cost of more than R5 million, has proved to be precious little else besides a showpiece under the administration of the House of Delegates.

What is clear, however, is that the respective State Authorities deem it fit to increase their income by breaking the backs of those who already bear much of the brunt of economic exploitation and political oppression. The hardest hit workers are exploited as producers and together with their families are further exploited as consumers when they return home.

Rents are a particularly sensitive issue in townships throughout the country. Recall the millions in lost revenue to State coffers because entire communities resisted such increases. Rents should be affordable and people should have the right to accommodation, which is of a quality they should also have a right to choose. Increases at a time when there is a freeze on wages, without a basic minimum living wage for all workers, are an insult the exploited and oppressed must take full note of.

It is no accident that the ruling class behaves in this fashion. It is part and parcel of systematic oppression and exploitation country-wide. It is time that all those struggling under the yoke of these twin evils, stand together in organisations related to all aspects of our lives - trade unions, civic and student organisations, cultural and political organisations. Our freedom from all these insults that flow from

the South African system lies only in our solidarity with all those across the nation living under the same conditions.

We must organise ourselves to be able to meet with the many, many challenges of the future, before any true liberation can be possible. We must be aware of our pivotal collective role in society and begin to take control of all the different aspects of our lives, in order to transform society. We must begin to think seriously about what is to be done with what we produce. We must have the right to choose people who can be accountable to us over how public funds are collected and distributed.

A LUTA CONTINUA! !

MORE ENTERTAINMENT FROM THE TRICAM CIRCUS

The clowns are at it again. On the 5th May 1988, 11 members of the ruling National People's (Sic!) Party resigned and formed a coalition with the opposition in the "Indian" House of Delegates to form a People's (Sic!) Party of South Africa.

The combined opposition which is now in the majority in the H.O.D. has called for Rajbansi's resignation. He refused to resign saying anything is possible in the H.O.D. . He is reported to have said that he could regain a majority "by dangling carrots" and has made this offer to the other members of the H.O.D. "Bring another man with you and you have a job".

Serious allegations of corruption, irregularity and dishonesty have been levelled at Rajbansi and his administration.

A motion calling for Rajbansi's resignation as Chairman of the Minister's Council was passed by 24 votes to 17 but Rajbansi has again refused. The deadlock has still not been resolved and is awaiting the intervention of Bass P.W. Botha.

The buffoonery in the H.O.D. once again demonstrates that the tricameral system is no substitute for a democratic unitary system of government in a unitary state.