

The oppressed have been abused. At Ellis Park their dignity was assailed. All this was done with the co-operation and assistance of the ANC/NOSC.

We must expose as fraudulent the unity which the ANC/NOSC claim has been achieved. The only beneficiaries of this bogus unity are the white sports persons who have been guaranteed international tours. No real benefit has filtered down to the oppressed masses. Nothing has changed. The real nature of the unity between the South African Rugby Union and the South African Rugby Board stands exposed for all to see.

We must go back to basics. Only the democratic resolution of the political struggle will liberate our sportspersons. The sports' struggle cannot be isolated from our broad struggle for liberation. Our problems cannot be sorted out piecemeal. The sellout of the sports struggle is part and parcel of the sellout that is taking place on the political front.

VAT - ANOTHER GOVERNMENT BLUNDER

When VAT (Value Added Tax) was introduced last year it was met with hatred by the oppressed people. And with good reason - VAT has hit the poorest the hardest. Experience has confirmed this for every worker.

At the time that VAT was introduced, the government and its backers trumpeted VAT as a more efficient tax. Their argument was as follows:

VAT was to replace GST (General Sales Tax) which was inefficient when compared to VAT. In particular, GST allowed for tax evasion - that is, illegally avoiding payment of tax. (As the worker had no way of avoiding paying GST, the cheating had obviously to be on the part of the rich businessmen and their cohorts in the government). VAT was going to change this. The favorite government analogy was that of the dripping tap - the dripping water was GST and it represented wastage. VAT was to stop the dripping. It therefore represented a saving.

The distinct impression was created that by collecting tax more efficiently ordinary people would benefit.

True to form the government bungled yet again. In August they quietly announced that from April to June 1992 they collected 21 percent *less* VAT than they did GST in the same period last year. This represents a loss of about NINE HUNDRED MILLION RAND. In other words VAT, the

government's " more efficient tax" is less efficient than the wasteful GST system it has replaced!

But that is not the end of it. The oppressed will have to continue to endure the crime of VAT, including VAT on food. Also in view of the failure of VAT to generate adequate funds for the government there is the strong possibility that the VAT rate will be increased. This means increasing the misery of the people of South Africa.

The VAT saga proves yet again that the rulers in South Africa are totally unfit to rule this country. Together with their whole ruling edifice they need to be overthrown before we can make any progress to a better future.

MODEL C SCHOOLS - THE ONGOING CHARADE

Education is indisputably part of the solution to some of the major problems (unemployment, homelessness, poverty and crime) facing the millions of oppressed people in South Africa. Any genuine and sincere attempt towards remedying this situation by those in power would have to give priority to education for the children of the oppressed. Recent developments have proved that the ruling class has no intention of reversing the decline in education provided for the oppressed.

The government's scheme to convert the majority of "white" public schools to semi-private schools, that is, to the Model C type, is clearly a move to prevent the children of the poor from seeking admission to these schools. The collaborators in the tri-cameral parliament are hatching up similar plans for "Indian" and "Coloured" schools.

The move to turn the white education system into one of subsidised private schools effectively means that the doors of these schools will remain closed to the children of the poorest, most disadvantaged section of the South African population. The high fees, expensive uniforms and transport costs will be affordable only by those that are presently classified "white" and a small group of "black" upper and middle class children. *The formerly racially segregated schooling system is now being segregated on the basis of income, wealth and privilege.* These schools will continue to be generously staffed since the Model C dispensation enables schools to retain more teachers, hence allowing for smaller class groups. The income from