

'WEST INDIES SHOULD TOUR SA'

London Bureau

LONDON — A tour of South Africa by a West Indies cricket team playing against non-White teams only would be an "advance," according to Conrad Hunte, the former West Indian opening batsman and vice captain.

Speaking at a party here to celebrate the publication of his book "Playing to Win", Mr Hunte made it clear that he would like to see a fully representative series between the two countries. "It would be the greatest series," he said.

But he accepted that the prospects of an authentic series were slim for the immediate future, although he and "most West Indian cricketers" would be in favour of full cricketing relations between South Africa and the West Indies.

TEST SERIES

Pressed on the question of what could — or should — be done, given the political realities, Mr Hunte said two interim steps could be taken: a test series in a neutral country, say, Britain and a West Indian tour of South Africa within the framework of Mr Voster's declared sports policy.

Mr Hunte is no advocate of segregation in sport or any other sphere, as his book makes clear, but he thought a West Indian tour of "non-White South Africa" might prepare the way for a genuinely non-racial tour.

There were "many self-righteous people in the West Indies" who would disagree — who, in fact, were in favour of a total boycott of South Africa — but Mr Hunte thought this could only compound the problem.

In his book (published by Hodder and Stoughton at R3,40) Mr Hunte writes on the wider question of racism:

party over centuries of injustice and suffering in his relationship with the rest of the world family."

He concludes: "The truth is that those who have suffered most have the most to give in the task of humanising society."

Mr Hunte's book is more than the autobiography of a cricketer: it is, in addition, the story of this search for truth and quest for the key to harmony between man and man.



CONRAD HUNTE

RACIAL ISSUES

"Racial issues are only a part of the basic trend to division and fragmentation throughout the world. Someone, some section of people have to set a new pattern of spacious statesmanship, in pioneering the art of winning over those they feel opposed to instead of crystallising and concreting disagreement.

"Blame and separation do not do it. Experience increasingly shows this. The violence that can develop out of blame is reaction, not revolution.

"It is as outmoded as the stone age. It only tends to increase the sum total of bitterness and break up the world. And division usually becomes the tool of those who

are, in fact, lusty and planning for power for themselves.