

ST. KITTS: The Solution - By EWART ROUSE

PRESSURE TACTICS by West Indian governments on the Bradshaw regime was on Friday night seen by Dr. William Herbert as the positive solution to the St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla crisis.

The bearded Opposition leader of the three-island state, in an address at the Port-of-Spain Town Hall, called for "concerted pressure" on Premier Robert Bradshaw's Government to at least force it to recognise the Opposition.

His "pet" solution to the problem was to see the Government remove itself from the scene - but he did not consider this likely.

If his "positive" or "pet" solution to the problem could not be realised, Dr. Herbert expressed fear that "some other" solution would be found. He did not elaborate on this point.

"I am asking each and everyone," he told the Town Hall audience, "on behalf of the people of my territory, to take an active interest in what is happening at home."

He added: "Unless you are prepared to take a stand now, what is happening to St. Kitts may well happen here."

A little cog

He did not think any useful purpose would be served by requesting Britain to do anything, for "Britain has had its Rhodesia".

He considered the issue a West Indian one, and he did not think that the individual territories of the Caribbean should stand idly by and maintain that St. Kitts was a little world in itself, but should realise that St. Kitts "was a little cog in the big whole wheel...."

If West Indian governments stood by and maintained that the St. Kitts crisis was an internal matter, and they washed their hands of it, then he feared that all the work for Caribbean unity would have meant nothing at all.

Dr. Herbert, who was introduced by barrister-at-law Mr. Karl T. Hudson-Phillips, gave a detailed run-down of the events which led to the present crisis, as he unleashed a scathing attack on Premier Bradshaw.

He described Mr. Bradshaw as a man who had been fighting against himself, "for all the torture and torment created has been a direct result of this man's conflict."

Dr. Herbert told the self-styled Lieutenant Colonel (Bradshaw) who had declared "a dirty war," on the people; he told how he and members of his party were "rounded up like cattle" and thrown into prison.

The whole thing was "one whole enormous joke," monstrous foolishness," and "a monstrous parade;" the only thing that was not funny about it was that people were being affected.

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Dr. Herbert said that the St. Kitts situation affected the entire Caribbean area in that it was creating a climate bad for tourist development, and for economic investment in the entire area.

Those who supported CARIFTA, Dr. Herbert said, would be surprised to know that Premier Bradshaw had declared that he would not allow St. Kitts to become a dumping ground for interior Caribbean goods.

He believed that a solution could be found because the Bar Association of the West Indies had fundamental values, and because the men of the Caribbean were basically decent.