

Hunte backs ties with SA

FORMER West Indian test cricketer, Mr Conrad Hunte, has come out in favour of the international cricketing community renewing ties with South Africa because of the moves toward multi-racial cricket in this country.

In an interview yesterday, Mr Hunte, a full-time Christian worker for the Moral Rearmament Movement in Britain who is visiting Cape Town with 24 other members of the movement said he was encouraged by the sincerity in the moves toward multi-racial sport.

But, he said, it was obvious South Africa had

not changed altogether toward multiracialism in sport.

'It is my opinion that sportsmen should be allowed to play against each other. Even if they disagree, they should meet and play and try to understand each other.'

RECONSIDER

'I would like to see the West Indies play South Africa, and the countries who have severed their sporting links with this country should reconsider their stand in view of the moves toward multiracial sport.'

'It's better to have part of the cake instead of refusing to eat,' Mr Hunte said.

He said it was not his business to interfere in the problems of South Africa.

'I don't want to point fingers but rather see where we are at fault according to the standards of Christ. I've come here to learn to understand the people and their problems and to share with them my experiences.'

UPHEAVALS

'I am aware that there have been upheavals in this country and would like to see the race differences corrected for the sake of South Africa and the world.'

'But I believe that South Africa must work out its own solutions and feel that no one country should dictate to another. They should rather advise, counsel and inform.'

'The only way to help the country is to visit it, meet the people, understand their problems and share experiences,' he said.

There were three things that encouraged him — South Africans loved South Africa; there was a great moral and spiritual reservoir; and similar problems existed elsewhere.

SOLUTIONS

If South Africa could find solutions it would have much effect on overseas countries and change world opinion, he said.

'I believe people overseas have only one side of this country, the problematic side.'

About South Africa's cricketing prospects, he said:

'I watched the match at Newlands between the South African Invitation XI and Natal and was very impressed with De-



FORMER West Indian test cricketer Conrad Hunte.

nys Hobson, who is a fine spin bowler, and Peter Kirsten.

'The fundamentals are there, they could become test material.'