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The World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament opens this weekend at Caux, European headquarters of Moral Re-Armament. Dr. Frank N. D. Buchman sailed for Europe this week. Leaders of political, industrial and cultural life from many nations are taking part. The aim of the Assembly is to demonstrate a basis of world unity. It will make available the evidence of an ideological answer to the present crisis.

A FEDERATION OF IDEAS

There will be a special parliamentary session at the Assembly. Invitations to members of Parliament from 36 countries have gone from government and opposition members of both houses of the British Parliament. They say, "The world is hungry for an idea which will both heal and unite. We believe that Moral Re-Armament, with its principle of what is right and not who is right, has found the answer to which both East and West may now be ready to respond.

"This year it is more urgent than ever that members of the free parliaments of the world should meet to develop the common bond between us, and, in face of the

present struggle of ideologies, to create the federation of ideas which is a necessity if the nations are to avert final disaster."

Acceptances have already been received from the United States, Sweden, Norway, France, Germany, Japan, Nigeria, the Gold Coast, Jamaica, Southern Rhodesia, South Africa, Australia and the Lebanon.

During the past six years 450 members of parliament from 43 nations have taken part in the World Assemblies at Caux.

Delegates from the Far East play a notable part in the opening sessions. The official representatives of the Prime Minister of Thailand, Dr. Vichien, Director General of the Department of Culture, and Mr. Sang Pathonothai, Secretary of the Thailand TUC, and representatives from India, Pakistan, Burma, Malaya and Japan are among those at the Assembly this weekend. Members of the Legislative Assemblies of Nigeria and the Gold Coast have accepted invitations and will take part in the conference with representatives from South and East Africa and the Sudan.

IDEOLOGY FOR AFRICA

In recent months much publicity has been given to the presence of 4,000 African students in Britain. Most of them will hold positions of responsibility when they return home. The treatment they receive and the ideas they absorb during their stay will determine the leadership they give to their countries.

Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, President of the National Council for Nigeria and the Cameroons, is deeply concerned with this question. While in London on his way to Helsinki with the Nigerian Olympic team, he took the opportunity of addressing a group of West African students at a reception in 45 Berkeley Square.

Dr. Azikiwe has devoted his life to the fight for self-government for his country. In 1946 he was elected president of the National Council for Nigeria and the Cameroons. In the recent elections his party emerged as the dominant party in the Eastern provinces and in Lagos.

"When in 1949 I came to London to attend various conferences against man's inhumanity to man, I had the opportunity of studying the principles of Moral Re-Armament," said Dr. Azikiwe. "What did I discover? I found out that Moral Re-Armament had been able to grapple with the main problems facing

humanity today. At the back of what man does is his greed for self.

"It is no use trying to get the other fellow to change; you have to change yourself first. When you change, the other fellow will change; then you have two individuals changed. They change four and then eight; then a community is changed; a nation is changed; a race is changed and it is possible we will have humanity changed. The first thing I learned in Moral Re-Armament is not to point an accusing finger at the other fellow. As one finger points to the other fellow, three fingers point back to me. So there are three chances to one you are wrong yourself.

"At the time I was at Caux we in West Africa were on the threshold of a great political awakening," the African leader continued. "I belonged to a nation-wide party. I made up my mind to approach my political opponents and offer the hand of fellowship in the interests of my country and of the human race. Upon my return I went to the house of their leader and said to him: 'You want self-government for Nigeria. I and my group want self-government for Nigeria. Why are we at each other's throats? It is not who is right but what is right. Is it right that we should be at each other's

throats simply because we are too proud? I am an African and in Africa we give respect to age. I am many years younger than you. I am sorry for what has happened before. It is not that I am right and you wrong, but henceforth, let us concentrate on what is right for Nigeria and let that be the basis of leadership. Here is my hand.' He responded."

Entrusted with the task of drawing up his party's education programme. Zik has incorporated much of the philosophy of MRA. It reads :

"EDUCATION : Our educational programme shall be designed to produce citizens who are capable of adapting themselves not only to their surroundings but also to the world environment.

"We shall emphasise education of the Head, Hand and Heart, to enable our children to gain knowledge, skill and a sense of duty to the community. Whilst emphasising the three H's, we shall not overlook the influence of religion on character development, hence we shall encourage ethical instruction in the schools of the land with a bias on absolute moral standards of Honesty, Purity, Unselfishness and Love, not on the basis of the principle of *who* is right, but on *what* is right."

THE FORGOTTEN FACTOR IN DAGENHAM

The theatre in which *The Forgotten Factor* played in Dagenham 16-21 July had never been so full before. Dagenham people, a local newspaper-man said, do not go to the theatre. But they went to *The Forgotten Factor*—workers and management from Briggs and Fords, dockers and their families, the press, the clergy, the businessmen.

"Appropriately enough," the *Dagenham Post* reported, "the first of four Dagenham performances of Moral Re-Armament's play *The Forgotten Factor* was given on the day that the nearly 10,000 unofficial strikers at Briggs returned to work. Shop stewards both from Briggs and Fords were among the packed audiences.

"The play seeks to present an answer not only to the divisions between Capitalism and Labour, but to the schisms between nations and races, between classes and in homes."

As the men and women of Dagenham, Ilford and

Romford mingled in the theatre after the play and discussed the philosophy behind it with members of the cast, a new approach to industrial problems was born in many people's minds. Tom Keep, who had been 22 years a Communist and formerly president of the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union, commented, "It must be clear to the thousands of people of this area that a better understanding in industry is a most urgent necessity. This better understanding can come only through an ideological change in both management and labour. *The Forgotten Factor* shows how such a change is possible."

The Daily Worker, 24 July, warned its readers that "their campaigns are not to be taken lightly." Meanwhile Moral Re-Armament has come to stay in Dagenham. The immediate result of the visit of *The Forgotten Factor* has been an invitation from all sides to extend the action in the area.

BRAZIL : REPORT FROM SANTOS DOCKS

Several Administration officials (including a Government prosecutor) have recently been dismissed for Communist activity. Fifty trade union leaders have just left Brazil for three months' training in Moscow. Meanwhile the 52 Brazilian delegates to the Mackinac Assembly have returned. They have already initiated a programme of training meetings, articles and broad-

casts, presenting to the nation an alternative philosophy to class war. This programme focused on 20 July at a mass meeting in Santos, Brazil's largest port (pop. 300,000) which exports half of the world's coffee output.

In an article in the leading Santos paper, *Tribune*, the president of the Federation of Coffee Export Firms of

Santos, Alvaro Guimaraes, writes, "Two important questions of wages have been quickly answered in Rio de Janeiro by the application of MRA. I am convinced that, on the main issues dividing this country, we will reach a basis on which we can build definite co-operation between employers and employees."

Alipio Rodriguez, President of the Coffee Workers Union, writes in the same issue, "No one group, class, nation or race is capable of solving the problems which face the world today, or dealing with poverty, unemployment and war. It is necessary that all unite in a common effort under the guidance of a wisdom superior

to human wisdom and transform their actions and their lives within the framework of the four absolute standards."

A third article is contributed by Jose Filho, employee of the Santos Dock Co., and fifteen years the brains of the Santos Communist Party, "This is the magic avalanche which will prevent world chaos; an avalanche in which all men irrespective of their faith, race or political origin must immediately take part in order to avoid the imminent catastrophe of atomic war."

His comments are of particular interest in view of the persistent Communist attempts at infiltration of the Brazilian Trade Unions.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION LEADERS ON MRA

"The world crisis is too grave for the luxury of factional struggle in the ranks of labour," said Matthew Woll, Chairman of the AFL Free Trade Union Committee, writing in the *International Free Trade Union News*. "And the role of the free trade union movement is too decisive to permit unwarranted and destructive divisions in our camp."

Hassan Ismail Bey, Director General of the Department of Labour in Egypt, stated at a recent conference that the MRA programme has averted a serious split in the Egyptian trade union movement. It has united the two opposing factions. He reported that he personally had been putting the finishing touches to *The Forgotten Factor* in Arabic with a view to its performance in Cairo shortly.

The Secretary General of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Hariharnath Shastri, recounted on the same occasion his five years' association with Moral Re-Armament. This began, he said, when he saw the change in an English administrator in India. It was his conviction that a dark world needed the "light that radiates from Caux."

These international Trade Union leaders were speaking at special industrial conferences in Caux. Others

at these sessions included: C. P. Choudhary, Deputy President, Iron and Steel Workers Union, India; Frau Anna Arndt, Executive Committee Member, German Salaried Employees Union; P. D. Hernandez, President Philippine Dock Workers Union; Alirio Recinos, Secretary of the Consultation Council of the Guatemalan Unions; Abdel Fattah S. Wahida, General Secretary, Egyptian Federation of Industries; Abdul Razzar Ibrahim, Director General of the Labour Department, Iraq; Mohammed Fathy Kamel, President, Trade Union of the Oriental Tobacco and Cigarette Co.; Chen Tien-shun, President of the Formosa Trades Union Congress.

A large Japanese delegation also attended, among them the President of Radio Tokyo. One of their number, Shunichiro Nakagawa, industrial relations manager for the Mitsubishi Electric Co., Tokyo, had just flown from the World Assembly in Mackinac. He spoke of the death of his wife and daughter in the atomic bombing of Japan, and of his bitterness which had been healed at Mackinac.

He concluded, "As we face the problems of world labour and the conflict of ideologies, I know that only Moral Re-Armament will be able to solve them."

A REPORT TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

At a reception for members of the medical profession in Britain, 23 July, Mr. Campbell Milligan, a noted London surgeon, urged his colleagues to re-think their role in this critical twentieth century. "Are the aims of medicine adequate?" he asked. "Is it enough in an ideological age merely to care for the health of men? Medicine has a wider aim and a greater destiny today. It is to offer a way of life, a positive ideology to man, as well as to cure his mind and body. It is to move from our isolation and take responsibility with others to cure the sickness of a divided world."

Among the sixty distinguished members of the pro-

fession present, were medical and dental delegates to conferences in London from America, Africa, Germany, Italy and Denmark.

Doctors who have been working with Moral Re-Armament task forces in Africa, America and British industrial centres reported on the effectiveness of Moral Re-Armament in dealing with racial and industrial conflict.

The principal speakers were Mr. E. H. Richards, senior ear, nose and throat surgeon at Stoke-on-Trent and Dr. Ernest Claxton, Assistant-Secretary of the British Medical Association.

WORKERS' CONFERENCE IN THE RUHR

A serious situation is developing in German industry with possibilities of a general strike. The works' councils in the Ruhr have a special significance in this connection. They are the nerve centres of West German industry, representing the workers in all questions—pay, hours, housing and conditions—that come up with the employers. Their status is indicated by the fact that a proportion of their members receive full salary while being freed from ordinary work so that they may devote themselves entirely to their works' council duties.

To capture these organisations has been a vital objective in the communist strategy: by 1950 the communists had succeeded in gaining 72% of the seats on them. Since then this has been reduced to 25%,

due mainly to the action of MRA.

Seventy shop-stewards and chairmen and members of works' councils gathered for a week-end conference at Dortmund, 19 and 20 July. Among them were Paul Dikus, Max Bladeck, Fritz Heske and Julius Biller of the Gelsenkirchen Coal Company, representing various pits; Otto Sperling of the West Berlin Federation of Trade Unions; representatives from the Hamburg dockers, the Rheinhausen Steel works and other metal factories, from the Bosch Electrical works and the Henkel Chemical Company. These men discussed how MRA could be applied more widely in industry as the answer to the present disputes over the degree of workers' participation in the management of industry.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Press—On 14 July Peter Howard addressed 46 representatives of AFL, CIO, and management at a dinner arranged by the editor of the *Memphis Press-Scimitar*. He said MRA is doing three things: (1) It is offering the world an answer to Communism, not anti-Communist, but superior to Communism. (2) It is offering the basis of permanent unity for the Western world. (3) It is an idea compelling enough to change and unite both East and West.

Textile Industry—Following the lead given at the Shop Stewards' National Conference on 22 June (Information Service 5 July), Ulster textile workers' leader, Robert Getgood, has been to France to confer with leaders of the textile industry there. *La Voix du Nord*, published in Lille in the heart of the French textile manufacturing area, reports his visit under the headline, "These people try to find a world-wide solution to the world crisis in the textile industry," and states that an international textile conference is planned with representatives from 21 different countries.

Paris—Fifty trade union leaders from the Paris region and the North of France met on 18 July in Paris to plan the extension of Moral Re-Armament in the trade unions. James Haworth, of Britain, National Secretary of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association, described it as a "historic evening." For the first time leaders of all five main trade union groups in France took united action together. "MRA is the basis of common action for our unions," said Maurice Mercier, Secretary to the Textile Workers (Force Ouvrière).

London—The Afghan, Indonesian, and Nepalese Ambassadors and the Australian High Commissioner attended a reception held in London for the Bishop of Rangoon, reports *The Times*, 25 July. The Rt. Rev. George West, who speaks from a wide knowledge of the East, stressed that MRA "breaks down the bitterness and prejudice of centuries. When Dr. Buchman goes East I know the East will take him to her heart," he said.

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