

At the Westminster Theatre until 13 January

MURIEL SMITH

in

THE HURRICANE and THE LADDER

by Peter Howard

1962 : crisis and cure

THE BLIZZARD that caused havoc in Britain as the old year ended was like a warning of the storms we face in 1962 in this country and across the world.

Like the cars and buses, helpless on icy roads, politicians are trying to steer their way through the chaos of national and international events.

One thing was clear—1962 will be a year of crisis. It can also be a year of cure. The chaos can be replaced by the sanity of a God-given answer.

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IN BRITAIN, for the first time in the nation's history, the Civil Service unions plan industrial action in support of wage claims. The General Secretary of the T.U.C. speaks of a possible industrial crisis greater than any in twenty-five years. In foreign affairs Lord Home warns that the United Nations may have 'had its day'.

A full page in the *Sunday Express* on Christmas Eve arrested millions of readers with the thought, 'Britain's gift to Mr. K. and Mr. K.' Our gift to the Kremlin, it said, could be 'a revolution greater and more effective than Communism', and to the White House 'a superior ideology'.

Travelling hundreds of miles through ice and snow, 650 people from all parts of the British Isles came to a New Year Assembly in London where they planned concretely to make that gift available this year.

Dockers from Liverpool and London, students from eight universities, headmasters and teachers,

trade union leaders and farmers took on the task of creating the national unity Britain needs. They made up their minds that Britain must break free of moral spinelessness, industrial conflict, and of weakness in the face of world communism. They decided not to turn back till this was done.

Twenty-six students, standing together on the platform, declared that for Britain's youth the policy of 'sit down and protest' must be replaced by the determination to 'stand up and fight' to put right what is wrong in this and every nation.

Air Vice-Marshal P. E. Maitland, formerly Director of Operational Training in the *Air Ministry*, told the Assembly, '1962 will be as decisive a year for Britain as 1914 and 1940. Then we recognised the danger, left everything and went full out for victory. Now we face a far greater threat—Communist world take-over or nuclear destruction. The fate of Britain and the world will depend on what we decide to do now. If we choose the road of MRA we shall preserve freedom for the whole world.'

Mr. Joe Hancock of Liverpool, editor of *The Waterfront Pioneer*, who was for twenty-three years a member of the Communist Party, called on Labour to take up the challenge of Frank Buchman: Labour led by God will lead the world. 'We face industrial unrest,' he said, 'which could become so severe that Communism gets its chance to take over the country. Moral Re-Armament, which changes men and management, is what the workers really want. We are going to take this ideology throughout

the mines, docks and factories of Britain. And we plan to get Peter Howard's book, *Frank Buchman's Secret*, into the hands of the leaders of this country.'

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THE LEADERS OF ASIA know what rapid action is needed. On India's northern border and in the jungles of Burma and Viet Nam, they count the cost of the world ideological struggle in dead and tortured men and women and territory yielded mile by mile. Statesmen like U Nu and Ngo Diem have urged that a mobile force, equipped with plays and films, proceed at once to bring Moral Re-Armament to the danger-spots of their continent.

As a first move, an Assembly of the Nations is to take place at Kanakakunnu Palace, Trivandrum, South India, from 11-15 January.

Mannath Padmanabhan, leader of the liberation movement which freed Kerala from Communism in 1959, Taikad Subramonia Iyer, former Advocate General, two former cabinet ministers and trade union officials are among those who are taking the initiative. They say: 'We must present a positive alternative to the millions of Asia who are longing for a better way and the certain hope of a great future.'

The Japanese delegation will be led by Saburo Chiba, Chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the Japanese Diet. In Japan, Mr. Chiba, with former Prime Minister Kishi and other national leaders, is creating at Odawara on the slopes of Mount Fuji a World Assembly Centre similar to those at Caux and Mackinac.

Last week Sayadaw U Narada, Secretary-General of the Presiding Abbots' Association of Burma, was received at Odawara by Prince Kanin, relative of the Japanese Emperor. There he offered a Buddhist prayer traditionally reserved for the blessing of important buildings under construction. He told his hosts, 'Moral Re-Armament is the only ideology which can outmatch Communism. Leaders of every country must now make it national policy. This centre will change the whole future of the world. MRA is a source of light for all humanity, like the sun and the moon.'

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IN LATIN AMERICA in 1961 an ideological revolution started with the visit of a Moral Re-Armament task force. The very Japanese students whose riots had kept Eisenhower from Tokyo spoke through their play, *The Tiger*, to 1,600,000 directly and to

millions more on television. The masses who had previously turned to Castroism and Communism to save them from poverty, exploitation and corruption began to find in Moral Re-Armament an answer to the deeper problems of selfishness and hate. Just before the demonstration in Rio de Janeiro which drew 50,000 to the Maracana Stadium on 23 December, General Eisenhower cabled congratulations 'on the outstanding results of your tour'.

As 1962 dawned the Japanese, who have moved through Brazil, Peru, Bolivia and Chile, prepared to continue their offensive in the continent. But now students from San Marcos, the oldest and most revolutionary university in South America, moved with them. These students, men who stoned both Nixon and Stevenson on their recent visits to Peru, take with them their own weapon in the ideological struggle for their continent, *El Condor* (The Eagle). When they told their country's President, Manuel Prado, of their rejection of Castroism and their acceptance of the greater revolution of Moral Re-Armament, he said to them, 'Thank you for the service you are rendering to our country. This is a very great world-wide work.'

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Meanwhile from Japan former Prime Minister Kishi cabled General Ho Ying-chin and the force of fifty Free Chinese moving through Scandinavia with their play, *The Dragon*. The Japanese leader expressed his gratitude for what the Chinese are doing to 'upturn the thinking and living of the world', and said: '1962 will see a glorious victory for the ideology of Moral Re-Armament.'

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AMERICA AND BRITAIN face a critical rift in their relationship. The United Nations has been used to divide them at a time when nothing suits Moscow better and when the future of the world could depend on their ability to unite.

The course of events can be turned, and swiftly. Speaking at the New Year Assembly in London, Dr. Paul Campbell said, 'When Britain and America begin to make Moral Re-Armament the mainspring of national life—the policy of government, the motive of industry, the philosophy of education, the fire and passion of the Church—at that moment Moscow and Peking will come running for the answer. The future of millions, the freedom of millions depends on what we in Britain and America decide to be and do.'

The Dragon in the North

DR OYVIND
SKARD

Krushchev said recently that the time was past when the North could remain a corner of peace and tranquility.

It was an understatement.

Swedish troops are at war for the first time in 150 years—in the Congo.

Norway's government Party is threatened by splits—over NATO and the Common Market.

Finland faces pressure from the East and fears desertion by the West.

Divided and isolated, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark are easy prey to Communism's 'salami' tactics—takeover slice by slice. United by a common ideology they could give backbone to European solidarity. They could give the next ideological step to the countries of Africa and Asia, where they are regarded as patterns of social progress.

Hence the importance attached by Scandinavian leaders—and by the Kremlin—to Moral Re-Armament's offensive throughout the Nordic North.

For it is coming to grips with the fears that silence democrats and the lack of ideology that makes them a tool of Communist aims.

Underlying the military problems of NATO and the economic problems of the Common Market is an issue more basic to Nordic unity.

It was focused by General Ho, who is the Chairman of the President's Military Strategy Advisory Board of the Republic of China, when he said, 'The decisive force in affairs today is not geography nor diplomacy nor economics. We Free Chinese have come to Europe because we believe we have found an answer to the central issue of our age—ideology.'

'Why should we allow on any continent a small group of godless materialists to set back the clock of history when together we can launch an ideological offensive that will bring God's inspired answer to Communists and non-Communists alike?'

The Free Chinese moved into Stockholm at a moment when the Swedish representative at the UN was promoting the recognition of Red China.

The visit immediately became the subject of widespread comment in the press with editorials, photos, articles and cartoons. 18,000 homes were visited and crowds poured out to see *The Dragon* in the Blue Room of the City Hall, pride of Stockholm.

One hundred and eighty Finns arrived by plane. They included M.P.s from the Agrarian, Socialist and Conservative parties—among them a past Prime Minister and former cabinet ministers. Speaking to 1,000 people

at the reception following the Nordic première, Finnish M.P. Mikko Asunta declared, 'Tonight has given us the courage and faith that we will keep our freedom. We need Moral Re-Armament and men who are led by God to preserve our independence.'

James Dickson, M.P. and Chamberlain to the King, told the Swedish Parliament, 'Fear is a bad counsellor. We need men who can stand up and say to Krushchev, "We respect the total commitment with which you fight for your ideology, but your idea is too small, your methods are antiquated and mistaken and can only lead to disaster. You cannot build the right kind of world with hate, bitterness and division. Let us instead pledge everything together for a greater idea which by changing men really solves the problems of mankind."'

Major Axel von Heijne, of the Swedish Royal Life Guards, told an audience which included the founder of the Swedish Air Force, 'As a military officer it is self-evident that I must fight in the ideological struggle until democracy with MRA triumphs all over the world.'

Jan Cronstedt, Sweden's all-round gymnastic champion in 1959 and coach of the National gymnastic team, declared, 'I stand for Moral Re-Armament. It does not matter what reaction we get, we must speak the truth.'

The Stockholm daily *Dagen* editorialised, 'MRA has set out with all its strength to reshape society. All the forces for good must be engaged in this battle.'

In another editorial it added, 'MRA's aim is a fight against atheism and immorality. It fights hard when it fights these enemies of the people, because it is up against powers that are not easily dealt with.'

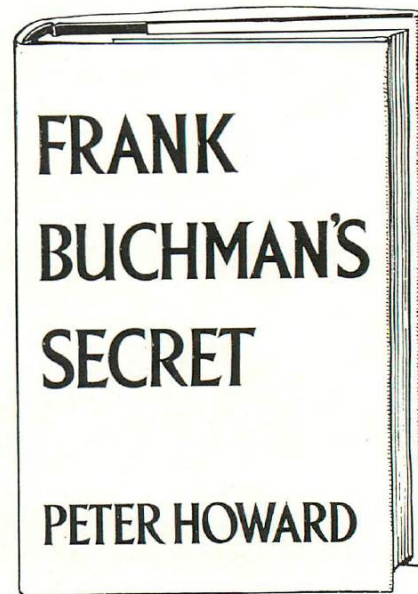
General Ho and the MRA force were invited to Norway by Carl Hambro, past President of the League of Nations and of the Norwegian parliament. In Oslo a tremendous reception awaited them. Television filmed the thousands of citizens who thronged the pavements along the main street as the ideological force—500 strong—marched from the main station past the parliament to the university.

The Oslo Daily *Vart Land* wrote of General Ho and the cast of *The Dragon*, 'They will show us another China which is on the march in the ideological struggle in the world. They have seen clearly what was wrong in the old China and shown tens of thousands of people a way out of the Chinese confusion and frustration. That is why they will be welcome in Oslo.'

The editor, Bjorn Høye, added, 'There is an alternative to Red China's Dragon. It is the army of General Ho. It gives me hope for the world.'

*Bookshops selling out as fast as their supplies come in; orders and re-orders streaming into the Publisher's head office; cables calling for copies by air from every part of the world; thousands of copies going into the Christmas mail in special white cartons with their gay labels—this has been the first fortnight of Peter Howard's new book in this country. At the same time, 100,000 copies came out in Portuguese in Rio. In Sweden the book was published to coincide with the visit of *The Dragon*, and news came of a Burmese edition on the way—the sixteenth language in which the book is appearing.*

All over Britain the press give reviews. Here are extracts from some of them:



'Peter Howard's books have sold over four million copies; two plays of his are now running in the West End of London. His latest book, *Frank Buchman's Secret*, reaches the highest level yet of personal insight and statesmanship. It takes that to understand and interpret Frank Buchman's Secret.

'For anyone, no matter what his class, colour, creed or calling, who wants the secret of dealing with men, in Cabinet, board room, trade union or shop floor, this book is a "must."'

NORTHERN WHIG, Belfast, 12 December

'Peter Howard has never written anything better than this, and his secret is that he writes from an experience which might very well have been one of the many stories and incidents he relates. Frank Buchman is allowed to reveal his own "Secret" and it is perhaps best summed up in his reply to a critic, "I do not say I am without sin. I do say I live for one thing only, to make Jesus Christ regnant in the life of every person I meet."

The book is a fascinating account of this personal work in contact with all sorts of people. The chapter on Africa begins with the story of Philip Q. Vundla, one-time militant leader of Africans in the Johannesburg area. Two years ago I sat in his little house in the African location and heard him tell me this story of his wonderful change of heart.'

DR. E. BENSON PERKINS, retiring Secretary of the World Methodist Council, in The METHODIST RECORDER, 14 December

'Kings, Prime Ministers and statesmen came to him for inspiration. Confirmed atheists abandoned their disbelief because of him. Archbishops praised his work and Communists denounced his movement as "incorruptible"—when they were themselves not being converted! And when Frank Buchman died quietly at the age of 83, heads of State from all over the world sent messages of grief. 60,000 people in one country alone—Peru—stood in silence. Such was the influence of Buchman—once described by a Norwegian statesman as the "greatest man of our age"—and the Moral Re-Armament movement which he founded. Since he died, speculation has centred on his successor. . . . Peter Howard puts an end to the conjecture in his new book. . . .'

ALAN BROWN in the EVENING ARGUS, Brighton, 9 December

'When Gandhi visited London he was scorned as a "naked fakir". But Frank Buchman entertained him to lunch and afterwards went outside the hotel to call a taxi for Gandhi, who had little money. He asked the driver how much the fare would be and paid it. Then, after a moment of thought, he tipped him too. Gandhi's son said twenty years later: "A rich man would never have thought of doing that. A man of God would." This is one of the stories of Frank Buchman told in *Frank Buchman's Secret* by Peter Howard.'

BRISTOL EVENING WORLD, 4 December

'The book contains a wealth of vivid stories which tell how Buchman changed the lives of statesmen and ordinary people in all five continents.

'Ford was one of the great pioneers of American management who knew Buchman well and was deeply influenced by him. Yet he never gave the movement money. "We had that kind of friendship," said Buchman, "where money was neither expected nor given." Ford once told Buchman: "Since you came here last year, nineteen of my managers have been saved from divorce as a result of what I learned from you." The great car industrialist saw in MRA a force to translate private moral convictions into public policy.'

DAGENHAM POST, 6 December

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Mr. E. G. Gooch, M.P., President of the Agricultural Workers' of Great Britain, chaired a luncheon in Norwich last week at which Frank Buchman's Secret was launched throughout East Anglia. With his Vice-President, Mr. A. V. Hilton, M.P., he welcomed the author, Mr. Peter Howard, and Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of the Mahatma.

'*Frank Buchman,*' said Mr. Gooch, 'was a great leader of men with an infinite capacity for good. His influence was felt in many lands because he dealt with men on the real issues facing them and their nations. This book of Peter Howard's captures brilliantly and with humour the spirit of the man and passes it on to those who read it.'