



MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

THE LESSON OF THE HIMALAYAS

JAPAN—PIVOT OF ASIA (2)

FOUR NEAPOLITAN BUS DRIVERS

NEWS IN BRIEF

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Britain has her greatest rôle to play

OLYMPIC Gold Medal oarsman Rusty Wailes of the United States, disagrees with some of his countrymen who think that Britain's rôle as a nation is played out.

'Britain has yet her greatest rôle to play,' says Wailes, one of America's winning four-man crew at the Rome Olympics of 1960. 'Britain can pattern a unity that all nations, even a divided world, would long to copy.'

Fellow world-beating oarsman John Sayre holds the same view. They both say so night after night to audiences in the Westminster Theatre, where they are part of the 70-strong 20-nation cast of *Space is so Startling*—London's 'zippy new musical', as the *Evening Standard* called it.

'Zippy' it is, with the sparkling music of its 25 hit-songs, its skilled choreography and its spacemen, sportsmen, squatters, beatniks and twisters in an exciting story of our space-age world.

Written by Peter and Anthony Howard, *Space is so Startling* has tunes to set the blasé-ist feet tapping, breath-taking effects—and an idea big enough to end the cold war and unite humanity.

Most startling of all for the West End audiences is to hear men like Wailes and Sayre from America, Rajmohan Gandhi (grandson of the Mahatma) of India and the whole international cast saying in speech and music that

Britain can be the nation to take that idea to the world.

The Vice-Captain of the West Indies Cricket Team to tour Britain this summer, Conrad Hunte, agrees with them. 'Britain gave cricket to the world,' he says. 'We are grateful. Her rôle as a nation in the past was great. Her destiny in the future is greater. If she accepts this revolutionary way of life as her national and foreign policy, she will feed and fill the hungry hearts of the human race. Such a programme will bring a permanent answer to a world in crisis. Then the children of the Caribbean, the Commonwealth and every country will rise up and call her blessed.'

Here is a refreshing—and inspiring—change from the moaners and groaners brigade, who bandy arguments over Britain's greatness or lack of it, but have no word to say about where her true greatness lies. This play tells us where it lies—in two hours of skill and artistry, and with a verve and conviction which hit the audience through every song and action.

Here is a star for the British people to follow in 1963.

Gandhi believes that India, Asia and the world are waiting for a revolution adequate for the nuclear age. He says: 'We look to Britain. We believe that the courage, culture and character of this country entitle her, as no other nation, to carry such a revolution to the ends of the earth.'

'Unfinished business' on Moscow's agenda

SINCERE COMMUNISTS must enter 1963 conscious of the same need as honest men in the West—a new moral incentive for their own people and a uniting purpose for humanity.

Reports from Russia during 1962 showed that Marx's scientific socialism—whatever else it has accomplished—has not removed the necessity for knowing how to deal with difficult human nature.

The reports have shown the accuracy of the statement often made by Mr. Hans Bjerkholt, a founder of the Communist Party in Norway and a former delegate to the Comintern, that at the Moscow conferences he

attended the one item always remaining on the agenda under 'unfinished business' was how to create the new type of man.

The *Sunday Times* of 25 November reproduced a cartoon from the Soviet magazine *Krokodil*. It shows a crowd of workers in a factory canteen, each clutching a large parcel. The caption says: 'They're a friendly lot in this canteen—they're all going off together for a country hike'. But the parcels, far from being provisions for a country hike, are goods stolen from the canteen store. The problem of pilfering, it seems, is nation-wide.

A yearly headache for Soviet officials has been the publication of figures on agricultural production, which shows that the output of the Russian peasants is considerably higher on their own private plots of land than on the collective farms. In other words, they work with more enthusiasm for their own needs than for the needs of the nation.

For alleged embezzlement Soviet courts a few weeks ago ordered four men to be shot. In view of Krushchev's known desire to give Communism 'a new face' abroad, the harshness of the sentence seemed to indicate desperate measures to deal with a national outbreak of financial trickery.

Stories appear of teenage gangs running wild in provincial cities as well as in parts of Moscow. In protest riots over a drastic rise in butter and meat prices a number of people were reported killed in the Rostov area in June.

Internationally, the difficulties of human nature and the elusiveness of unity must have been even more apparent last year to the men in the Kremlin. The violent attacks on Albania continued and the bitterness of the rift with China came into the open.

Against this background, an article which appeared

in the *World Marxist Review* (published in twenty languages) on Moral Re-Armament has added significance. The author, C. I. Gulian, of the Roumanian Academy of Sciences, underlines the importance of 'questions of morals and ethics' in the training of the new type of man. Under some overtones of belittlement there is a keen understanding of the global outreach of the work of Frank Buchman, who initiated 'a programme of life which issues in personal, social, racial, national and supranational change'.

Gulian quotes from Peter Howard's and Paul Campbell's book, *America Needs an Ideology*, 'Without an ideology, democracy is like a brightly-lit shop window with nothing in the store'. Moral Re-Armament, he says, has emerged to fill the ideological and moral vacuum in the West, which has found that neither dollars, nor military bases, nor pacts can take the place of a missing ideology. Referring to MRA's four absolute moral standards, he says they are intended to lead to a world bringing 'wealth and work to all' and ending 'exploitation'.

'The ideological battle in the world,' he concludes, 'is to a great extent a question of moral values.'

To live and give those values to humanity could prove the united destiny of East and West in 1963.

The lesson of the Himalayas

FOR INDIA, a year which saw the sting of defeat on the Himalayas and the shattering of peaceful 'neutrality' ended with no signs that the threat from China had yet brought a sense of national destiny and united purpose to the sub-continent.

South India's Kerala, the only state in the world ever to vote itself into the Communist camp and then to fight its way back to a democratic form of government, may have the key to the unity so urgently needed by the whole Indian nation.

This is the firm conviction of Mannath Padmanabhan, leader of Kerala's liberation struggle and head of the powerful Nair (Hindu) community.

Three years ago Padmanabhan, called by his people 'The Lion of India', became reconciled at Caux with his enemy, Mr. P. T. Chacko, Home Minister of Kerala State, a Catholic. That reconciliation became the starting point of a united election policy which saw the democratic forces confirmed in office.

Last week the guest speakers at a reception in honour of Mannath Padmanabhan's 86th birthday were Mr. Chacko and Mr. K. M. Cherian, the chief editor of *Malayala Manorama*, whose Syrian Orthodox Community in recent years were likewise often at bitter odds with the Nairs.

Appealing to the people of Kerala to export the new unity coming to their state, Padmanabhan said, 'The time has now come when Nair and Ezhava (the rival Hindu community), Christian and Moslem must together create a hurricane in this country which will be

strong enough to clean up the whole world. MRA believes it is not good enough just to blame the darkness. It is better to light a lamp. In MRA there is no distinction between black and white, European, African and Asian. It is a great force, and I'm one with it.'

Mr. Chacko paid tribute to Padmanabhan's rôle in India's fight for independence and Kerala's liberation struggle and added, 'Mannath Padmanabhan's greatest years of leadership are yet to come—in the task of uniting India'.

'He saved Kerala,' said Cherian, 'and now we look to him to save India.'

The full page 'To Every Communist' was part of a special supplement published in honour of their leader's birthday in the Nair daily paper, *Malayali*. Five papers have now published the page as an editorial feature. They include *Kerala Kaumudi*, the largest Trivandrum daily, whose readers are said to be 50 per cent Communist.

The same week the Petroleum Workers' Union in the busy West Coast ports of Cochin and Ernakulum gave a reception for the Kerala delegation returning from the Odawara Assembly. 'The choice for India is not alignment or non-alignment,' said V. C. Viswanathan, former executive in the petroleum industry, 'but the acceptance of a superior ideology which changes Communist and non-Communist alike. A morally re-armed India, clean, strong and united, can win China's millions and speak with the voice of authority to Washington, Moscow and Cairo.'

JAPAN—PIVOT OF ASIA (2)

The second of two articles by our Tokyo correspondent

IN SEVENTEEN YEARS Japan has undergone a transformation none could have foreseen amid the ruins and humiliation of 1945. The next years could see Japan, strengthened by national unity and a sound economy, leading free Asia to the moral re-armament of the world. She would then be in a position to offer Peking a working example of prosperity and unity, and an idea for all men everywhere.

Prime Minister Ikeda has repeatedly called Japan one of the 'three pillars' on which the future of democracy rests in the world.

There is ample evidence that men in Japan intend to shape Asian events rather than only react to the initiative of nations bent on domination. A prime example of this is the initiative taken by men in government and industry to prepare Japan for ideological leadership through the creation of the MRA Asian centre at Odawara. To this centre come constantly the men whose decisions result in national policy.

Korean relations vital

Thorniest of the problems facing any new Japanese leadership is that of relations with Korea. Negotiations have dragged on and off for eleven years. Powerful elements in Japan are bent on isolating South Korea and substituting relations with the Communist North Korean regime. The North possess the bulk of the peninsula's industry. Thus for reasons of trade, certain right-wing circles seek to win the favour of the Communist Government, while extreme leftists regard the North as an ally on ideological grounds.

But proceedings towards agreement have attained a momentum which will be difficult to halt. Socialists, led by Senator Shidzue Kato, at the Odawara Assembly outspokenly challenged the anti-Korean policies of the extreme left as blind and divisive. In the judgment of Colonel Kim, second man in the Korean Government, negotiations with Japan reached a 'turning point' following his visit to Odawara last October.

The visit of Bamboku Ohno, Vice-President of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, to Seoul last month, originally not scheduled until next March, has speeded up the timetable towards agreement. During the visit statesmanship was demonstrated on both sides. General Chung Hee Park, head of the Seoul Government, told the Japanese representative, 'I believe that the historic responsibility of both nations lies in liquidating the past completely and tackling the present and the future'. Ohno let it be known that his government was prepared to pay some 400 million dollars in reparations rather than the 150 million which had originally been proposed. The Koreans said that with the settling of the reparations issue, disputes over fishing rights and the possession

of Takeshima Island could be immediately resolved.

One of the girders supporting new leadership by Japan in Asia is the economic responsibility she can shoulder for the area. Reparations remain a key factor in her economic policy. To date, some £133,000,000 have been paid to four formerly occupied states—Burma, the Philippines, Indonesia and South Viet Nam. Major plans for economic construction are under way in South Africa and Japan is looked upon as the major source of the needed capital and technology.

Trade is Japan's lifeline. Rapid re-industrialisation enabled her to capture many markets and her exports expanded since the war at a rate unequalled by any other country. However, in the last year trade has slackened. The main cause of this is that with the growth of the European Common Market, the centre of much of world trade is shifting to Western Europe. The structure of Japan's export market has been North America 30 per cent, Asia 40 per cent and Western Europe only 10 per cent. Thus, for the sake of immediate trade Japan must enter the European Market on a major scale. For the sake of long-range trade and security, she needs to maintain her heavy commitment to South Asia.

These competing trends make great demands on Japanese industry and mean that newer and cheaper forms of production must constantly be found. Growing imports of American and Russian oil and cheap coal from the Chinese mainland are forcing the closure of one-third of Japan's coal mines. The cabinet have put through a 'scrap and build' policy to streamline the industry. If this succeeds 75,000 men will be redundant and 350,000 people will be without means of livelihood. Other industries are handicapped by under-employment, but employers and unions are deadlocked on how quickly to dismiss the men and how to assimilate them into other industries. Elements on both sides are out to use the conflict to whip up bitterness and division.

Channel to Peking

Men trained in Odawara, among them presidents and directors of coal companies, leaders of the miners, Socialist Party officials, now fight to resolve the issues on a basis of what is right for all concerned.

Internationally-known companies like Hitachi, Matsushita and Sumitomo, who are being asked by Communist China to construct steel mills, dynamos and shipyards, have sought out the men of MRA to gain from their insight and experience in ideology. Ideology, they know, follows trade. Japanese trade in Peking, Delhi, Seoul, or Washington conducted by men who understand and live the right ideology could have a decisive rôle in uniting East and West, providing Japan and Asia with the lasting assurance of progress in peace.

Four Neapolitan bus drivers

Two large metropolitan buses pulled up at the University of Naples, and over one hundred people began to pour out. Some were dressed in colourful national costumes of Europe. Two Africans in flowing robes were among them. Three large ten gallon cowboy hats could be seen.

An inquisitive student with a turtle-neck sweater and casual shoes stuck his head in one bus. 'What is this, anyway,' he asked the bus driver in the Neapolitan dialect, 'tourists or something?'

'No,' was the reply. 'This is a group of people who have the answer for humanity. They're putting on a play called *El Condor* at the Mercadante. If you're interested in the future of the country, you'd better go and see it.'

The student put his pile of philosophy books on the floor and ensconced himself on the seat opposite the driver. 'Oh, it's *El Condor*, is it? The whole university's talking about it. What's the idea, anyway? You sound pretty convinced.'

The driver laughed. 'You see that fellow over there with the black moustache, black leather jacket and driver's cap handing out leaflets? That's Giuseppe. He's one of the four of us who've been driving this group around for the last fifty days. We've been going day and night to every village and hamlet in the Naples area. We didn't say much for the first few days. We just watched. And then a funny thing happened to Giuseppe.'

'Yeah?' said the student.

'He's an official in our union and a militant Communist. And I tell you he's not an easy fellow to get along with. Anyway, without saying anything to us, he missed his first Communist meeting in fifteen years and brought his wife and kids to see the play. Ever since then he's been a changed man.'

'What do you mean, a "changed man"?' said the student, trying desperately to remember an appropriate

quotation from Freud.

'Just that,' said the driver. 'He's completely different. Just yesterday I heard him apologise for lying about why we were late the day before. And not only that, he's given up his mistress. Now he says Communism is out of date. It's a great revolution, he says, when you change the dishonesty, selfishness and impurity in men which cause injustice. That's something Communism doesn't do.'

'What do the others think about all this?' said the student.

'We were down in Sorrento last week,' replied the driver. 'The Mayor called a special meeting of the leading citizens to hear this force. We four drivers stood up together and said we'd see to it that this idea cleans up Naples and affects the whole country. You see, we're part of the cast of the play now. We man the loudspeaker vans which announce the play to each new city we go to. We've handed out tens of thousands of leaflets, and we sell the literature after the show every night.'

'You must be well paid,' the student interjected.

'They haven't got anything to pay us with. None of them receives a salary for what they're doing. We're paid by the Municipality to drive the buses. We do the rest because we want to. Look, there's Miguele selling that book *Frank Buchman's Secret* to a student right now. Miguele can't read, but his eldest son, the one who had polio, has read that book to him twice. That's why he's so good at selling it.'

The student got up, thanked the driver, promised to see the play that night and buy the book and was just leaving when the other stopped him. 'You know,' he said, 'I've always been a fanatical soccer fan. I've been to a match every Sunday that I can remember. I even went on my wedding day and the day my father died. But last Sunday I skipped the match in order to speak about this idea in a neighbouring town. I was

NEWS IN BRIEF

Baden Baden—Dr. Wuermeling, till recently Minister for Family and Youth in the West German Federal Cabinet, said after meeting with delegates from twelve nations at an MRA international youth conference: 'We have become a society without moral standards. But freedom used for license can only lead to increased control and carries within it the seeds of totalitarianism. Send 500 youth like the ones I have met here into the German Parliament and we shall have freedom, peace and justice'.

Naples—In the last three months 10,000 students in the Naples area have seen the play, *El Condor*. This week a group of them met to plan to reach the leadership of Italy with the ideas of the play. They outlined the following aims: 1. Capture the imagination of the youth of the world with a faster, more dynamic, more realistic revolution than Communism or anti-Communism. 2. Pattern in the South of Italy an answer to the economic needs of the world. 3. Revitalize the world of art by re-establishing moral foundations. 4. Italy to speak as one nation, completely united.

Tokyo—The Governor of the National Railways, Mr. Shinji Sogo, introduced the Japanese version of *Over the Garden Wall*, a new play by Peter Howard. He said the première marked the next phase in a national revolution which would mobilise 90 million Japanese to give the world the answer to division and corruption. Japan's top theatrical director, Mr. Sugawara, produced the play. Men of Kabuki, Japan's famed traditional theatre, designed the set.

so amazed with myself that I phoned my wife to tell her about it. She couldn't believe it. We're going to change the whole world with this idea. I'll be seeing you.'

'Yes,' said the student, 'I'll be seeing you.'