



# MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

BRITAIN AND THE BEAST

By PETER HOWARD

'Hot Pepper . . .'—see back page

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## LABOUR FACES THIS CHOICE

By HARRY ADDISON\*

*The workers have been the pioneers of Moral Re-Armament since it was launched in East Ham Town Hall twenty-five years ago. Sixty East London Mayors, Aldermen and Councillors were with Dr. Buchman on the platform on that occasion. Since then Harry Addison, who writes this article, has been one of many working to fulfil Dr. Buchman's words to the National Trade Union Club: 'Labour united can unite the nation. Labour led by God will lead the world.'*

**T**WO RECENT EVENTS have opened up new vistas for mankind.

The Test Ban Treaty could mean the beginning of the end of the Cold War. Mr. Harold Wilson's speech at Scarborough on the scientific and technological revolution of our time has brought home to millions the fact that within the next few years we could, if we had the will, banish famine and poverty from the entire globe.

The supreme question is, 'Will the thinking and living of Labour in the West match its opportunities and responsibilities?'

The technological revolution could replace the haunting dread of involuntary unemployment and poverty with the realistic prospect of voluntary leisure and plenty.

Yet millions today fear automation, as the Luddites feared machinery a hundred and thirty years ago, because they see it as a threat to their livelihood. And their fear is not unreasonable.

### Hardship areas

There are still almost half a million people out of work in Britain, including nearly 14,000 school leavers. In the hardship areas there are men of 50 who are out of work for the second time in their lives.

Meanwhile the possibility of an end to the Cold War—even if it is not shattered by a Chinese leadership prepared to sacrifice three hundred million lives in an atomic struggle for supremacy—does not mean the automatic victory of world peace.

It merely raises the question, 'What kind of a world civilisation shall we build at a moment when Russian Communism has lost its confidence, when Chinese Communism is ready to destroy the world, and when Western capitalism—for want of a better word—has shown that it can neither set its own home in order nor win the hearts of Asia and Africa?'

Millions have never asked this question. Millions have never moved beyond obsession with the conflict between Communism and anti-Communism. But if both Communism and anti-Communism have failed, who will provide the answer?

### Weapons of technology

There are those who, privately at least, know exactly what kind of a world they want, are confident that they can build it, and are bidding for the power to do so. They believe that man's unaided intellect, armed with the weapons of modern technology, can create a new society of material prosperity for all.

It will be a society in which man without God will reign supreme, and social expediency will replace God-given absolute moral standards as the norm for human behaviour. Fornication, adultery, and perversion will be accepted. Man will become a well-fed, cultured animal. Men high up in the ranks of Labour are among those who have chosen this as their goal.

They share the fallacy which has wrecked every revolutionary movement of the last two hundred years—that men need neither the power of God nor the discipline of obedience to Him.

That is why these movements ended in war and dictatorship, however fervently their leaders believed in

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freedom and peace. That is why Harold Wilson's fascinating forecast could be wrecked by the greed and lusts of men without God.

A generation ago Frank Buchman proclaimed that Labour led by God would lead the world. He believed it and fought for it; and the best of the pioneers of world Labour, from Ben Tillett onward, saw his vision as their own and shared his struggle.

#### Law of history

'Men must choose to be governed by God, or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants.' This is not a matter of opinion. It is a law of history. It is a law which Labour will neglect at its peril.

Labour can launch a revolution far-reaching and fast-moving enough to enlist the revolutionary ardour of the Chinese; radical enough to meet the Russian realisation that only a new type of man can carry through the programme for a new society; powerful enough to rouse the West from the dull dead apathy of self-preoccupied materialism, and big enough to unite all in a global action which will harness the technological revolution to build a new world.

During the next five years a British Government—perhaps a Labour Government—could effectively launch a three-point programme which would fulfil the hopes held out by the Test Ban Treaty and Harold Wilson's

speech on the scientific revolution.

First, it could set our own home in order. It could end unemployment, build houses for those who need them, mop up the pockets of poverty and exploitation which still exist, care for the ageing, and call out the energy and intelligence of the young to meet the challenge of the age of automation. In doing so, it could set an example of united, determined, purposeful action which the world would note and follow.

Secondly, it could make the Commonwealth the pattern of a multi-racial society which would set the pace in abolishing every conflict of race and colour, and in banishing want and hunger from the world.

And, thirdly, it could put into action a foreign policy which would exploit the opening made by the Test Ban Treaty and fashion a world safe for our children.

But to launch such a programme we shall need, as Harold Wilson says, 'to release the energies of the entire nation.' That will mean a moral decision on the part of leaders and led. Nations, like individuals, can allow their energies to be drained away by sex and self-indulgence, until they lose their freedom because it ceases to have meaning for them. Or they accept the realistic vision of a world of peace, freedom and plenty for all, and with it the moral discipline which alone can release their energies to translate vision into reality. That is the choice which faces Labour today.

## North-East workers: 'Bring pie in sky down to earth'

**A**N AWAKENED conscience of the entire nation could end unemployment with unheard of speed.' That is what a group of miners and shipyard workers of Britain's North-East declare in a letter in the *Newcastle Journal* last month.

The North-East was visited last week by the new Secretary of State for Industry, Trade and Regional Development, Mr. Heath. It is a region heavily dependent on shipbuilding and coal, with 53,496 unemployed in October and the danger of winter adding considerably to those figures.

Mr. Heath said, according to *The Times*, that a Government White Paper, due to be published 14 November, will provide for 'continuity of development and should give long-term confidence to the region'.

The North-East workers in their letter to the *Journal* support Mr. George Chetwynd, director of the North-East Development Council. He had said that firms wanting to move up to the North-East were getting 'damned frustrated' at government department delays in dealing with their applications for aid. Mr. Heath has apparently won Mr. Chetwynd's confidence and proved that things are now speeding up.

The workers say in blunt North Country style, 'Lord Hailsham's vision of the North-East we want to see in the 21st century, and Harold Wilson's blueprint for a scientific Socialist society with leisure and plenty for all,

both begin to look like pipe dreams of "pie in the sky, in the sweet bye-and-bye". What we need up here is jobs in the nasty now-and-now.

'Cannot red tape be cut, and the industrialists who want to come here be allowed to do so?

'The sight of six sizeable new factories beginning to go up during the next six weeks would do more for the morale of the people of this area than any number of promises for the next five years. We need far-sighted planning. We also need immediate action.'

These men, who have had close contact with Moral Re-Armament, go on to give evidence that this is no 'pie in the sky' theory. They show how workers themselves are helping to bring the pie down to earth.

'Less than two years ago,' they write, 'a pit employing 1,100 men in the Northumberland coalfield was threatened with closure because production was low and it was in the red.

'Today, because men and management decided to pull together and save it, the pit is going in the right direction and hitting its targets; and 1,100 jobs have been saved.

'In two important Scottish shipyards where trade union men, known to us personally, told management recently that they were ready to co-operate in meeting delivery dates, ships were launched on time, and badly needed orders were captured.'

## Indian workers back Gandhi

INDIAN WORKERS are backing, with their support and money, Gandhi's 'March Across the Nation', which this week reached Calcutta.

In Cochin, fast-expanding port of South-West India, 1,500 dock-workers arrived on the quayside at 6.30 a.m., one and a half hours before their normal work began, to meet Rajmohan Gandhi and his force of Marchers from ten countries. Afterwards the dockers bought literature about Moral Re-Armament. Many paid more than the price as their contribution to the March—all of whose expenses for food, petrol and hospitality are being met by people of the cities they visit.

In Madras, at the main workshops of India's Southern Railways, with 65,000 employees, railwaymen gathered in the union yard to hear Gandhi. During the meeting workers went through the crowd with an old desk drawer collecting annas and rupees to aid the Marchers on the next stage of their journey.

One of the workers with the March is a truck driver from Calcutta. Bearing the Indian flag and riding an elephant, he led the parade into Coimbatore, while a hundred textile workers joined the procession behind, and 160,000 spectators jammed the streets along the route.

In Secunderabad, the workers' section of Hyderabad, leaders of the 1948 Communist Telengana uprising conferred with Gandhi and his colleagues.

Last week the Marchers held meetings in the three major steel centres of Rourkela, Jamshedpur and Asansol, which produce three-quarters of India's steel on which her defence industry depends. In Asansol a multitude of workers followed Gandhi down the Grand Trunk Road of 'India's Ruhr', stopping traffic for miles, to an open air meeting of 5,000. In Jamshedpur 20,000 people gathered to hear him speak.

At Sompeta, on the Orissa State border, villagers gave stranded Marchers food and beds when a cyclone halted their cavalcade of cars and buses.

At a press conference Gandhi said, 'This journey across India has convinced us that the workers are in the lead in this revolution. They have financed us, fed us and organized mass meetings.

'The Five Year Plan for economic development to be effective needs to be backed by a Five Year Plan for changing the national character. Workers and capitalists, villagers and townsmen not only need, but want a moral revolution.'

## What course for French Canada?

FRENCH CANADA is in a state of ferment. Proud of their language and culture, *Les Canadiens*, 28 per cent of all Canadians, fear assimilation by the overwhelmingly English-speaking population of North America.

*Les Canadiens* feel they must fight for their rights. The separatist movement has grown in strength. This year there have been bombings and demonstrations. The correspondent of *The Times* wrote from Ottawa: 'Responsible people in Quebec are saying now with the utmost earnestness that unless something is done to reconcile the current explosive forces of nationalism with the rest of Canada, this country is in grave danger of disintegration.'

Quebec maintains strong cultural ties with France. Her church leaders are often in Italy. Her missionaries are selflessly at work throughout Latin America, Asia and Africa.

### Old ways questioned

Yet since the war traditional ways have been questioned. A rural society is becoming urban. A struggle has gone on between the traditional elite and the young intellectuals and workers.

The arrival last month of the play *El Condor* with its cast of students and workers from Latin America, led by General Bethlehem of Brazil, introduced a new factor.

*El Condor* opened in the Palais Montcalm, Quebec's civic theatre. Its story, born in the social upheaval of a continent with a great Catholic heritage, arrested the city's interest. The Mayor of this 355-year-old pro-

vincial capital, the Hon. Wilfrid Hamel, told them, 'There is much to be put right and with the help of your play we will succeed.'

*L'Action*, the Catholic daily of the Province of Quebec, reviewed the play under the headline, '*El Condor* an Amazing Production with Appeal for Everyone'.

The Quebec *Chronicle-Telegraph*, published since 1764, wrote, 'If audience reactions are a reliable gauge, the play scored a success with its North American première.'

The foremost public platform in Quebec is that of the Richelieu Club. Introducing General Bethlehem as guest speaker, the Hon. Emilien Lafrance, Provincial Minister of Family and Social Welfare, said, 'I hope this play can be seen by all the people of the province and the whole of Canada.'

Foremost in the ferment in Quebec are the students of Laval University. The students from San Marcos University of Lima, Peru, who wrote *El Condor*, were invited to speak over the university radio station by the president of the students, who is president-elect of the 125,000 member National Student Organization of Canada.

A group of Quebec students decided to take part in the play. One said, 'Quebec is now at a turning point, but where are we going? We feel that Canada needs a revolution and we have decided not to accept any half measures based on hate and fear. We need a revolution that attacks human nature.'

On 12 November *El Condor* opens in Montreal at the Comedie Canadienne, considered French Canada's foremost legitimate theatre.

## Kenya: film 'improved situation'

WHILE the Kenya people prepare for full independence on 12 December, leaders in the rival parties, KANU and KADU, have been showing the Moral Re-Armament film *Uhuru* (Freedom) in the Rift Valley region.

In areas where fear, rumour and tribal animosities threaten the unity and stability of the country, over twenty thousand people have acclaimed the lessons of the film at open-air showings. These have taken place at Molo, Londiani and Elburgon, forest farming centres where large concentrations of Kikuyu live

and work in traditionally Masai and Kalenjin country.

*Uhuru*, written and acted by Africans, shows how a nation on the verge of independence is saved from bloodshed.

It was from the Rift Valley region that leaders of the Opposition threatened to create an independent republic if their demands were not recognized in the new constitution.

One chief commented after the showings, 'In my district the situation has now definitely improved.'

A county councillor said, 'Previously the main problem was between Europeans and Africans. Now it is between African and African. This film has already played a significant part in bringing unity.'

## 'Battle in B.B.C.'

BATTLE of Morals' Rages Inside BBC" was the *Daily Herald's* headline, 26 October, reporting a speech by Mr. Peter Howard at a lunch in Oxford.

The report in the Manchester edition said, 'A savage battle of morals is being fought inside the BBC, an author claimed yesterday.'

'Mr. Peter Howard, a leader of Moral Re-Armament, told guests at a lunch in Oxford: "There is a big internal struggle going on. Governors or Executives of the BBC should fight all out to win.'

"If they fail, they should resign and tell the public why."

'Mr. Howard said programmes like That Was The Week That Was undermined and mocked at the spirit of the Ten Commandments.

'And he criticized sneers at religion, the Royal family and the worth of chastity and decency, "which so often appear on radio and television today."

'He said, "I think the cynics are entitled to their views, but they are not entitled to use the BBC to foist them on the nation.'

"The traditionalists may close their ranks, but that isn't the answer in place of fifth-rate cynicism and schoolroom smut. I would like to see them giving us the best of Britain."

## 'Youth revolt against moral landslide'

A FRESH WIND from the North' has begun to blow in Switzerland. This was how the Berne daily, *Der Bund*, described the Nordic play, *Vinden Vender* (The Wind Is Shifting), which opened last month in the Swiss capital.

Special performances of the Scandinavian students' play were given at the request of teachers and directors

Edinburgh—Scottish papers reported a resolution by Edinburgh and District Trades Council condemning 'the obscenities and filth which have characterized the writers' and drama conferences' at the Edinburgh Festival, and urging the Festival Society to 'give the public an assurance that they will, in future festivals, provide standards which will inspire and develop our cultural ideals and not debase them.'

New Delhi—From 24 November to 15 December an Assembly of the Nations will be held here. The 'March' reaches Delhi in time to take part. *Space Is So Startling* will be among modern plays performed in the Fine Arts Theatre during the Assembly.

of schools and with the co-operation of the Berne education authorities for students in school hours.

*St. Galler Tagblatt* wrote of the cast: 'These young people—a short while ago looked upon as the lost generation—are in revolt against the rising apathy, cynicism and landslide of morality, especially among the young generation of post-war Europe.'

## 'Hot pepper for sex-soft clergy'

THE *Nigerian Morning Post*, Lagos daily newspaper, reviewed *Britain and the Beast* on 24 October. 'Plenty of hot pepper,' it said, 'in this latest book from journalist Peter Howard to sting the eyes of Britain's free-thinkers, from Huxley to Lord Russell to sex-soft clergy—"Fools of their days and traitors of history," says Howard.

'It is a book that sticks in the mind.

'You cannot forget the men who rank free love as normal, homosexuality as smart and God as a myth. The author names and quotes them for public exhibition, and a lurid sight it makes.

'Members of the Commonwealth must welcome this book.

'At times we have to question

British attitudes.

'Here, we can see much of what goes on behind the scenes.

'If anything can jerk the British out of complacency, this book will.

'No one could read it and remain unchallenged.

'Peter Howard has a racy style ("rationalists . . . like fleas squeaking") and a serious subject.

'In his last chapter, he writes, "Men proud of their intellectual maturity are moral embryos. They are spiritually under-developed.

"They miss the truth that a civilization that has grown up intellectually must grow up morally or perish."

'This is a book it would be hard to ignore.'