



# MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

'SHADE OF SHAW AT MALVERN'  
'The Diplomats' in Westminster  
—see back page

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## 'HERO'S TASK AWAITS COMMON MAN IN 1964'

**M**R. PETER HOWARD sent the following New Year message to the opening of the European Assembly for Moral Re-Armament in Westminster, London, on 28 December:

'1964 can be a New Year that makes all things new in our nation. Politicians may think of votes. Industrialists may think of profits. Trade unionists of wages. But a hero's task awaits the common man. He has to think of Britain. Our common task is to restore character to the Commonwealth.

'We must make Britain proud of her role in history again. Let us call the bluff of beatnik bishops and intellectual confidence tricksters who use their brains to destroy the conscience of our community. Let us drive the cynics and satirists, who glorify sex and debunk faith and debase national character, out of the places of influence they hold.

'Let us support churchmen who live the Cross and give it to their people. Public men who put God's will before their own and people who worship Him before they worship their own bodies or the personalities of other men.

'Blessed are the pure in heart and the men of faith who live straight, think straight and will get the nation straight.

'We must build a system of education which teaches youth how to live as well as how to earn a living.

'We must forge an industry free from the hatreds, fears and greeds that prevent homes being built, ships being launched, hands being employed, contracts being completed on time, prices becoming competitive.

'The British workman remains the finest in the world. And British made, in 1964, can once again be best made.

'The United Kingdom must become truly united—a society undivided by prejudices of colour, class, accent or background.

'Britain's role in history now is to rearm herself morally and spiritually and to become a remaker of the modern world.

'We are a very great nation by tradition, and nothing but the greatest role will satisfy the longings in the hearts of millions of ordinary men and women. Nobody but ourselves can rob us of our future.'

## New look at road toll, housing lack, industrial strife

**R**OAD DEATHS, education, housing and industry were some of the themes of the opening sessions of the European Assembly aimed for 'A revolution that works and wins'. France, Germany, Holland, Switzerland and South Africa are represented. From the Scandinavian countries 130 delegates are attending.

'If Britain had an adequate national purpose, road accidents would be drastically reduced,' said Dr. Ernest Claxton, Assistant Secretary of the British Medical Association.

'In spite of warnings and legal precautions, 120 people were killed on the roads over Christmas,' he said. 'This is because people have no adventurous and satisfying purpose to live for.

'People have material prosperity but little inner

security,' Dr. Claxton told the 700 delegates. 'They turn to the doctors for dope and to the pharmacist for pills. We spend £23 million a year on sedatives. Confused living and thinking cause emotional and psychological strains to the detriment of national health and safety.

'When Britain finds her right role in liberating the world from hunger and other evils, she will be an effective nation and we shall answer the 7,000 fatal accidents each year on our roads,' Dr. Claxton stated.

Mr. Michael Hallows, Headmaster of the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, said: 'Our present emphasis on the mind and neglect of spiritual values in education produces men and women ill-equipped to withstand the subtle allurements of the "new morality" that the BBC so insidiously offers for consumption.

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'The humbug and hypocrisy of parents and professors and even clergymen, pretending the young are beatnik when they themselves have refused to break out of a beatnik mentality, must stop. Middle-aged men who want to haunt striptease shows will not answer bottle parties for the young which start on the ground floor and end in the bedrooms. BBC writers who identify nudity with modernity and "kinkiness" (perversion) with progress will never give teenagers the diet which produces moral energy and a healthy passion to do great things for humanity,' Mr Hallowes continued.

### **Sex instruction without morals**

'Some people urge that the responsibility for sex instruction should be removed from parents, and given to schools as part of the biological curriculum. There it is taught without reference to the moral and spiritual laws which should govern this act of creation. Such people are handing over knowledge and power that can destroy the lives of those who possess it, and will rapidly reduce the nation to a state of promiscuity.

'Our youth today are as alert to adventure and sacrifice as any earlier generation; they can be enlisted to renew our role in the world as we parents and teachers together start now to sacrifice our selfishness for our country's future, instead of sacrificing Britain's future for our selfishness.'

Mr. Harold Moncrieff, consultant architect to seven London boroughs, asked, 'Why is there no overall plan for the development of London?' Fifteen years ago, he said, Patrick Abercrombie produced a plan for London. He was knighted. His plan was shelved.

Today we had the 'magnificent' Buchanan report which 'shows us what we must do if we are to live at peace with the motor-car.' But would his recommendations be carried out? 'He'll probably be knighted too.'

'Why is it that as a people, as a nation, as a government we don't do the big thing?' said Moncrieff.

'Science and technology have moved to the point where there are no technical limitations any more. The limitations now are in the heart and will of man.

### **'Self-made chains'**

'People have got to choose between self-indulgence and great creative tasks,' he concluded. 'It is the task of Moral Re-Armament to free mankind from its self-made chains.'

Mr. Frank Ledwith, partner in a City of London insurance firm, said that 'bad housing, unemployment, the unequal distribution of work and wealth between North and South, must be as much the concern of Threadneedle Street and Throgmorton Avenue as they are of Whitehall.'

He knew of London factory workers on a basic weekly wage of £9.10.0. who could not find a place to live at less than £6.0.0.-a-week rent.

If finance could be provided at a favourable rate for

shipbuilding, why not a 4 per cent loan for housing, he asked.

Absolute freedom of investment without self-imposed discipline leads to a situation 'where there is money to line a nightclub's walls with mink and to re-front thousands of betting shops but not enough for a reasonable housing programme,' Mr. Ledwith said.

### **Four points for management**

Mr. John F. Vickers, Managing Director of Benjamin R. Vickers and Sons, Leeds oil firm, gave four points for management to promote in industry during the New Year.

1. Management must feel as responsible for their employees as for their shareholders. His firm had established a Staff Benefit Trust to cover health and emergency needs of the staff. This had been set up in the 1930's by a transfer of capital and was now financed by annual grants. It was done long before the State took similar action.

2. Management should end insecurity of employment. Hundreds of thousands of industrial workers could be fired at short notice, some at two hours. Mr. Vickers said his firm's salaried staff had two or three years contract of service—workers were covered by pension or retirement schemes.

3. Every director should be as concerned about the housing of his workers as he is about the housing of his children. Employees of Vickers Ltd. have been able to borrow from the Staff Benefit Trust at 1 per cent interest some of the money they need for housing. This was instead of the normal 6 per cent rate. One quarter of the staff have loans for housing on those terms.

4. Management should take imaginative steps to create jobs so as to help end unemployment and class war bitterness. In a depression time his firm had created 6 per cent more jobs in transport and plant maintenance to give jobs to men out of work.

### **For peace in Port Talbot**

The Assembly sent a message congratulating the Mayor of Port Talbot for his statesmanship in trying to bring peace to the Welsh steel town, where 24,500 men have become unemployed through industrial conflict. A front page report in the *Western Mail*, national newspaper of Wales, was read, featuring the proposals for peace made by the Rev. John Burden of Port Talbot from his pulpit.

To remove the 'cloud of hopelessness' over the town he urged:

1. Men must fearlessly do what they knew to be right, risking opposition.

2. Both sides in industry be honest with each other, admit faults and end class war.

3. Take on a new purpose together to produce steel to build schools in Africa, hospitals in India and homes in every land.

# A REVOLUTION IN NATIONAL CHARACTER

BY RAJMOHAN GANDHI

*An address given at the Moral Re-Armament Assembly of Nations \**

*New Delhi, 15 December, 1963*

**I**NDIANS are tired of humbug holiness and sham socialism. Hypocrisy must go if India is to survive.

The world judges India not by our speeches or our great books, ancient or modern, not by our pillars, statues and monuments, nor by the many drafts of our various economic plans, but by the way leaders and led live in India.

Children, whether we like it or not, do judge their parents. They judge their parents not by the way they talk or preach but by the way they live. Our students in India in their hundreds of thousands are judging the prominent men of our nation. Their standard of judgement is not the speeches and exhortations of our leaders but their performance in daily living.

The youth of India are in an angry mood. It is true that much of what they condemn in older people they indulge in themselves. Often they are guilty of the same divergence between speeches and practice that they accuse the leaders of. But their anger and their frustration is a reality to live with. Vast masses of our country are also angry and are clamouring for a social and economic revolution.

## **We cannot afford to wait**

Somebody has to demonstrate with their dedication and bold living that this social and economic revolution is the aim of their lives. Government leaders ought to do this. Opposition leaders ought to do this. But if government and opposition leaders don't do this, large numbers of us ordinary Indians will have to do it. We cannot afford to wait and will not. Nor will we wait for the encouragement and a lead from the big and powerful men in the land, although we welcome it and want it.

We Indians rightly demand an end to discrimination in the world based on race or colour. We have passed legislation rightly to end such discrimination in our own land, but God knows, and the world knows, and the Harijans in India know, and the African students living in India know, and the servants working in the great homes of New Delhi know, that we do not treat all men as men or all men as equal.

\* This Assembly took place at the end of a 4,300 mile march across India. The story is told, with colour pictures, in the January-March issue of *New World News*. Available from 4 Hays Mews, W.1, price 2s. 6d.

The hates and hurts created by many in India, who pose before the world as champions of social justice and champions in the fight against discrimination but who treat some men as dogs and other men as gods at home, will inevitably lead to chaos and disruption and violence. It can't go on.

## **Socialists and capitalists to change**

Many of our loudest socialists have capitalist natures. Many capitalists use the sweat of other men to gain wealth. Many so-called socialists use the hates and the hunger of ordinary workers to climb to power and position and wealth. Many talk about God and religion and use God and religion as a shield to cover every conceivable kind of villainy and crookedness. Many others attack God and say they are against all this hypocrisy and they talk about justice and equality, but there is neither justice nor equality in the way they treat other men.

The capitalists, the socialists, the phoney worshippers of religion, the equally phoney attackers of religion must all change and they can.

God has been bribed a lot in India and God has been mocked a lot in India, but He survives, in spite of the butter of flattery and the pinpricks of cynicism and atheism.

## **Fearless application of practical morality**

This is the moment for millions of ordinary Indians, men, women and students, to discard the phoney concept of morality which judges a man by the texture of cloth that he wears, the kind of mark he applies on his forehead, the kind of food he puts into his mouth; and to accept and apply the simple and bold and practical and revolutionary concept of morality which judges a man by whether or not he pays his taxes, by whether or not he is honest with his parents, his wife, his children, by whether or not he is straight with other women and other men, by whether or not he hates other people or is jealous of them, by whether he sacrifices his country for the sake of his selfishness or his selfishness for the sake of his country.

This Assembly has convinced me of the strong demand of our people in their millions for a fearless application of practical morality, on the foundation

of which they expect economic progress and social justice and without which they are convinced there will be neither prosperity nor equality.

### **A world objective**

We are against the idea that corruption and bribery are essential for survival. We are against the idea that only immorality is art and literature and that only filthy books should be regarded as brilliant and well-written. We believe that men of character can become more interesting, more stimulating, more profound, than men who oppose God and character and morality.

We believe in the fullest freedom of every man and in the fundamental rights guaranteed by our democratic constitution, and we intend to fight for them. We believe too that if man deliberately violates the commandments of God and morality he is compelled to receive and obey the dictates and commandments of men; that unless we choose to be governed by God we condemn ourselves and our nation to be governed by tyrants.

We believe that India can and must emerge as Asia's most influential power. If this is to happen we Indians will have to offer to our neighbours, to Nepal, to Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon and other Asian nations, a concept for the future of the world far more

exciting than anything we have offered them thus far or far more exciting than anything China has placed before them. Without such a world objective our appeal for their support is bound to be unexciting. With it, we shall receive the strongest backing and fellowship of our neighbours and play the role in world affairs that we are meant to play. An India clean, just, strong, united and honest at home, proclaiming boldly and fearlessly a revolution beyond Communism and anti-Communism to the entire world, is the India we shall under God fight to create.

### **Immediate steps**

Our immediate steps are to send the two plays, *Across the Rubicon* and *Space Is So Startling*, which have been immensely popular in Delhi, to the cities of Uttar Pradesh, from where there has been a strong request, and to Western and Southern India. We shall have two moves, one with the Japanese play in the U.P. and the other with *Space Is So Startling* in Western and Southern India. In May and June we shall hold a training camp where two thousand young people will be trained in how to become rebuilders of the world and patriots for the country. It is an enormous undertaking, but no young person living in this age will want to choose any other.

## WHAT IS BRITAIN'S ROLE?—

### (1) Prototype for modern nationhood

*First prize in our competition for the best 250 words on: 'What is Britain's new role?' goes to Mr. Geoffrey Daukes of Sevenoaks, Kent, whose entry follows:*

BRITAIN'S future can be greater than the past. The leadership millions long for today is of one nation mobilising her resources of men and material to cure the world's shortage of food, homes, work, peace. That could be Britain's new role.

It will mean developing a prototype for modern nationhood. Designing it, mass-producing it and marketing it in every country. Some of its elements would be:

1. Character-building education turning out trustworthy men whose intelligence is used to advance society.

2. Industry with high production and quality workmanship where management and labour unitedly plan for the welfare of all.

3. A parliament whose first care is that every citizen has a job, a decent house, a fair wage and plays his maximum part in the nation's life.

4. Press, radio and television that give accurate news, constructive views and lively, clean entertainment, using satire to defeat the corrupt and the vicious.

Leaders who made the ideas and practice of such a prototype for nationhood their business, would earn the gratitude of the world. A Britain thus led would be welcomed by Europe into partnership and by the Commonwealth into multi-racial brotherhood. Such a Britain could give America and Russia the key both seek to the statesmanship that turns disarmament, peace and world-wide abundance from pipe-dream to reality.

### (2) Making a world Commonwealth

*Second prize was won by Mr. Gordon Wise of Perth, Australia, who wrote from India:*

BRITAIN invented the Commonwealth. Now she needs to make it work. God's idea of a world family of nations might well resemble the Commonwealth. Every race, class, colour, culture is represented. It is a marvel to sit in the gallery of the Indian Parliament and hear turbaned opposition members questioning white-capped Government Ministers in English, with the Sikh Speaker calling, 'Order, order!' as he follows Westminster procedure; or to hear Australia's Southern European immigrants lustily singing, 'God Save the Queen'; and to see the West Indians' mastery of the game of cricket.

But membership of the Commonwealth has come to mean a trading convenience, or a useful defence arrangement. It has been watered down to suit the most sensitive, and to fill as many pockets as possible.

Yet the framework is there, and Britain's new role could be to pattern a new conception of Commonwealth where the avowed aim is to feed, house, clothe and give

purpose to every family of her dominions; where white does not discriminate against black, nor black against white, nor caste against caste, nor class against class; where the wealth and work of the Commonwealth is available for all and the greed and exploitation of none; and where God is the acknowledged Head.

It will mean a mighty change of emphasis from 'how much will we make out of it?' to 'does it need to be done?' Britons need to stop asking themselves, 'What will America think?' or 'What will Russia think?' and bluntly take a stand on what they know is right.

The Palace and Parliament should give such a lead. Then Britain could help Mr. Krushchev settle his quarrel with Mr. Mao, then she could help Mr. Johnson end racial discrimination in the Southern States. Britain's new role is to show East and West how to live and order their affairs, so that the whole world becomes God's Commonwealth.

### (3) More startling than a spaceship

*Honourable mention goes to Miss Margaret Wilson, age 16, of London, S.W.1. She wrote:*

BRITAIN'S new role is to capture the imagination of the world with a new discovery more startling than a spaceship. She could end the divisions of hate in the world as certainly and as finally as we have ended the division of distance.

Think of the free interchange of goods and ideas in a world without hate. It could revolutionize trade and relations between countries. Think of what it would mean in the homes and industries of the nation.

A nation which displayed to the world a completely

new purpose would certainly be interesting. The world is in such chaos now that a really big move would be necessary. Therefore everyone would have to take notice and everyone would be needed to do it.

Hate is something that has been a great and universal problem since time began. Could we be remembered not only as the generation which split the atom, but also as the generation which discovered how to unite the world for the rest of time?

1964 is the time to begin.

## 'Shade of Shaw at Malvern'

ON New Year's Eve Peter Howard's new play, *The Diplomats*, opened at the Westminster Theatre. The following review appeared in *Berrow's Worcester Journal* of 20 December, on the pre-London run. *Berrow's Journal*, founded in 1690, is the oldest newspaper in the world. The Review said:

'The shade of Bernard Shaw might have been seen about the Malvern Festival this week as a play, *The Diplomats* by Peter Howard, recalled something of the atmosphere of the Malvern Festival of the 1930's.

'Shaw, who in those days often wrote a new play for the Festival, used the theatre as a political and sociological sounding board, proving, what many cynics have said is impossible, that you can educate as well as entertain a theatre audience.

'Shaw was, of course, a master of the art of amusing the audience to such an extent that the uncomfortable facts were taken in good humour.

'Peter Howard has a similar approach. He has produced a witty play as a vehicle for advancing the principles of Moral Re-Armament—mainly the 'absolute' of telling the

truth. It is contrived by contrasting two situations—one, an attempt to solve international rivalries by gathering warring diplomats at Sir Malcolm Wisdom's country house and two, the effect of a storm in the domestic life of Sir Malcolm, whose determined daughter makes nonsense of international prejudices.

'The play is splendidly acted by Bryan Coleman, Richard Warner, Peter Illing, John McLaren, Phyllis Konstam, Brian Hawksley, David Cole, Fern Warner and Pauline Loring, and it opens in London at the Westminster immediately after Christmas.'

The *Worcester Evening News* review of 17 December, headlined 'A Sparkling Play', gave high praise to each of the cast, lauded the decor as 'exquisite and appropriate' and said Henry Cass's direction was 'all that could be desired'. The review spoke of the play's 'brilliant political satire' and said, 'There is much that is Shavian in its 'conversation piece' technique . . . the gales of laughter and the warm response by a good house spoke of themselves as to its success.'

## Howard play in 'prima categoria'

ONE night last summer an actress from Italy sat in a London theatre. A small headset enabled her to follow the play perfectly in her own language. She told friends the play must come to Italy.

The actress was Miss Pina Renzi, whose name is as well-known to Italian theatre-goers as Dame Edith Evans' to British. The play was *Through the Garden Wall*; the theatre the Westminster, whose simultaneous translation system was described by *Il Tempo* of Rome as 'perhaps the most revolutionary discovery in theatre since the revolving stage.'

On New Year's Day Miss Renzi's wish became fact. *Attraverso il Muro del Giardino*, the Italian version of Peter Howard's play, opened at the Teatro delle Arte in

Rome.

The brothers Luigi and Nino Pavese, who have been called 'the Barrymores of Italy', join Miss Renzi in lead roles. The director is Dr. Enzo Ferrieri, who has produced six hundred plays.

The Government department responsible for stage productions has put *Attraverso il Muro* in the *prima categoria*. This means the company will have free use of the State theatres and 60 per cent reduction in rail fares as they tour Italy. Only five stage companies are placed in this class.

The première was held in Geneva under the patronage of the Italian Ambassador to Switzerland. At the final curtain there was a standing ovation punctured by cries of 'Evviva! Evviva!'

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**London** — Associated Rediffusion T.V. featured Muriel Smith, star of *The Crowning Experience* on their programme 'Five o'clock Club' broadcast nationally on Christmas Eve.

**Aligarh, India**—Japanese students gave their play *Across the Rubicon* twice in the University of Aligarh, India's only Muslim university, attended by Muslim students from many parts of the world.

**Munich, Bavaria**—The Minister President of Bavaria and the Lord Mayor of Munich gave receptions for the Scandinavian cast of *The Wind is Shifting*. Performances of the play were sponsored by the Minister of Culture and Education of Bavaria.

**Toronto, Canada**—Dr. Paul Campbell addressed senior educators, including the Chancellor of Toronto University, on 'Education for the 21st Century'. He warned them that 'those who say education is nothing to do with morals are not grappling with the new age. We can separate Church and State but we cannot separate God and Education.'

**Los Angeles, U.S.A.**—Three T.V. stations interviewed Mr. Peter Howard on arrival here from Asia. Howard said, 'The power that will decide the future will not grow simply out of the barrel of a gun or the centre of a bankroll. It will come from the living God who gave us wealth and power and who has become the forgotten factor in modern statesmanship.'

### COMPETITION FOR YOUTH

Teenagers have asked for a competition of their own in this Information Service. The subject will be: 'What do I aim to achieve with my life?' First prize: two guineas. Second prize: one guinea. Closing date 8 February. Length not over 250 words.