



IN THIS ISSUE

## WHAT WOMEN CAN DO FOR BRITAIN

BY PETER HOWARD

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## 'MR. BROWN COMES DOWN THE HILL'

'MR. BROWN COMES DOWN THE HILL' opens at the Westminster Theatre on Thursday, 28 May.

Its author, Peter Howard, goes to the centre of the world's dilemma: what forces are going to control modern man?

The play probes atheism and faith, sex and colour, the Establishment, the Church, the medical profession and the Press. At its climax murder is done, and in it men can judge once again who are the Christ-killers of history.

The Management say that it combines high drama, humour, and a power to penetrate unexpected depths of human feeling and insight. They regard it as the most unusual, the most disturbing and the most redemptive play in London. It is directed by Henry Cass, with settings by Hutchinson Scott.

### Experienced cast

'Mr. Brown'—and who Mr. Brown is each must decide for himself—is played by Eric Flynn, a younger actor of exceptional ability and experience. Many recall his latest film appearance in *Dr. Syn* and in some of the best-known television series. He has also played with the Royal Shakespeare Company and in the final season at the Old Vic last year. He is married to Fern Warner, who has been playing Irene Wisdom in *The Diplomats*.

The key roles of the Bishop, the Harlot and the Black Man are played by John Richmond, Lillias Walker and Mark Heath. John Richmond is an actor of distinction, who was for many years a producer with the BBC radio, and frequently writes scripts for radio and television, especially for schools. He has had wide experience in West End theatre, and has recently been seen on television as Superintendent Nelson in the *Sergeant Cork* serial.

Lillias Walker is a talented actress from Scotland, who makes her first West End appearance at the Westminster. She has been playing leading roles in recent years at Dundee, at the Pitlochry Festival Theatre, and at the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre.

Mark Heath, who comes originally from Philadelphia, also brings wide experience to the moving and powerful part which he plays. He has appeared in a number of West End productions, including Lionel Bart's *Blitz* at the Adelphi, and has also made a number of films and has been in many plays and serials on television.

The important roles of the Doctor and Second Bishop are played by Richard Warner and Bryan Coleman, both of whom appeared in *Through the Garden Wall* and *The Diplomats*. Another decisive part in the play, that of Andy, a hard-drinking Pressman, is played by Australian born Alan White. He has been an actor all his life, apart from his years in the Australian Army, and has long experience in the West End, in films, and on television.

The role of Third Bishop is played by Donald Simpson, and Fourth Bishop by Noel Carey. Journalists are played by Robert Hartley, Kenneth Waller and Pauline Loring, who played Mrs. Trumper in *The Diplomats*.

On the second evening of the play, 29 May, a reception is being given for members of the newly formed Friends of the Westminster Theatre by the Chairman of the Committee, Dr. J. M. Dyce and Mrs. Dyce.

## Award for Howard play

THE MINISTRY of Tourism and Theatre in Rome has awarded the sum of 1,851,100 lire (£1,057) to the Company which has presented Peter Howard's play, *Through the Garden Wall* in Italy. This award is for the first phase of performances from 1 January to 9 March, 1964.

Commenting on this Signor Felice Paciotti, the Italian film producer, says: 'It is rare for a Company in its first year of activity to be given a subsidy of this kind.' Signor Paciotti, who has produced some 30 films and worked with Fellini and Rossellini, added: 'It is a tribute to the remarkable appeal of this play to the Italian public.'

# 'DOWN WITH CYNICISM'

*from our Correspondent in India*

**A** NEW Indian leadership is being prepared in the Panchgani Hills high above Poona. Rajmohan Gandhi has been holding there the first of a series of training camps for picked students from all over India.

Before sunrise each morning three hundred students break out on to the plateau-like playing fields for exercise. From then till evening is filled with training which will fit them as leaders of the future.

All the students take part in running the camp. Group discussions are held on current problems and events. A camp newspaper is turned out daily by the youth and sold to the citizens and students of Panchgani. Theatrecraft, handicrafts and other trades are taught. New dramas, musicals and skits written by students are presented each night by many competing groups.

## **Important lesson**

Perhaps the most important of all the lessons they learn is to listen to the voice of God, the Inner Voice as Mahatma Gandhi called it, and instantly obey.

Even before the Panchgani camp, students of Delhi, Bombay and Madras had produced five plays to carry what they had learned from Rajmohan Gandhi to the people. 133 students of Madras take part in the latest, *Down with Cynicism*.

In this drama, after seventeen years of independence, we find father fat, daughter delinquent, brother beat and grandmother grouching. All hell breaks loose when the children courageously stand up for honesty in the home, in father's factory and in a political campaign.

Cynicism is routed not only on the stage but in the audience by the purity and optimism of the cast. The action moves at a remarkable clip from burning factory to cocktail party and from rioting mob to hospital ward. Village dances and mass choruses stir one to the marrow.

These students made the first night audience squirm, laugh, weep and feel ashamed and patriotic at the same time. They dusted off the forgotten vision of a great India clean, strong and united.

Students from 66 colleges and schools of Bombay, Poona, Hyderabad and Madras took part in Panchgani. They are the first of thousands to receive this training. During the next six weeks camps are being held in South India at Ootacamund and North India at Nahan.

Opening the Ootacamund camp, Rajmohan Gandhi said, 'I say to those who have a vested interest in the status quo, Watch out! The passion in these hearts, the strategy in these minds, the talent in these young men and women will be mobilized to bring about drastic change in our country.'

## **The insurance man who 'invented' accidents**

**A**SHOK is a young Indian insurance agent, whose job is to investigate road accident claims.

One day recently he was looking decidedly nervous as he knocked on the office door of his boss. 'There's something I feel I should let you know about,' he told the manager. 'I have been inventing some of these insurance claims and pocketing the payments—1,400 rupees. You can fire me or put me in prison, but I want to pay back the amount in monthly instalments of 50 rupees.'

The manager was furious. 'I'll tell you three days from now what I decide to do,' he said finally.

Ashok left the office with half his heart lighter for having got the matter off his chest. The other half of him was feeling heavier after the storm that had broken over him.

'Anyway,' he thought, 'I have taken the first step which I felt I must after hearing Rajmohan Gandhi's plan for clearing up corruption in India. It was obvious I couldn't do anything about the corruption that messes up our economy if I was corrupt myself.'

The interview three days later lasted less than a minute. Without a word about the swindle the boss told Ashok to check up on a new claim.

Ashok went to the garage and looked over the damaged car. He told the garage man, 'This will cost 37 rupees.'

'No,' said the other, 'It will cost 200 rupees.'

'But that's not an honest valuation,' said Ashok. 'It won't cost anything like that.'

'All right,' said the garage man, 'let's split the difference. I'll take 100 and you take the rest.'

Ashok stood his ground and returned to his office. When he heard what had happened the boss exploded again. 'You're no good,' he said. 'This garage owner is one of our best clients. I trust him absolutely and we can't afford to offend him. We can't have you working with us if you do that sort of thing.'

But Ashok wouldn't budge. The boss's tone changed when he saw his salesman was willing to risk his position for his principles.

'You'll have to forgive me for this,' he said. 'I arranged this whole claim with the garage owner to see if you meant what you said the other day. I'm certainly not going to fire you. You can keep your job and I'd like to offer you a promotion.'

'As a matter of fact,' the manager said, 'your firmness the other day gave me the guts to refuse a 1,000-rupee offer from a colleague if I would turn a blind eye to a 25,000-rupee embezzlement. I'm going to bring up the embezzlement at our next board meeting and get it cleared up.'

# WHAT WOMEN CAN DO FOR BRITAIN

By PETER HOWARD\*

I SEE three points for women in this country. The first is patriotism. Patriotism today is almost a square word. It has come to mean the picture of somebody who goes around waving a Union Jack, sticking out his chest and saying, 'My country is always right and everybody else's always wrong.' I don't mean that kind of patriotism at all. I'll tell you what I mean.

Thank God at the moment unemployment in this country is down to the two per cent level. But don't forget that a hundred thousand people are still unemployed in Scotland. Don't forget that fifty thousand people are still unemployed in North-East England. Don't forget that forty thousand people are still unemployed in Northern Ireland. A hundred thousand families in Scotland, fifty thousand in North-East England, forty thousand in Northern Ireland.

I mean the kind of patriotism that never rests until the scourge of unemployment is at last and for ever lifted from these shores.

## No family hungry

I long to see the women of Britain burn unitedly with the great love of motherhood to see that no family goes hungry again in Britain because of unemployment. There's plenty of work for all in this land.

Secondly, I would like to say something about purity. I don't mean that question of experiments in sex before marriage. But I must tell you this. If we tolerate a generation that experiments before marriage, you are certainly not going to get faithfulness after marriage. Don't think you are. Boys and girls who learn to go to bed with each other before they are wed, will certainly reserve the right to go to bed with other people's husbands and wives after they are wed. Why not? What's the difference?

## Women decide

The women of Britain can decide how pure or impure the country should be. For men are as pure as women wish them to be, neither more nor less.

But I want to talk about a deeper thing. It is disturbing at least to see bishops saying that right and wrong are relative, and that even doctors looking after old patients have to decide whether or not to keep them living. That has been said recently.

You women bring us into the world. You look after us when we are children, unable to look after ourselves. Our characters are founded in the arm and at the feet of our

mothers, whether we like it or not. When we grow up you marry us and very often we are what you make us. When we are sick you nurse us. When we die, women's hands prepare us for the grave.

It is something that concerns every woman in the country, this trend in medicine for doctors to decide whether or not to preserve human life. It is the old people today. Tomorrow it may be the not-so-old. You will get doctors saying, 'Well they are not very happy at home, perhaps it would be better if they die.' You will get doctors saying, 'Well I am not quite sure that they are as intelligent as they should be. Maybe let them go.' Where is it going to stop?

## Class of zombies

You have scientists talking about genetic engineering. That's the new phrase. It is possible now, or almost possible, to decide the sex and size and intelligence of a child before that child is born. Scientists are discussing seriously whether or not a whole class of zombies should be created to do the dirty work of the world.

Where is that going to take us, you mothers? Where is it going to take us, you wives? Unless the women stand up with all the tradition of motherhood and say, 'No. Our job, or part of our job, is to produce children, to see they are brought up right, to give them the very best of care and the passion and the love that is born in every true mother's heart.'

That's what I mean by purity. I mean purity that insists that absolute values of right and wrong in every human life are respected by a nation.

Patriotism, purity and above all purpose. What is the purpose of Britain? What great aim and theme do all of us know and love? The women are concerned about the rising generation. I am concerned about the rising generation. I am deeply concerned that everybody in Britain knows our purpose in the modern world and their part in fulfilling it.

## Glow of passion

Men are meant to struggle. Men are meant to work. Men are meant, perhaps, to have more leathery hearts than women. Women are meant to provide the warmth and glow of passion of real love in homes, in industries and throughout our nation. Women are meant in this splintering civilization to provide the steel of character and the cement of a love that can bind humanity together. If the women of Britain match their physical courage with their moral integrity and strength, we should see the greatest revolution of all time in this country whereby the Cross of Christ could transform Britain and offer hope for the whole world.

\* From an address to a meeting of women in the Chatham Rooms, London. The full text of Mr. Howard's speech is available in pamphlet form from 4 Hays Mews, W.1. Price 6d. plus postage.

## Methodist leader on MRA plays

THE FORMER Secretary of the World Methodist Council, E. Benson Perkins, writes in his autobiography, *So Appointed*, (Epworth Press 1964): 'I have become interested in Moral Re-Armament because I have seen what it has done in meeting moral decay and, we have come to see how desirable it is that the Christian Church should accept this movement as an ally, or, more truly, as part of the activity of the Christian Church.'

'It is Christian in its inception and stands for three practical features of the Christian life. These are *Change*—the change of heart and life in turning from self to God; *Guidance*—the influence of God if we will give Him the opportunity to direct our lives; *Absolute Moral Standards*—these are made specific under four requirements, Absolute Honesty, Absolute Purity, Absolute Unselfishness, and Absolute Love.

'In a very remarkable way MRA has brought into use the media of the film and the stage on the highest professional level to a degree beyond the normal possibility of the Church.'

I have seen the value of this movement amongst members of the Methodist Church in giving a richer vitality to the expression of their faith.'

## Muriel Smith in Paris

MISS MURIEL SMITH, the mezzo-soprano, gave a recital in the Salle des Conservatoires, Paris, last week.

At a reception given in her honour, she said, 'When I met Moral Re-Armament it struck me as the natural application of what I had longed to do when I started my career. I wanted my life to be used in some way to right that great wrong, the race issue in America.'

'Theatre originated in the cathedrals. But the cathedrals were born first in the hearts of men and women with a passion for their country. Only men inspired by the same passion will write plays capable of putting right what is wrong in the world.'

'The theatre can put God back in the centre of the affairs of men. It is a privilege to be included in plays with an idea that can revitalize every area of life. Theatre with a passion brings new life wherever it goes.'

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Little Rock**—*El Condor*, the Latin American drama, celebrated its second anniversary on world tour here. Launched in Brazil on 13 May, 1962, it has been seen by nearly six million people from stages and T.V. screens. *El Condor* was performed in 86 Italian towns, and in Switzerland, across Canada and so far in 10 U.S. cities. It goes next to Miami.

**Miami**—General Bethlem of Brazil addressed 200 Cuban exile leaders.

**London**—Copies of *Design for Dedication*, the film of Peter Howard's address to the Massachusetts State Legislature, are now available for hire from 'Ron Harris Cinema Services', Glenbuck Studios, Surbiton, Surrey. The rental is £1 7s. 6d. per screening, plus 10s. carriage and booking fee. The 16 mm. film runs for 26 minutes.

### FOR ALL WORKERS

A UNION ORGANIZER once complained to U.S. Steelworkers' President, Philip Murray, 'Look, Phil, I've got too damn much to do. I'm working 16 hours a day on this job.' Philip Murray gave a roar, 'What do you do with the other eight hours? Man, you've been misinformed. This isn't a job. It's a crusade!'—Quoted in an article on Labour in the U.S. *MRA Information Service*.

## Navajo Indians welcome Latin Americans

By BARBARA BLUEJACKET

*Great granddaughter of the last Chief of the Shawnee Indians of Oklahoma*

WINDOW ROCK, capital of the Navajo nation, governs a reservation of almost 16 million acres, an area that dominates north-east Arizona and reaches into Utah, New Mexico and Colorado.

The largest tribe in North America, the Navajos number nearly 97,000. In recent years their leaders have taken steps to attain effective self-government. At his inauguration Tribal Council Chairman Raymond Nakai said, 'It is a better world we have to build, where every Navajo shall stand erect beside his fellow Americans as an equal among equals.'

In the spirit of these words Chairman Nakai invited a 12-nation Moral Re-Armament force to present the Latin American play, *El Condor*, in the Navajo civic centre, the first stage production ever given there.

In Tuba City, another Navajo centre, the Chief of Police sent his 'guests' in jail around the town distributing

announcements of *El Condor*.

The Latin American cast also visited Oraibi, Arizona, the oldest continuously inhabited village in the U.S.A. dating from 1050. They were welcomed by the Chairman of the Tribal Council, who pointed out that their Spanish forbears had been received by his people near that spot 400 years ago.

My great-grandfather was the last chief of the Shawnee Indians and I have always been proud of my heritage. I believe our people have a unique role as Americans—to demonstrate for all men that affluence is not the ultimate aim of democracy but the by-product of hard work and integrity; that the family, instead of being out-of-date, must be made the unbreakable strength of society; and that morality is not a private matter but a public concern determining the character, courage, and destiny of the nation.