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STOP PRESS

OPEN LETTER TO MR. WILSON

See the Moral Re-Armament full page
in the "Daily Express" on
Tuesday, 22 December

Peter Howard spoke in London last Sunday on national policy and Commonwealth affairs. Audiences crowded both the Westminster Theatre and Royal Commonwealth Society Hall.

Commonwealth should offer revolution to world

SPEAKING on 'The New Type of Commonwealth', Peter Howard said it must become 'a real commonwealth, united and expansive, and revolutionary'.

'A true commonwealth,' he said, 'must mean that everybody has enough.'

'It is glib to talk about a Commonwealth that means we are fat and others are thin.'

In black Africa the average earnings per day for a man are 5s. There is one doctor for every 17,000 people. In the West one for every 600 people. Twenty-five per cent of the live births in Africa die, in the West only 2 per cent.

'How can we call it a Commonwealth when we have that in Africa and our sort of welfare society in Britain?'

Howard said a united and expansive Commonwealth

'could say, "Communism and anti-Communism have both failed. Here in the Commonwealth is the way to rebuild the world. Let us do it together."'

'A revolutionary Commonwealth could offer humanity an alternative to Communism, which is a revolution too small to unite the communists and too divisive to keep the peace.'

'The Commonwealth should be a society able to offer the most revolutionary solution for the world. But so far this has never been proposed before the councils of nations.'

For an hour after his speech, arranged by the Commonwealth Challenge MRA training course, journalists, diplomats and students from 25 countries plied Howard with questions.

Crossless churchmen more dangerous than men of Munich

BRITAIN seems able to defend her island against everyone except the British,' Mr. Howard told 800 people in the Westminster Theatre. 'We are not in a Labour mess nor a Tory mess. We are in a British mess. Those with the cheap pretence that it is all the fault of Wilson are as hypocritical and ineffective as those who say it is all inherited from Home. Neither Labour nor Tory nor Liberal cures, by themselves, will work.'

'We need a British cure involving the aim and spirit of all the people. Devaluation of the pound, raising the bank rate, stop-go policies, inflation, deflation—they may conceal the facts of life, but none will alter the great fact that work and work alone, the end of gross managerial indifference and incompetence, the end of absenteeism, feather-bedding, unofficial stoppages will alter our economic difficulties.'

'The selfishness of us all has created a nation which gives less and less in demanding more and more. The national cow is suffering from a multitude of mouths at the milking end and too few hands at the feeding end.'

'The national conscience has been numbed by cynics, satirists, twisted and cruel personalities who magnify themselves and minimise the greatness of Britain by thrusting filth and godlessness down our gullet from stage, television, screen and some pulpits. Such men win praise from certain powerful figures in the churches.'

'Many churchmen seem out to trim to the times instead of changing them. These are the moral pacifists and spiritual appeasers. They condone adultery, perversion, infidelity and dirt. They have yielded more territory to anti-Christ on earth than the men of Munich ever did to Hitler in Europe. They are a far greater danger to this country.'

'Some of them have the effrontery to enquire whether Moral Re-Armament is Christian. Moral Re-Armament stands for the greatest revolution of all time whereby the Cross of Christ will yet transform this country and the world socially, economically, individually.'

'These clerical critics hate Moral Re-Armament not because they love Christ, but because they are deter-

Continued over

mined to abolish His absolute standards of morality. They are opposed to the ways of the Cross.

'Has not the time come when we no longer submit to the effrontery of this sort of opposition? Men should begin to ask churchmen who will not stand up and speak out against the oncoming forces of materialism in Britain, "Are you Christian? Can a dog collar and

gaiters any more be regarded as a certain badge of Christ? May they not be camouflage for those who, for reasons of their own, have crept into the fold to slaughter the souls of the people and the spirit of a nation?" These crossless churchmen have done more to degut this nation of virtue than all the red, brown and black shirts rolled into one.'

NIGERIA: Chief Justice opens conference on Tomorrow's Africa

NIGERIAN youth are running a conference for Tomorrow's Africa in Enugu, capital of the Eastern Region. It is held before national elections on 30 December when Nigerian leaders fear violence.

'We need to rearm ourselves morally to be able to face the problems of modern times,' declared the Chief Justice of Eastern Nigeria, Sir Louis Mbanefo, opening the two-week conference. 'We live in a world that is constantly changing. To meet the challenge we must constantly re-examine ourselves. It is this principle, which Moral Re-Armament preaches, that has appealed very much to me.'

Welcoming him, a Benin student, Mr. Ajayi, said, 'Present African leaders, including yourself, have done all that is humanly possible to liberate Africa, but human selfishness remains the unfinished business.' T.V., Press and Radio covered the occasion.

Mr. Isaac Amata, the conference chairman, wrote in the *West African Pilot*, Lagos, on 1 December:

'Which way Africa? Will Africa, still nursing the wounds of the scramble and partition of the Nineteenth Century, have history repeated in this century? Or will Africa become the answer continent with the secret of cure to the hates, hurts and bitterness that choke mankind?'

'The youth of Nigeria cannot afford to sit back any longer while the freedom and unity of our land is threatened. Tomorrow's Nigeria and tomorrow's Africa depend on us. We must choose either to perpetuate the disease of our nation or to rise from degradation and be the cure. If we want the nation different, we must be

ready to pay the price of change and discipline in our own thinking and living.

'We cannot call for honest administration while we cheat and lie in our offices, jobs, schools and universities.

'We cannot demand sacrifice from our leaders when we can be bought easily by money and will mortgage our conscience to achieve position.

'We cannot just shout Socialism and criticise imperialist exploiters while we ourselves continue to exploit sex and the less privileged, and elevate men and women of doubtful character who feed our human lusts and desires.

'We cannot hope for economic prosperity but forget that wealth comes from hard work, not from comfortable living. Therefore a growing force of us youth, inspired by Moral Re-Armament, have decided to chart our lives on the universal principles of absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness and love, and to make them the basis of our national character.

'We do not aim to create a utopian state of impeccable saints. We are human and will remain so, but with these standards as guide and measure we will create incorruptible leadership.

'Selfish and corrupt men will never answer the social injustice and inequality in our society.

'Hate-filled and revengeful men will never create the unity and trust so very essential for our development and progress.

'Therefore, at this crucial moment in the history of our land, we youth feel impelled to appeal to leaders and led of our nation to join us in a moral revolution.'

JAPAN: Students take charter to Premier

THE two million circulation *Sankei Shimbun* reported in a front-page article on 1 December:

'Why should we be ashamed to put right what is wrong, say 150 students from eight high schools in Odawara who have started a national campaign to clean up the country? They have been going to the national railways to pay back unpaid fares, and returning stolen books. One boy alone returned 60 books he had stolen in one year from a bookshop. They have put up 100 banners on street corners and at the railway station, calling Odawara to be the conscience of Japan. The

banners have been sponsored and paid for by shops in the town. It is giving a big challenge to the adults.'

The Odawara students sent this article to the Minister of Education, governors, mayors and 3,600 heads of high schools in Japan.

The students drew up a charter expressing their determination 'not only to criticise adults but to help them produce a theme for a new world' which they took to the Prime Minister, Mr. Sato. Receiving them, Mr. Sato said, 'That's it. We must carry the nation on the basis of what's right.'

CANADA: Alberta farmers vote to aid India

CANADIAN farmers in Alberta voted last week to send a delegation to help hungry India.

They passed two further resolutions at their annual convention in Edmonton: (1) that delegations go to Africa and Latin America; (2) that the Farmers' Union National Executive be requested to help Quebec farmers get cheaper feed grains for their province.

The Alberta farmers' union in a nearly unanimous vote decided to organise a volunteer delegation to see what Canadian agriculture could do for India, 'our Commonwealth neighbour struggling with hunger and riots while threatened with aggression'.

Proposing the motion, Robert Muir of Leduc said: 'Our God-given destiny as farmers is to feed the hungry of the world. If our loved ones were in starving countries, we wouldn't let any obstacle prevent getting food to them.'

The second motion urging aid to Africa and Latin America invited farm organisations from other Canadian provinces to take part.

'It is a purpose great enough to unite farmers across Canada,' the resolution said. 'The economic and social challenges to our society can be met through co-operation by men armed with faith in God's purpose for humanity and a sense of moral responsibility to their neighbour.'

Farmer Geoffrey Bocoock of Volmer, proposing the motion to help Quebec farmers get cheaper feed grains, said: 'We'd like the farmers of Quebec to know we're concerned with their welfare and future. Everything we can do to build this kind of co-operation is of the greatest value.'

Bocoock had just returned from a five-week tour of Quebec with a programme of Moral Re-Armament.

INDIA: Youth set example in curing corruption

'POLICE tear gas students'—'Student mob raids police station: frees eleven': were recent headlines in Indian papers.

Commenting on the student unrest, an article in *Himmat*, 27 November, the weekly magazine founded by Rajmohan Gandhi, said, 'Our youth are critical of the elders who have preached but not practised the virtues they wanted the younger generation to abide by.'

But the greatest failure, stated the *Himmat* article, is that the leadership of India, since Independence, 'has failed to give our students a national aim big enough to absorb their passions.' Gandhi is giving them that aim.

It has been estimated that £353 millions annually of foreign aid to India goes in corruption. Today hundreds of Indian school and college students are joining

in the revolution to build a clean, strong, united India, begun by Gandhi just over a year ago. Scores of them have returned borrowed books, restored stolen money and become honest about cheating in exams.

Last summer a thousand students took part in three major training camps in South, West and North India. Returning to their cities they put their ideas into 'plays and have already staged eight in four languages. Forty of them wrote a book, 'Wanted a National Clean Up', which has been sold all over India.

These youth are now preparing to hold a World Congress of Tomorrow's Leaders in New Delhi from 24-31 December. Their aim is to 'assume leadership for tomorrow's world and raise men and women of character who will lead with us.'

REVIEW: Gandhi's march goes on!

A CAR ploughs axle-deep across a flooded causeway; clinging to the boot a barelegged man anxiously watches the rising waters. . . .

He is battering through monsoon floods with Rajmohan Gandhi's march-on-wheels in the vivid colour film *A Nation is Marching*.*

The camera follows the marchers from Cape Comorin, India's southern tip, to Delhi. Elephants and bagpipes lead them in procession through crowded streets. Dockers with red banners wait at dawn on a rainswept quayside to hear Gandhi speak.

Scenes of contrasting wealth and poverty open the film. An ingot rolls red hot from a modern steel mill: a bullock draws water for parched paddy fields.

'Some people are too fat,' says the commentary,

'while many are too thin.' The camera cuts to the commentator. 'We are angry for change,' he declares. He is one of hundreds of young Indians whom later scenes show joining Gandhi in his 'revolution of national character'.

The camera catches a column of students on their way to the office of a railway manager to give back unpaid fares. Hundreds more are seen under canvas training, making body, mind and spirit fit to make India 'the most dynamic nation in Asia'.

The film closes with Gandhi. 'I will not insult the youth of this or any nation,' he says, 'by assuming that you are unwilling to sacrifice.'

A Nation is Marching is a tale of grit—of a young man setting out to transform a vast nation, and of the action of youth who join him.

**A Nation is Marching* can be hired from Ron Harris Cinema Services, Glenbuck Studios, Surbiton, Surrey, for £2 10s. Running time 22 minutes.

'Enchanting frolic'

THE LONDON *Evening Standard* wrote on 10 December:

'Peter Howard is a "with it" man. He now turns his playwright's gift to pantomime—with wayward but rather delightful results.

'He calls his custard - pie - less "panto" at the Westminster Theatre *Give a Dog a Bone*. Dog (played by Colin Farrell) has a shaggy wig, is called Ringo, and has lost *its* tonsils, too (this goes down well with the children).

'A Spaceman (Barry MacGregor) in silver lamé suit and gold boots nips niftily on and off stage by spaceship. His intent? To stop earthbound curs biting each others' heels. . . .

'All these assets, and some charming ballet-dancing, make up quite an enchanting frolic.'

The *Daily Telegraph* review said, 'Faith is the spur at the Westminster Theatre. It pricks every show to success. . . . Seasonably enough, it (*Give a Dog a Bone*) is a traditional pantomime of merrily effusive and professional naivety with a dog instead of Whittington's cat. . . .'

The *Times* commented on the popularity with the audience of Bryan Coleman as Lord Swill, the 'charm of Mr. George Fraser's tunes' and added, 'When the time comes for the Spaceman to leave the earth, like Lohengrin, but by helicopter, you will feel sad at parting from Mr. Barry MacGregor.'

Mr. Harold Hobson in *The Sunday Times*, 13 December, described the musical as 'a bright and gay pantomime' and Valerie Hermanni as 'a very fetching Principal Boy'.

Robert Getgood—Labour pioneer

ROBERT GETGOOD, past Chairman of the Northern Ireland Labour Party and of the Irish Trades Union Congress, died on 30 November. He was one of Ireland's greatest Socialist pioneers, wrote Mr. David Bleakley, M.P., in the *Belfast Telegraph* on 1 December. 'Getgood worked with Keir Hardie, George Lansbury, Jim Larkin and Ernest Bevin,' said Bleakley.

'He saw his Socialism not as a set of planning principles but as a way of life which should improve the quality of our living.'

Mr. Bleakley quoted a favourite saying of Bob Getgood: 'Socialism isn't worth tuppence unless it makes better men of us.'

At the funeral of the 80-year-old Labour warrior, Archdeacon Gordon Hannon said Getgood 'reiterated the fact that class war is out of date and fought to unite all parts of industry to meet the needs of all the human family'.

For 25 years Robert Getgood, small in size, huge in heart, stalwart in spirit, was a front-line fighter for Moral Re-Armament.

Youth meet on four continents

YOUTH conferences are being held in Kenya, Australia, Switzerland, the United States and Basutoland:

BALLARAT, VICTORIA — Australian and Asian students will attend a conference starting 29 December.

CAUX, SWITZERLAND — European youth have arranged a conference, opening 26 December, titled 'Heading for the Year 2000'.

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO—Indian tribes have been invited to send delegates to a South-West Conference for Tomorrow's America, 28-30 December.

ROMA, BASUTOLAND—Delegates of all races from Southern Africa are expected at a conference 2-16 January.

NAIROBI, KENYA—Students from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania began a conference on 12 December.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sao Paulo, Brazil—*Diario de Sao Paulo* announced that Peter Howard has accepted Dr. Assis Chateaubriand's invitation to launch a 'civic offensive for Moral Re-Armament' in Brazil next year. Chateaubriand owns 31 newspapers, 34 radio and T.V. stations, and was Ambassador to Britain.

State University, Iowa, U.S.A.—Peter Howard last week ended a 19,000-mile speaking tour of 17 colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada. Fifty-four colleges have invited him to speak next year.

Kitwe, Zambia—The African film *Freedom* was shown at the provincial conference of the Zambia Union of Teachers. 'Priceless to us as teachers,' said Provincial Chairman Sinyangwe.

Basle, Switzerland—Peter Howard's play *Through the Garden Wall* recently completed a tour of 14 Swiss cities.

U.K.—Three thousand people in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast and Newcastle met in assemblies on 6 December to plan Moral Re-Armament campaigns in the New Year.

Edinburgh—'Put on MRA Play at Festival' headlined *The Scotsman* on 7 December, reporting a resolution by hundreds at an Edinburgh conference urging that Peter Howard be invited with his play, *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*, to next year's Festival.

Leeds—To celebrate his 50th birthday, Leeds industrialist John F. Vickers brought 185 people connected with his firm to London to see *Give a Dog a Bone*, said the *Yorkshire Evening Post*.

Chicago—Regnery, the publishers, have reprinted the paperback edition of Peter Howard's *Design for Dedication* for the second time, totalling 400,000 copies to date.

Washington, D.C.—The U.S. Information Service has approved *Design for Dedication* for distribution to its libraries throughout the world.

'*Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.*',
a new play by Alan Thornhill,
will open at the Westminster
Theatre in February.