



# MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

*The nation is waiting for some modern Churchill to do for our morals in peacetime what he did for our guts in time of war.*  
—PETER HOWARD

## 'Give it undivided attention' — FOREIGN MINISTER

ON THE PLATFORM sat the Foreign Minister, the Papal Nuncio, the Minister of Transport and Public Works, and the Secretary-General of the Foreign Office. And in the hall of the Itamaraty Palace (Foreign Office) sat members of the government and foreign diplomatic corps. The occasion: last week's address by Mr. Peter Howard on 'The Coming Revolution'.

Ten months ago a popular uprising, backed by the Army, overthrew President Goulart in an almost bloodless revolution. The military government of President Castelo Branco has been working since to eliminate Brazil's corruption and inflation.

Speaking of this April revolution in his introduction of Mr. Howard, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Vasco Leitao da Cunha, said now was the moment for men of goodwill to unite, as the April revolutionaries united, to conspire against 'all moral impediments which frustrate our destiny as a great nation.'

The Foreign Office, he said, attached great importance to Howard's lecture. 'There are in MRA, in the judgment of those who direct this Ministry, elements which deserve to be known and carefully studied. It is essential to listen to this message and give it undivided attention. It is my hope that we shall get from Howard the stimuli which will encourage us to seek out solutions to the problems of our imperfect society and of its integration in the modern world.'

### Lipstick and lash

Though potentially one of the richest countries in the world, Brazil has millions who earn less than £30 annually. The new government had come to power to forestall a Communist coup. It was to men grappling with an inflation that mounted 86% in 1964, and a legacy of corruption and maladministration, that Howard spoke.

'The Communists', he said, 'regard man as nothing more than an animal wearing clothes, lipstick and shoe-leather. The State can use slaughterhouse, torture

chamber, lash and whip to control the zoo over which it presides.

'I do not regard this attitude as more wrong than the attitude of nations which proclaim faith and call themselves Christian but who tolerate gross corruption in matters of tax and industry, who allow the rich to grow fat from the leanness of the poor and who, while crying the name of God aloud, abandon moral standards and live in impurity and indulgence exactly as if they were the animals the Communists declare them to be.

'Why should free men or men of faith, who deny the Communists' charge that they are mere cattle, accept a lesser aim for their lives, pursued with a lesser discipline and a lesser sacrifice than those who follow the doctrines of Karl Marx?'

### President and slum dwellers

The Moral Re-Armament leader has come to this country of eighty million on the invitation of members of the government and of Dr. Assis Chateaubriand, owner of 31 newspapers, 22 radio stations and 12 T.V. stations. His brief: to help answer the economic inequalities and social injustices on the continent. His party of 55 are being flown round the country by the government and include youth from Asia, Europe and the Americas, among them Negroes and North American Indians.

Right and Left combined to welcome Howard at Rio de Janeiro's airport on 15 January. There were the representatives of President Branco and of Dr. Chateaubriand and members of the government, as well as the Secretary-General of the 4,200,000-strong Industrial Workers Federation, crowds that included leaders of ten favelas (Rio shanty towns) and Rio dockers and their families. 'Favelados march beside Howard for a revolution of character' read banners held aloft. An airport official said, 'In my 13 years here I have never seen anybody from abroad received by the people of Brazil in the way Howard was received today.'

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Since landing, Howard and his party have been on a non-stop round of visits and speaking engagements that will be extended in the next months to the neighbouring Latin American countries. The campaign was launched at a press conference conducted by the Director of the Brazil Press Association. Headlines next day included 'Howard arrives with faith in Brazil' and 'MRA offers new life for youth'.

### End 'international of despair'

'Rio favelados proclaim our solidarity with you,' declared the head of the Sao Joao favela where Howard addressed a thousand 'favelados'. 'End the international fellowship of misery and despair,' Howard challenged 1,200 dockers standing for an hour in the blazing sun. The Federal Minister of Transport, introducing him to the dockers, said, 'MRA is an ideology capable of winning capitalists and workers, Communists and non-Communists.'

There were appointments with the Cardinal of Rio, Minister of the Navy, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Federal Minister of Health, National Steel Company at Volta Redonda, Rotary Club, Lions' Club; a conference with the National Federation of Industrial Workers. Howard and Gandhi were made 'Citizens of

Fortaleza' by the City Council. Day after day, the diary of the visiting party had no blank spaces.

For Howard, last year's revolution in Brazil was 'a marking event' but incomplete. 'Unless you now proceed to end every social injustice and the selfishness of the Right which caused the Communism of the Left, it is a revolution that may fail. We are at the first stage of revolution.'

### Crush or cure

At a meeting held in the headquarters of the National Federation of Industrial Workers, chaired by the Secretary-General and attended by its President, Howard said, 'The test of the Brazilian revolution will be whether the government is more keen to crush Communism or cure the causes of Communism.'

Speaking to officers at Rio's Naval Club, a centre of political tension in the Services, he said, 'Brazil is a giant which, with the ideology of freedom, morally rearmed, could be the standard bearer of freedom for the Americas, Asia, Africa and a divided and confused Europe. Only by the unity of the government, armed forces and people, based on men who will not allow any division among themselves, can we usher in the final revolution—to unite Brazil, unite Latin America and pattern unity, God-arched, for the whole world.'

## 'These dockers taught us a lesson,' says M.P.

**B**EHIND THE WELCOME dockers and favelados gave Mr. Peter Howard on his arrival in Rio lies a tale of courage and achievement.

For years Rio portworkers have fought with Moral Re-Armament for moral, social and economic change in their country.

Nine years ago honest elections were held for the first time in the portworkers' union and MRA-trained men won. A Rio daily paper said they were the first honest elections ever held in Brazil. Official and unofficial leaders were united, corruption and stealing in the port reduced.

An M.P. said in the Brazilian Parliament, 'These Rio dockers have been teaching us Parliamentarians a lesson in democracy.'

The dockers took their experience to other ports. In Recife, as the result of a wave of honesty, the Co-operative reduced prices on staple foods 30 per cent. Thirty-nine families were married for the first time in Church.

The Rio portworkers put their story into a film, *Men of Brazil*, which has been dubbed in English and seen on every continent. They showed it in 100 of the Rio 'favelas' where 1.3 million people live in hovels made of wooden crates, tin and tarpaper.

This resulted in unprecedented co-operation between favela leaders and the State government in clearing the slums. Said a director of this scheme, Mrs. Sandra

Cavalcanti, 'MRA has contributed a very great service in our work in the favelas. It is an immense help.'

Now the national government has based its housing programme for all Brazil on the successful experiments begun in Rio.

The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs arranged showings of *Men of Brazil* for postal workers throughout his department. His aim was to cure the corruption rife under the former government.

The Director of Ports sent the film with a delegation to every major port in Brazil.

### Special Prices

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# Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.



*God Almighty has set before me two great objects, the suppression of the slave trade and the reformation of manners.*

WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

*Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils.*

JOHN WESLEY TO WILLIAM WILBERFORCE

HE WAS A NUISANCE. A thorn in the flesh of the Establishment. An innovator at a time of reaction. A humanitarian in an age when every man had his price. Vested interests conspired to rub him out. Royalty snubbed him. Admirals dubbed him unrealistic. Parliamentary pressure groups used smears. Yet William Wilberforce, that 'mere shrimp of a man' as Boswell described him, within twenty years got the House of Commons to vote 283 to 16 for the abolition of the slave trade. G. M. Trevelyan calls it 'one of the turning events in the history of the world'.

Britain 160 years ago was the world's leading slave trade nation. Corruption was an accepted part of political life. And ever present was the threat of Napoleonic invasion.

This was the setting for Wilberforce's decision to

eradicate slavery and reform morals. This is the fabric too of Alan Thornhill's new play, *Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.*, which opens 11 February at the Westminster Theatre. Extracts from Wilberforce's speeches in Parliament are woven into the plot.

It is the tale of a patriot who at 25 forsook the chance to be Prime Minister—to free a million slaves. It is told by a cast of 16 with Colin Farrell, who was six years in the National Youth Theatre, in the title role. Other principal parts are played by Richard Warner, as Captain Newton, sea captain turned preacher; Bryan Coleman as Henry Dundas, Wilberforce's most determined political adversary; John Forrest as Pitt the Younger, Prime Minister at 24; and Valerie Hermanni as Barbara Spooner (later Mrs. Wilberforce). It is directed by Henry Cass.

## Playwright Extraordinary

BY THE TIME he was 21 he had read all of Shaw, Galsworthy, Ibsen and Shakespeare. As a student at Oxford University he used to pay his 7d. or 1s. 2d. every week for the chance to watch a company of young 'unknown' professionals—John and Val Gielgud, Flora Robson, Tyrone Guthrie and later Emlyn Williams. But Alan Thornhill never imagined that his own life would be shaped by, let alone be used to shape, the life of the theatre.

The Oxford Playhouse, to which he went regularly, was in an old natural history museum. 'It almost appeared as if the boxes were occupied by "wildebeeste" and creatures with horns. There was a flat floor, a screeching curtain and hard wooden chairs,' he says. He could not make head or tail out of many of the plays. There was a different one every week. But the 'magic' of theatre fascinated him.

### Fifteen languages

His first visit to a theatre at the age of six or seven, just before the First World War, is vivid for him. It was a Maskelyne and Devant show. The young boy was so spindly his weight could not hold down the folding seat. 'I sat through the performance folded up like a letter trying to get out of an envelope,' he says.

In the early '30s Thornhill was sure that his work would not extend beyond parish life. He had gained a theological diploma 'with distinction'. There was no indication that a retiring academic was to become an actor, author, script writer and playwright, whose plays have been seen in 15 languages on every continent. Indeed, he is probably the only man licensed by the Bishop of London to preach while carrying an Actors Equity card and being the author of a West End show.

His lectures on New Testament Greek were dutifully

*Continued on next page*

*'They made "heartlessness unfashionable" in age of corruption'*

*'They did much to shape parliamentary democracy'  
'Without them the modern Commonwealth would be unthinkable'*

Read these historic achievements of  
William Wilberforce and his colleagues in

## BRAVE MEN CHOOSE

BY GARTH LEAN      BLANDFORD 5s. Postage 1s.

attended by ten young men and one young lady. 'I was never quite sure whether the lady came for the lectures or the men. There was not much box office. We were never asked to go on tour!'

It was in his student days at Oxford that Alan Thornhill met Frank Buchman, founder of Moral Re-Armament. In his vacations he accompanied him to Switzerland, Scandinavia and Germany. After getting a degree in history, he was asked by his college to return to Oxford and join their staff (Chaplain and Fellow of Hertford College) and later taught for two years at Wycliffe Hall. But soon, says Thornhill, 'I felt I had been in Oxford long enough. It was too protected a life. I wanted a more active part in Buchman's work which I felt was the most important being done.'

### Transform industry

In 1939 he joined him in America. Round table conferences were being organised to bring a new climate in industry. Thornhill was plunged into an unknown world. 'I met labour leaders for the first time. I discovered what intensely human characters were in industry. Here was magnificent material for drama.' He remembered Galsworthy's play about industry, *Strife*. 'But that ended in disillusion. Supposing an industrial play could be written that had all the clash and drama of *Strife* but pointed the way forward to something that could transform the situation?' He suggested this idea to those he met. All thought someone should do it. 'So I decided to write the play, based on the experiences of the men I had met,' said Thornhill. In two days it was written. For two years it was carried around in his luggage.

### Seen by million

Then in 1943 *The Forgotten Factor* had its world première in the National Theatre, Washington. It was sponsored by the then Senator Harry S. Truman, who described it as 'the most important play produced by the war'. It was seen by more than a million people all over the world and the film of the play is still being shown.

This was a further stimulus for Thornhill's creative writing. Straight plays, comedies, musicals followed. Twelve have been produced and he has a 'drawer full' of

SHOW YOUR FRIENDS THE FILM OF ALAN THORNHILL'S  
FAMOUS PLAY, SEEN BY MORE THAN A MILLION PEOPLE

## THE FORGOTTEN FACTOR

16 mm. Kodachrome 82 mins.

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**WESTMINSTER PRODUCTIONS' FIRST DISC**—the seven best songs from Peter Howard's pantomime *Give a Dog a Bone*—is in demand. Played on the radio, with orders from 24 countries, it is nearing its third impression. One of the world's biggest music publishers is negotiating for the music and script rights for America. The pantomime will open again in London on 9 December, 1965.

**FIRST FILM** by Westminster Productions is to be made shortly. It is *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*, which ran for 212 performances in London and will be produced in other languages on the continent. Preparations are under way for the filming with the original cast.

**SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATIONS** will be resumed for *Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.* These will include French, German, Arabic, Spanish and Italian. Special rates for theatre parties and students are offered by the theatre.

**TO ORDER** discs, make contributions to the filming, book seats for *Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.*—write WESTMINSTER THEATRE, Palace Street, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. Tel.: VIC 0283.

completed scripts and a headful of plots waiting completion. 'I would like to write a play about Elizabeth Fry, an ancestress of mine, known for her reform of the prisons,' he says. 'I would also like to write a rip-roaring intelligent farce that has ideas in it. And one day I will write about my teacher, B. H. Streeter.'

But for the last three years the life of William Wilberforce has been in his mind—three years of research and of writing, of reflection and of rewriting. So on 11 February *Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.* opens at the Westminster Theatre.

### Relies on authenticity

He has brought to the stage for the first time a play with Wilberforce as its central character. Few are better equipped to do so than Alan Thornhill. As an historian he relies on authenticity to recreate the callousness of an age where slavery was legalized by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament. As a Christian minister, ordained in Southwark Diocese where he served as a priest, he recaptures the character of the man who said, 'I do not only expect to win. I intend to.' As a playwright he weaves the spirit of the age and the spirit of the man, the clash of vested interest and resolute character, into a political thriller.

Further copies of this page, price 3d., from 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1  
Printed in England by Lowe & Brydone (Printers) Ltd.

# PAY THE PRICE OR PAY THE BILL

BY PETER HOWARD

*From an address in Los Angeles, U.S.A.*

**M**EN PRAY for peace on earth—but there is no peace in the Congo, no peace in Viet-Nam, no peace in millions of hating hearts in Mississippi or in homes of the West where we talk of liberty but create a household of Fascist parents, who want their own way in everything, and Communist kids in revolt.

The choice for 1965 is between moral disarmament, a moral Munich that will bring slavery to Africa, Asia and in the end sacrifice our own freedoms, and Moral Re-Armament, an explosion of the human mind and heart to change the policies of Washington, London, Moscow and Peking to give the vision of a world remade and set all nations free. We need new men, new nations and the hope of a new world in the New Year.

## **Pacifist nation**

America, despite her valour and generosity, is becoming a pacifist nation. Her passion to be uninvolved extends from her foreign policies to the permissive idiocy that allows students to gain control of campuses by rioting or for thugs to beat up people in the streets while bystanders watch and walk away. We must learn in 1965 that we cannot obtain victory without the desire for it, or endure defeat without the disaster of it, secure peace without the price of it, or wage a war of ideology without an ideology to win.

Communism believes it can win Africa in the next twelve months. If Communism wins the Congo, China will gain the cobalt she lacks to make her dirty bombs. Now Tshombe fears that, because his name has been smeared by those who love Lumumba and the extreme Left, 1965 may see him treated in the Congo as Diem was treated by his trusted American allies in Viet-Nam. If that happens, if America yields one inch or forces others to yield one inch in Central Africa, you will see chaos and tyranny unleashed, and the lamps of liberty already flickering and feeble finally extinguished, while a sullen red glare covers the face of the continent.

## **Non-violence and bestiality**

Egypt, generously aided by America who feeds a quarter of her population, is so able to afford to send arms to aid the Congolese rebels and keep troops in the Yemen. Russia refuses her dues at the United Nations

but reinforces with light and heavy weapons those who fight against the will of the U.N. in the Congo. Self-styled liberals who advocate non-violence on the banks of the Mississippi River appear to condone violence on the banks of the Congo River. They smear the motives of American and Belgian paratroops who went to rescue some of the victims, black and white, of bestiality inflicted often by children of eight or ten under the influence of drugs.

## **Justice and wrath**

I give fair warning that the God of the Old Testament is abroad in the world again today. Those men and nations who heed His voice, obey His will, will be blessed in their generation. But those who rationalize moral relativism, who declare that the end justifies the means, who refuse to stand for right but attempt to come to terms with what they know is evil at home and overseas, will have to reckon with more than the fleeting favour or disfavour of humanity, but with the everlasting justice and wrath of the Almighty.

1965 will be the year when the bill for compromise will start to be presented. America, once again the land which believes the proud boast of her dollar bill, 'In God we trust,' can turn the century Godwards. America, divided and confused, may condemn humanity to the false alternative of a Red world or a dead world, instead of offering the choice and challenge of a world rebuilt.

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## **Muckrakers 'take their lumps'**

**C**ANADA MONTH, national news magazine, carried the following report in its January issue of an interview with Peter Howard televised by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation:

'British newsman-author-athlete Peter Howard, world leader of Moral Re-Armament, took just minutes to whip a parcel of Canada's first-line muckrakers. Pierre Burton, Jack Webster and Gordon Sinclair took their lumps on C.B.C.-T.V.'s Front Page Challenge when they tried, with notable unsuccess, to pin the old fascist label on Howard's movement and paint it as rich, sinister and secretive. Out-talked, out-pointed and out-witted by former rugby captain and Olympic bobsledder Howard, the trio retreated to safe harbour in a gentle interview of the lady judge who swore Lyndon Johnson in. The C.B.C., undaunted, moved smoothly on to an hour-long whitewash of homosexuality.'

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**TO GIVE an honest day's work is not only the satisfaction of our manhood, it is our duty to the nation. To cheat and to lie about that day's work is treachery. Management and Labour are equally involved.**  
—Mr. RAY GUNTER, Minister of Labour

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Luxemburg**—The President of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, Mr. Dino del Bo, sent a medallion portrait of Robert Schuman to Caux. It was in appreciation of 'the action of Moral Re-Armament in developing greater understanding between nations'.

**Bonn**—Chancellor Erhard, replying to a message from 500 youth meeting at Caux, praised their decision to 'fight for a united Europe based on firm moral principles'.

**Kristiansand, Norway**—The *Voice of the Hurricane*, film on Africa's clash of races, started a 5-year commercial run in Norway on 20 January.

**Capetown**—Commercial showings of *Voice of the Hurricane* begin on 1 February.

**Reykjavik**—*The Crowning Experience* has been shown in 21 of Iceland's 23 cinemas.

**Trinidad**—The Mayor of Port-of-Spain said crime and juvenile delinquency in his city had dropped through the influence of MRA-trained youth.

**Benin, Nigeria**—Six thousand people saw the film *Freedom* in the capital of the Mid-West. This followed showings in 18 Eastern Region towns.

## BEATLES AND WHITE ANTS

THE WORLD needs a new 'top of the pops', said the Ballarat, Australia, *Courier* welcoming this month's MRA conference for Tomorrow's Australasia.

'We need a world in which consideration for others, courtesy and peaceful intentions are tops of the pops; when those who have these qualities are the ones who are "with it" and those who don't are "way out".'

'For too long have the bashers, the law-breakers, the malcontents, the crude and the rough held the

attention of the community. It is considered smart to be rowdy, unkempt, rude and disrespectful.

'These people aren't the Beatles; they are the white ants who, mostly unwittingly, undermine society.

'So the idea is to make these things non-U; to make the good things of life and the exhibiting of good behaviour, good manners and good character popular.

'The idea for this, of course, has been with us for one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four years. It could be that new ideas are needed for getting it across.'

## THUNDER IN THE MOUNTAINS

THUNDER and lightning—an auspicious omen in Basuto lore—played round mountain peaks as delegates, white and black, to the Conference for Tomorrow's Africa paid homage at the grave of Paramount Chief Ho Mesh, whose statesmanship 90 years ago united warring tribes to form the Basuto nation.

The reigning Paramount Chief, H.H. Bareng Moshoeshe II, received the delegates at his Royal Place under the Mountain of Great Birds a few days later.

His Highness will be constitutional ruler with an elected national assembly following elections in March or April. His country, which is entirely surrounded by South Africa, may ask for full independence next year.

He urged the delegates, who came from five countries of Southern Africa, to take Moral Re-Armament to every part of the continent. 'The need is desperate,' he said, 'to build hate-free, fear-free, united nations to halt the advance of sinister forces.'

Leading Basutos took part in sessions of the conference, held in the University of Roma, Basutoland. The delegates presented the film *Voice of the Hurricane* and the plays *The Dictator's Slippers* and *The Real News* in Maseru, the capital, and gave a daily radio broadcast.

## Perspectives

### TWO GAPS

Britain's crisis is in economics and in character.

The two are linked: shifty character makes for shoddy goods, purposeless lives produce stick-in-the-mud management, 'me-and-my-lot first' attitudes in everybody breed class war and industrial deadlock.

Britain needs to cure both crises. The surest way to stop the export gap is to stop the gap in character.

### ALL WRONG?

America's Supreme Court bans school prayers.

Russia creates seminaries for atheist 'priests'.

Sweden weakens her Christian basis of education.

British secularists campaign to get religious education barred.

Suppose they are all wrong on the one thing they agree on?

### DREAMERS

'Those who think they can build up morality without God are like the physicists who dreamed of achieving perpetual motion without fuel.'

—C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

## CHINA'S BRIDGE

'FREE CHINA', published by the Embassy of the Republic of China in New Zealand, writes:

'Now it is our turn to take the initiative for the Communist world to follow. Our initiative is to make moral rearmament the sure defence against international aggression from any quarter and the basis for a stable peace that will stand against corrosion from any source.

'The moral rearmament of China means change in the hearts of both Communist and non-Communist, both Peiping and Taipei. It means the end to self-righteousness, hurt pride and worship of men. It means the building together of a new China on foundations of character.'