



MRA

INFORMATION SERVICE

MAN TO MATCH THE HOUR

This film of Peter Howard's life 'deserves as wide a showing here as it has had in the United States'.

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Wellington: Easing a Premier's burden

THE PRIME MINISTER of New Zealand, the Rt. Hon. K. J. Holyoake, last week received the cast of Peter Howard's play *We Are Tomorrow*—fifteen hours after they had arrived in the country from Australia.

After the meeting, a member of the cast reported the Prime Minister as saying, 'You bring a ray of hope and inspiration that eases the burdens and complex job of a man like me. It is extremely impressive that young people like you should be dedicated to give your lives to this task.'

Mr. Holyoake told them, 'It is said that we must strike while the

iron is hot, but as Oliver Cromwell said, "Make the iron hot by striking." He asked for a copy of the words of a special song for New Zealand which the cast sang to him.

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. J. R. Marshall, and the Mayor of Wellington also received the cast. The Mayor, Councillor F. J. Kitts, said, 'Moral Re-Armament is playing a part of considerable significance in New Zealand.'

The play opened in Wellington last Saturday and will later tour the country. The cast will take part in a national conference in Wanganui from 11-20 May.

OXFORD DON ON THEATRE

THE REV. JULIAN THORNTON-DUESBERY, Master of St. Peter's College, Oxford, said in London recently:

'The Westminster Theatre is a Theatre of Faith. For faith faces problems and points to the answer. It is making a great contribution to a new Britain which can speak to a new world.

'Explosive contemporary issues are being faced here in dramatic and visible terms.

'People are accepting the challenge of those problems and finding the answers. This is for ever the way of Christ and the task of Christian men.

'That is why I want to do all I can to help forward the work of this theatre and bring my friends and colleagues to share in what I personally have found here.'

Tokyo: Topic at PM's party

MOST TALKED OF subject at Prime Minister Sato's birthday party was a new play by Japanese students, reported the *Hokkai Times*, of Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost island.

The newspaper said many of the Prime Minister's guests had earlier that day seen the students' musical *North Star* in Tokyo.

The Minister of Transport, who was at the Prime Minister's party, invited the students to meet him at his Ministry. Thirty students told him they had paid back unpaid fares.

The *Hokkai Times* report, headlined 'Hokkaido Youth Explode', began: 'Sixty students who attended a Moral Re-Armament training con-

ference returned having met the Ministers of Education, Transport and Hokkaido Affairs, and all the Members of Parliament for Hokkaido, who told them, "You are the hope and strength of tomorrow's Japan."

'The Minister of Hokkaido Affairs, who had promised ten minutes, stayed almost an hour. He said, "I had always thought that Hokkaido was rather like a cow which is constantly milked without ever being fed because we get nothing but claims and grievances. I am so happy to meet students like you who are awakening the pioneering spirit in Hokkaido."'

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA's strings and percussion are recording in London next week for the film of Peter Howard's play *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*. 'A splendid play and a terrific film which calls for music of a very special kind,' says composer Denis Gray Stoll who wrote the score and conducted the orchestra. Contributions to Miss Phyllis Konstam's fund for dubbing the 90-minute film in foreign languages may be sent to her, payable to Moral Re-Armament, at Westminster Theatre, Palace Street, London, S.W.1.

Cardinal, Anglican Archbishop, support plays

CARDINAL GILROY, Archbishop of Sydney, arranged for performances of *We Are Tomorrow* in Sydney this month.

The Genesian Theatre, owned by the Church and used for repertory productions, was sold out on the opening night. It was the first time another company had played in the theatre.

When the Cardinal went backstage to meet the cast, they followed the tradition of the Genesian Players and knelt to receive his blessing.

The Cardinal said to the cast: 'Unless something is done, Australia's future is certainly very doubtful.

At world's first radio school

SUTATENZA, Colombia, is the birthplace and training centre of the world's first radio school system. The school has branches in 25,000 villages throughout the country and has been copied in many nations.

These radio schools are privately-financed Catholic institutions whose aim is to teach faith, reading and writing, and good farm techniques.

Last week the Moral Re-Armament force now in Colombia visited Sutatenza at the invitation of the school's founder, Mgr. Salcedo. They showed the film *Men of Brazil* to the 400 teacher-trainees and spoke

Australia is part of the East and the Orient is in ferment. Change must be brought to Australia with the same enthusiasm and spirit as you display here.'

In Perth the Anglican Archbishop, the Most Rev. G. Appleton, and other Bishops applauded the première of *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*. The play is performed by the National Theatre Company. It was the Archbishop's idea to put it on, said the *West Australian*.

'The big cast was uniformly good,' the paper said. 'Acting was uninhibited and all the players knew what they were about. One felt the subtlety of the team's interpretation and the poignancy of several episodes.'

with the forty who will be in charge of the system.

These trainees come from every part of Colombia and are keen to improve the lot of their fellow-peasants. One said the visitors had inspired them all with the wish to unite their strife-torn country.

El Colombiano, newspaper of the industrial centre of Medellin, said in an editorial welcoming Moral Re-Armament: 'The fact is that authorised voices of the hierarchy stimulate and back with fervour this invitation and its noble ends of a spiritual renewal. This worthwhile message is in our country at the right moment.'

Pipers lead Easter march

IN GORDON DRESS TARTAN and with military precision, the Aberdeen Ladies Pipe Band led a march through East London's dockland on Easter Sunday.

It was the climax of a ten-day 'Easter Action' for training youth in new leadership.

Workers from Clydeside shipyards, shop stewards from Pressed Steel and British Motor Corporation factories in Scotland, members of dockers' and stevedores' unions in London docks took part in the march along with a column of youth from fifteen nations with banners and flags.

In Poplar Old Council Chambers near long lines of Thames-side cranes, the marchers met with East Lon-

doners to see the Brazil dockers' film *Men of Brazil* and to hear speakers. Young men and women from universities and industry reported on practical training they had been getting in use of films, dramas and newspapers to present ideas and give aimless youth new purpose.

Among dockers who spoke was Jack Martin, a crane driver on the Surrey Docks. He told the gathering: 'We dockers are worried about what is going on in Britain. We are going to do something about it. Half the world looks to America for strength, half to Russia and China. We want to see the whole world look to Britain for the idea they need.'

East Londoners greet Rajmohan Gandhi

RAJMOHAN GANDHI was welcomed to Kingsley Hall in the East End of London last week by Miss Muriel Lester, who invited Mahatma Gandhi to stay in this hall when he visited Britain in 1931.

'The atomic bomb is the great equaliser,' Rajmohan Gandhi told the dockers, factory workers and their families from many East London boroughs who came to meet him. 'The bomb kills capitalist and worker, black and white alike. A change of character is the other

great equaliser. Unless we change the nature of man atomic war is inevitable.

'We need a militant idea to change Wall Street capitalist and Peking Communist. Moral Re-Armament is that idea. The British workers who pioneered so much are now expected to bring to the world this greatest revolution of all time—a new and satisfying way of life for all.'

Gandhi was returning to India from Brazil.

Howard honoured by 39 nations in London

'TWO THOUSAND Pay Tribute To Peter Howard' was the *Evening Standard* headline reporting the Memorial Service in the Royal Parish Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields on 12 April.

The Rt. Hon. Quintin Hogg, Q.C., M.P., gave the address, 'in gratitude and love for the life of a man by most standards remarkable, by any standards lovable and by all human standards good'. The service was conducted by the Lord Bishop of Leicester and the Vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square.

Diplomatic representatives of 39 countries, including 21 Heads of Mission, were present; members of both Houses of Parliament from Government and Opposition benches; neighbours of Howard's farm in Suffolk, actors who had taken part in his plays, rugby internationals who played alongside him for England, journalists who had worked with him in Fleet Street, and with them Mr. T. Blackburn, Chairman of Beaverbrook Newspapers, and Lord Thomson of Fleet, Chairman of the Thomson Organisation.

Fifty-eight members of the Pontypridd Male Voice Choir from Wales gave what the *Evening Standard* called 'some of the finest singing that even that church has known'. They sacrificed a day and a half's pay to come to London for the Service.

The first lesson, Psalm 103, was read by Peter Howard's son Philip. Sir Max Aitken, Bart., son and successor of Howard's old boss Lord Beaverbrook, read from the sixth chapter of Ephesians beginning, 'We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities,

against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.'

Mr. Hogg, who was Chairman of the Conservative Party and a member of Sir Alec Douglas Home's Cabinet, spoke of Howard's 'courage, gaiety and unaffected goodness' and continued: 'It was the combination of this natural goodness with an acquired determination that goodness should not perish from the earth, that light should conquer darkness.'

'It does not need a philosopher to tell right from wrong, courage from cowardice, integrity from deviousness, kindness from cruelty, purity from its opposite. Most of us are inhibited by modesty or shame from becoming open advocates of goodness. Peter was not, and in this he was right. He answered the voice he heard and because Peter was good, the world not merely heard but listened.'

'The change which he underwent in the early years of the war dominated the rest of his life and gave it a wholly new direction and sense of purpose which brought him, though he did not seek it, national, even international, renown.'

As Mr. Hogg ended his address, the congregation stood in silence. Moments later two thousand voices joined in James Russell Lowell's hymn:

'Then it is the brave man chooses,
While the coward stands aside,
Till the multitude make virtue
Of the faith they had denied.'

The Programme of Christianity

IN HIS COPY of 'The Greatest Thing in the World' by Professor Henry Drummond of Edinburgh, Peter Howard had underlined the following extracts, which were printed in the order of service for his Memorial Service in London:

NEXT TO LOSING the sense of a personal Christ, the worst evil that can befall a Christian is to have no sense of anything else.

'The first great epoch in a Christian's life, after the awe and wonder of its dawn, is when there breaks into his mind some sense that Christ has a purpose for mankind, a purpose beyond him and his needs, beyond the churches and their creeds, beyond Heaven and its saints—a purpose which embraces every man and woman born, every kindred and nation formed, which regards not their spiritual good alone but their welfare in every part, their progress, their health, their work, their wages, their happiness in this present world.'

'What Christ came here for was to make a better world. The world in which we live is an unfinished

world. Humanity is little more than raw material. Almost everything has yet to be done to it. This is a prodigious task—to recreate the world.'

'The Society of Christ is a sane Society. Its methods are rational. The name by which this Society was known was "The Kingdom of God".'

'The Kingdom of God is a Society of the best men, working for the best ends, according to the best methods. Its membership is a multitude whom no man can number; its methods are as various as human nature; its field is the world. It is a Commonwealth yet it honours a King; it is a Social Brotherhood, but it acknowledges the Fatherhood of God. It has no Minutes for history keeps them. Its entry money is nothing; its subscription, all you have.'

'It recognizes that man's devouring need is *Liberty*—liberty to stop sinning; to leave the prison of his passions and shake off the fetters of his past. To work with Christ's Programme and ignore Christ is to utilize the sun's light without its energy.'

Continued over

LIBERTY'S PRICE

PETER HOWARD was honoured this month in the church of Switzerland's national Saint. Presidents of three central Swiss Cantons arranged a service in the Pilgrimage Church of Sachseln, where St. Niklaus von der Flüe is buried. St. Niklaus in the fifteenth century saved Switzerland from civil war by his inspired good sense.

At Easter, Swiss citizens took as theme of a series of 'national days' St. Niklaus' words: 'Liberty has its price'. They are presenting Howard's play *The Ladder* as part of their campaign 'for the Moral Re-Armament of Switzerland'.

ROME PRECEDENT

NO FILMS are shown in parochial cinemas during Lent, according to long-standing custom in Rome. But on 8 April the Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* announced:

'The Oratorio of San Pietro (Holy Office Square No. 10) is happy to present to priests of this Diocese of Rome a special preview of the film *Decision at Midnight* by Lewis Allen.'

Priests of the Diocese of Rome saw a special showing of the film *Voice of the Hurricane* last month in the Oratorio di San Pietro.

The day before announcing *Decision at Midnight*, the *Osservatore Romano* carried its strongest

PROGRAMME OF CHRISTIANITY—cont.

'The men who get no stimulus from any visible reward, whose lives pass while the objects for which they toil are still too far away to comfort them; the men who hold aloof from dazzling schemes and earn the misunderstanding of the crowd because they foresee remoter issues, who even oppose a seeming good because a deeper evil lurks beyond—these are statesmen of the Kingdom of God.'

'If you know anything better, live for it; if not, in the name of God and of Humanity, carry out Christ's plan.'

warning on the moral danger of current cinema productions. *Decision at Midnight* is based on a play by Howard and Thornhill.

ITALIAN PREMIERE

FIFTEEN AMBASSADORS were in the audience with Italian screen and stage stars when the *Voice of the Hurricane* was launched in Rome on 9 April. The Cultural Attachés of the Soviet Union, Germany, Syria and Nigeria were also present.

The Syrian attaché said the film was a 'must' for his country and he would report fully on it to his government.

Il Messagero of Rome praised Muriel Smith, Reginald Owen, Phyllis Konstam and David Cole as 'bravi interpreti'.

CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL opened a Conference for Tomorrow's Jamaica in Kingston. He called it an 'epoch-making event' in the Island's history.

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTES

YOUTH from Germany, France, Britain, Holland, Italy and Scandinavia took part in a conference in the Ruhr last week. The Federal Government's German - French Youth Office paid the travel costs of the French delegation. The German Government also paid half the fares of the British delegation.

SKI JOURNEY

YOUNG NORWEGIANS skied three days over mountains to a conference in Finland of Scandinavian youth.

Three Finnish athletes had initiated the conference. Said one of them, Matti Naerhi, last year's Finnish academic ski-jumping champion: 'The purpose of spiritual and physical fitness is to enable us to solve the colossal problems we face.'

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kwa Thema, South Africa—Advisory Board members of this African township near the mining town of Springs saw the film *Freedom*. When disagreements arose at their next session, they were immediately resolved. Board members said they had applied the lessons of the film.

Kanye, Bechuanaland—The film *Voice of the Hurricane* was shown at the request of H.H. Chief Bathoen II in this British Protectorate.

Graaff Reinet, South Africa—*Voice of the Hurricane* is touring the Karoo farming area. Guest of honour was Mrs. G. McKenzie, South African President of the National Council of Women.

Johannesburg, South Africa—An African cast will perform Peter Howard's play about press and politics, *The Real News*, in Johannesburg townships this summer.

Nairobi—High school students from Kenya and Tanzania are showing MRA films on a 3000 mile 'safari' in both countries.

Punta del Este, Uruguay—Alejandro de San Martin, member of Uruguay's nine-man Council of Government, opened a memorial meeting for Peter Howard.

Munich—The President of the Bavarian Parliament sent Howard's speeches *Tomorrow Will Be To Late* to all Bavarian M.P.s.

Milan—Electric guitars and drums of the 'Black Sheep' combo introduced Peter Howard's play *The Ladder*. Sons and daughters of industrialists, farmers and workers presented the play.

Helsinki—*Voice of the Hurricane* has now been seen by twenty-six thousand people in Finland.

Oslo—Seventeen thousand have seen *Voice of the Hurricane* during its tour of Norwegian cinemas. Thirty-five schools have had performances.

California—*Voice of the Hurricane* had its West Coast première in Santa Barbara.