

All-African conference in Kenya



AN ALL-AFRICAN CONFERENCE 'An Aim for Africa', is to take place in December in Kenya, it was announced in Nairobi this week.

By permission of the Kenya Ministry of Education this MRA Conference will be held at Kenyatta College, twelve miles from Nairobi, from 8-22 December.

The College was opened last month by Jomo Kenyatta, President of the Republic.

The conference is initiated by young East Africans. It will be attended by hundreds of students and youth from East African schools, colleges and institutions as well as delegates from other African countries.

'We cannot assume freedom will continue. It is a constant fight demanding self-sacrifice and determination,' reads the conference invitation.

KENYA: EXAMPLE FOR RHODESIA? (see page 2)

Jomo Kenyatta inspects an MRA film unit



photos: Vere James

'Freedom' is shown in Swahili at the President's request at his home in Gatundu

'We youth of Africa will train for leadership in tomorrow's world. With the greater aim that comes from world responsibility we will demonstrate that:

● **FREEDOM IS NOT FREE**

We have to sacrifice to pay the price for liberty.

● **UNITY COMES FROM CHANGE**

Only a common aim and new motives in men will make resolutions a practical reality.

● **VIOLENCE IS OUTMODED**

A new society can be created without resorting to force or dictatorship.

● **WEALTH COMES FROM WORK**

Development aid is no substitute for the hard work that is the only guarantee of progress.

● **PROSPERITY NEED NOT LEAD TO DECADENCE**

Free men must decide the disciplines that will guide them and their nations. If everyone cares and shares enough, everyone will have enough.

● **AFRICA CAN PATTERN A COMMON PURPOSE FOR ALL MANKIND**

and make her unique contribution to the growth of civilisation.

Besides personalities from Africa, speakers from overseas have been invited to address the conference. They include Conrad Hunte, Vice-Captain of the West Indies cricket XI and Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of the Mahatma and chief editor of India's weekly news magazine, *Himmat*.

Tanzania's Minister of Education, Hon S N Eliufoo MP, in a directive to the heads of all Tanzania secondary schools, supports the issuing of invitations to all schools to send delegates to the Nairobi conference.

Kenya: example for Rhodesia?

A REMARKABLE STATEMENT has come out of Africa.

It was issued to the world's press by fourteen prominent Europeans in Kenya.

It is an attempt to give hope of a way out of the Rhodesian crisis.

It is signed by: Wilfrid Barber, Jack Block, Sir Michael Blundell, Kenneth Bolton, Michael Curtis, Lord Delamere, Sir Derek Erskine, Sir Wilfrid Havelock, E H Howard-Williams, Sir William O'Brien Lindsay, Sir Charles Markham, Monty Ruben, Humphrey Slade and Leslie Thornton.

The letter reads, in part:

'We, the undersigned, are either Kenya citizens of British origin or British residents of Kenya. Most of us have held, or still hold, positions of some responsibility in the public, commercial or agricultural life of the country.

'Most of us had perfectly sincere reservations about the speed with which independence was granted to Kenya.

'Today, however, we must readily admit that a great many of our fears have so far proved totally unfounded. Like any other new country, Kenya has its fair share of difficult problems. The disruptive forces of tribalism are not yet stilled. The cold war exerts its malign influence in East Africa as it does in most other parts of the world.

'We can honestly say that President Kenyatta's Government has kept its pledge to respect the rights of all races and that the bitterness of the past has been largely forgotten in the spirit of "harambee" ("Let's get up and go").

'Racial prejudice is minimal. The rule of law has been preserved. Free-

dom of religion, speech and of the Press has generally been respected. Law and order has been maintained by a first-class police force under African command.

'Above all, the Kenya Government has succeeded in the face of enormous difficulties in creating a genuine feeling of stability—an atmosphere in which every man, whatever the colour of his skin, feels free to get on with his job, to earn his living and bring up his family in peace. The European and the Asian are united, in fact, with the African in the urgent task of building a new nation. This is not a politician's platitude. It is a fact which any visitor to Kenya can see for himself.'

See for themselves

Many from all parts of Africa will have that chance to see for themselves in December—and to participate in planning not only for a new nation, but for a new Africa. For news is released (see page 1) of an All-African MRA Assembly to be held in Nairobi. It is initiated by young Kenyans and is expected to draw a thousand people.

These young men have contributed to the kind of spirit of which the settlers write. During this year they have taken MRA films to 102 schools and colleges in East Africa. (In recent years a million people have seen the film *Freedom* in English or Swahili) They have held conferences attended by senior students from fifty-two schools and sent delegates to the

MRA Conference at Mackinac Island, Michigan, USA.

The *East African Standard* last March reported a statement by nine Kenya Cabinet Ministers, the Attorney General and six Assistant Ministers: 'The philosophy and practice of Moral Re-Armament, applied on a national scale, has contributed decisively to our stability and progress.'

But more than the future of Kenya is at stake in what happens in that country. Editor Derek Gill writes this week from South Africa, 'President Kenyatta is watched almost as closely from Pretoria and Salisbury as he is from Nairobi. The President's invitation to white settlers to help him build a new Kenya—and the obvious sincerity of this appeal—has already undermined artificially-created racialism.

'If the Afro-Asian states honestly want what they describe as the 'liberation' of the Black man in White-ruled Africa, their most effective weapon would be the one which eliminates the White man's fear.

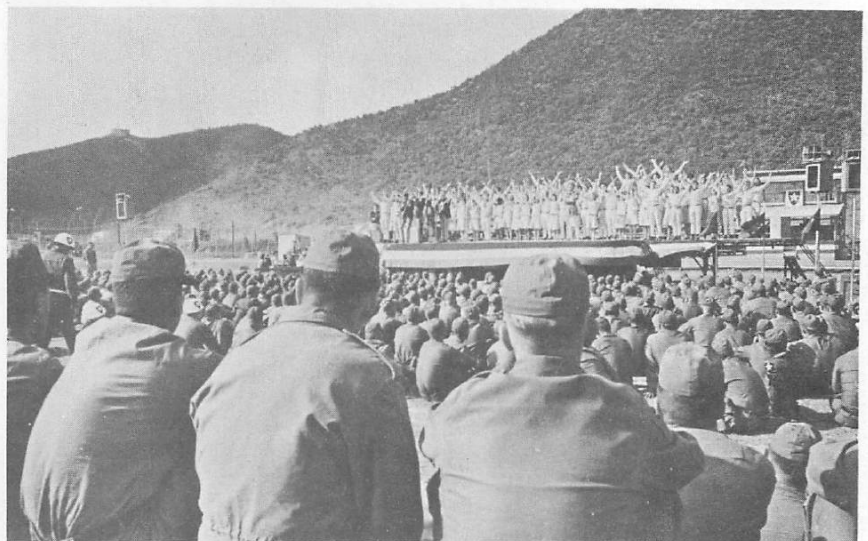
'Pictures of the Congo horrors come too easily to mind, and too readily to the tongue of white politicians. They are more than countered, though, by reports that white men in Africa not only still have useful jobs to do but enjoy security and the full rights of citizenship.'

Conversely the most effective weapon for the white man is the one which eliminates the Black man's hate.

The Editor

Zambia's road

As a part of Zambia's first Anniversary celebrations at Broken Hill, mining centre and capital of the Central Province, the municipality presented the MRA all-African film *Freedom*. 4,000 attended the open-air showing in Bracha Township. The deputy mayor, Councillor Kangwa, said, 'This film illustrates the struggle we have been through and the road we must take.' He and other town council officials requested more showings.



Troops of the US 8th Army see the musical 'Sing-Out '65' near the 38th Parallel in Korea

PACE—photos: Demmers

Banquet in Kandy

The city of Kandy, ancient capital of Ceylon, gave a dinner for Dame Flora MacLeod of MacLeod and Rajmohan Gandhi this week. Councillor Fred de Silva said, 'Above everything else Ceylon needs MRA. You must take your message to every town and village. You have revitalised us.'

Dame Flora, Gandhi and Toshio Hara from Japan addressed students

at the University of Ceylon on 'An Idea for Washington and Peking'. Ceylon's senior Buddhist abbot promised the party fullest co-operation.

Earlier, during seventy-two hours in Malaysia, they conferred with four cabinet ministers, the left and right wing leadership of the trade unions, university professors and students.

Campaign in Montevideo

For four weeks, Uruguay has been staggering under an ever-increasing round of strikes, bank scandals, financial instability and political crises, climaxed by a three-day general strike.

But last week six Uruguayan portworkers launched a campaign against corruption and for responsibility in the port from management and labour.

They started their campaign in the central building of the dock authorities where the President of the Port Administration had gathered department heads to meet with them. They showed the MRA film *Men of Brazil*

and said as a first step against corruption they had stopped taking bribes.

At the end of the film the President, Dr Hermes Pereyra Machado, said: 'This is the first time in the history of this building that the voice of the portworkers has been heard calling for understanding, solidarity, and harmony. It is a call to each one of us. In this spirit there is no problem that cannot be solved. My door will always be open to you.'

The administration of the port plans to authorise the showing of MRA films in all sections of the port.

Pageant in Santa Fe

The Indian Pageant, a story of American Indian statesmanship, was given its South West première last week in St Catherine's Indian School, Santa Fé. It was invited by the Mother Superior of the school to be presented to the student body and the community. In the audience were Monsignor Bradley of Santa Fé; sisters from two other schools in New Mexico; the

State Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Charles Minton; a former Chairman of the all-Pueblo Council, Martin Minton; Governor Paul Tafoya of Santa Clara Pueblo and other Indian leaders and their families.

The cast which came from twelve pueblos and tribes, aged two to seventy, included former pueblo governors.

Guts and Work

'Physical fitness, education and faith in God are the most important elements in life. But you have got to live by what you believe in. It's easy to talk about it. You've got to do it. It takes guts, a whale of a lot of hard work—and the determination to be a champion. That's the way everybody ought to tackle everything in life all the time.' These words were said by Gary Player, the South African golf champion, in an interview in the latest issue of *Pace* magazine, and quoted by Alan Thornhill to 800 boys, parents, staff and governors at a boys' school in England last week.

Mr Thornhill, author of the play *Mr Wilberforce MP*, was guest speaker at the annual speech day at the Harvey Grammar School, Folkestone.

Indisputable

Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill, the film of Peter Howard's play, is being distributed to the world. Miss Muriel Smith, the American mezzo-soprano, who saw it, writes: '*Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill* is an extraordinary re-interpretation of the work of the Man upon whose life Christian civilisation was built. Out of the mouth of its principal character come the indisputable truths of a heart and mind, illuminated by a greater impulse than the fulfilling of human nature. Somehow these can be interpreted as the rebirth of a Britain which will not go the way of ancient Rome, but will move on, deeper and higher and greater, to a nationhood of God that has been aspired to but never before experienced in the world's history.'

Sir Hamilton Kerr, Bt, MP, former Chairman of the All-Party Advisory Committee on works of art in the Palace of Westminster, will open an exhibition of original paintings in the studio of 43 Charles Street, London W1 on Sunday, 7 November at 3 30 pm. Proceeds of sales at the exhibition, which will be open daily 10-12 & 2-6 (Thursday 8-10 pm) until 14 November, will go to the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre.

The 'Friends of the Westminster Theatre' have published 'An artist's values', a talk by actress Phyllis Konstam. Copies can be obtained for 2s (post free) from the Friends of the Westminster Theatre, Palace Street, W1.



Korean Premier Chung Il Kwon and his family see 'Sing-Out '65' in Seoul with (left) US Ambassador Winthrop G Brown

Friend of Britain pioneer of MRA

Ray Foote Purdy was one of the first men to join Dr Frank Buchman in the work of Moral Re-Armament. He left a promising career in Wall Street to do this without salary for forty-five years.

He died, aged 67, on 30 October at Atlanta, Georgia. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors of MRA in the United States and had just completed a year's world tour on behalf of this programme.

His work brought him in close contact with statesmen and political figures, men of responsibility in labour and management in many parts of the world, for whom he was friend and adviser.

Last Sunday 600 people, meeting at the Westminster Theatre, London, stood in silent tribute to Ray Purdy, a true friend of Britain. He spent several years working in Britain and twice recently visited friends all over the country.

Purdy is survived by his wife, Elsa Purdy, a brother, Frederick H Purdy of Washington DC and a son, Ray Purdy Jr, who with his wife is taking a leading part in the work of MRA in Latin America.

God's business priority

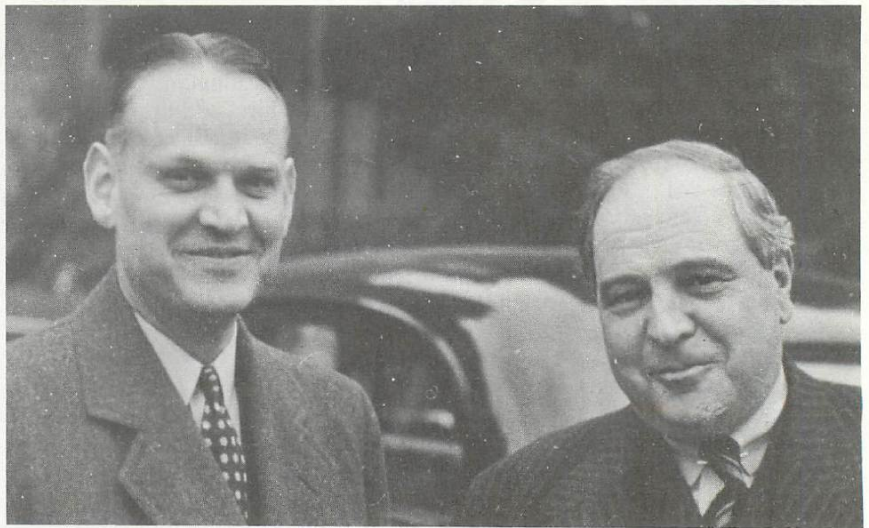
Captain R M S Barrett, who represented MRA in Britain at the funeral in Washington DC, writes:

To Ray Purdy, everyone he met was meant to be God's ambassador. He was a friend to porter and purser. On a train he always made sure that all those who were put next to him had literature about his work. On a boat he always managed to have MRA films shown.

To him God's business was priority. During the war he was clear that the men of MRA had a task essential not only in winning the war, but in securing the peace. He was insistent that men in Washington took account of this factor.

When there was something urgent to be done, Ray did it and saw that other people did it too!

Captain A S Loudon Hamilton MC, who also flew to the funeral, writes:



Ray Purdy with Carl Hambro, last President of the League of Nations

A weekend in 1919 with Frank Buchman and a party of university friends transformed Ray Purdy's life. A graduate, with honours, of Princeton University, and a believing Christian, he questioned Buchman's idea that God could give direct inspiration to people.

During a meeting, Buchman suddenly interrupted. He said he had the thought that one of the party, who was not there, was writhing in pain and he must go at once and see him. Buchman found the young man suffering from acute appendicitis and rushed him to hospital.

Ray always said this incident convinced him that today, as in biblical times, God could put a thought into a man's mind.

From his own new and liberating experience of Christ that weekend he became convinced that national leaders and their peoples could and must find direction from a living God; and that his calling and that of his generation was to give their lives to bring this about.

An ever-open door

From Princeton he went to enlist leadership for this task in Oxford and Cambridge where Buchman had started his work five years before. He lived and worked in South Africa, in Europe and in his own country.

I first met Ray in New York in 1922, and was a guest in his home in Brooklyn. He was typical of the best of America. Highly intelligent, brim-

ful of fun, entirely unpretentious, sensitive, observant and deeply thoughtful. He had immense energy and poured it out. Some nights not going to bed at all. He would dictate on occasion a hundred letters a day.

His heart was an ever-open door to all sorts and kinds. He was never too busy and he always gave his whole attention. He believed in people and what their lives could do, far beyond what the people themselves had ever conceived.

He might be the means of reconciling husband and wife, as he was recently with friends of mine. He might also be the means, as he was, of reconciling political enemies, to the lasting benefit of a country.

Revolutionary Christian

Ray was a first class administrator. Harry S Truman, when Senator, wanted Ray to be his campaign manager. The man who was later President headed a committee sponsoring *The Forgotten Factor*, an industrial MRA play, in the National Theatre, Washington, in 1944.

Ray had the gift, not only of doing ten men's work but of putting ten other men to work. Though he carried most of the real load, he usually stayed in the background and did not feature himself.

He was among those revolutionary Christians whose passion was that others should find an experience of Christ adequate to meet the needs of their nations.