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Same ethic for statesmen

THERE IS NO 'separate ethic for the statesman.'

Nor should there be a 'different standard of morality among nations than we would apply among people'.

Australia's Minister for External Affairs, the Right Hon Paul Hasluck expressed this view last week addressing a Moral Re-Armament Assembly in Melbourne on 'The Foundations of Australian Foreign Policy'.

Too much time in shaping foreign policy was taken in arguing 'who's right' and 'who's wrong' in a particular conflict. Not enough time was used in discovering 'what's right'.

Hasluck said a nation was a unit in international affairs, but behind each nation were people. They were what really counted.

'If we can discuss problems of morality among people, can we cease to discuss them in the conduct of

RT HON HAROLD HOLT, Prime Minister of Australia, arrives at the MRA Assembly in Melbourne with (left) K E Beazley, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party, and (right) James Coulter, chairman of the of the Assembly.

'The Australian', 7 January, commented editorially on Mr Holt's speech to the Assembly (reported in our last issue): 'The Prime Minister, Mr Holt, flexed his new muscles in a surprisingly statesmanlike manner yesterday. Confidence, even foresight, shone through his first major setpiece speech since the election.

'Perhaps the occasion—a moral re-armament conference—had something to do with it, but it was one of his best for a long time. If his remarks are anything to go by, there are to be some refreshing lines of approach to affairs in the future, particularly in Asia.'

statesmen and people says Australian Foreign Minister

nations? Or can we profess to find a different standard of morality among nations than we would apply among-people? I think not.

'There's no separate ethic for the statesman. There's no strange exudation of public affairs that can be separately classified as political morality.

'There is a conflict of moralities in the world that is vitally entwined with present-day problems of international relations.

But judgments on Australian policy do have to be made in conformity with our views on what is true, what is just, what is in keeping with our regard for human beings and what upholds our concepts of freedom. Foreign affairs for us is a question of principle as well as of expedience.

'Race is not a fundamental element in human relations,' said Hasluck, 'but, as a result of unfortunate causes, differences in race have become a considerable influence on the behaviour of nations and are being exploited in international dealings. Race is a barrier and impediment', he continued, 'and policies should not be founded on race but should realistically try to lower barriers and remove impediments to human understanding.

'The world is in a transitional stage and it is important that Australia takes part in enlightened change and a constructive cooperation with others to help bring a better life for other peoples, and certainly not to be merely defenders of the status quo.'





Scots welcome 'It's our country, Jack!' In the left-hand photo is Richard Buchanan MP and in the other Tom Friel, Boilermakers' branch president; Kim Beazley Jr, from Australia; Edward Taylor MP and the Marquis of Graham photos: Strong



Members of the cast at Fairfields with shop steward convenor Alex McGuiness (inset)

Leeds director's initiative

'CHANGE IN TOP MANAGEMENT is needed more than anywhere else: a change of motive coming from the top can alter the situation in Britain most quickly.' John Vickers, managing director of a Leeds textile oil firm, developed this statement at an industrial round table last week.

He took as his standard in industry what needed to be done in terms of production, exports, welfare, and labour-management relations. 'This is more than any legislation can compel one to do.'

He expressed the view that great aims and targets need to be set for British industry. There had been a 29 per cent increase in productivity in one year at his firm and a government order usually taking six months had been fulfilled in six weeks. These achievements he said could be attributed to a large extent to the co-operation of all in the firm.

Participating in the round table were men and management from his firm, Benjamin R Vickers and Sons Ltd, and members of the cast of *It's* our country, Jack!

The chief of the general office, S Whitaker, said men were free to speak their minds openly to management without fear of being penalized later. This was because as well as 'being

'Bring optimism to Scotland'

EDWARD TAYLOR, Conservative Member of Parliament for Cathcart, a Glasgow constituency, welcomed the cast of *It's our country, Jack!* to Scotland last week. It was the start of a three-week campaign on the Clyde, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. At the reception 300 yards from Fairfields, one of Clydeside's largest shipyards, were councillors and trade union leaders from the shipbuilding and steel industries.

Referring to his visit to the MRA operations centre at Tirley Garth, Cheshire, Taylor said, 'It gave me hope for the future of the world. I want you to bring that optimism to Scotland. I hope you can give to Glasgow that hope and faith that I saw in Tirley and want to see recreated here.'

The cast were received for lunch by the Labour Member of Parliament for Springburn, Richard Buchanan. He said, 'If we live great as a people we shall make the country we love great also.'

They visited Fairfields as the guests of Alex McGuiness, convenor of shop stewards at this experimental yard. He had seen the musical in London and was reported in *The Govan Press* saying: 'Govan has been chosen for the Scottish première of *It's our country, Jack!* because here is the heart of shipbuilding and the cast believe our Clyde men can bring a new spirit to the whole of British industry.'

Ross Belch, Managing Director of Lithgows also welcomed the cast to his shipyard. He told them that management, trade unions and men were realising the need to work together to maintain British shipbuilding.

Following the performances already given in South Govan and Port Glasgow, *It's our country, Jack!* will be performed in Aberdeen Grammar School Hall, 20 and 21 January; Music Hall, George Street, Edinburgh, 30 January; Concert Hall, Glasgow, 1 February and Greenock Town Hall, 4 February.

boss and workmen we have a mutual respect for each other as men.'

The round table took place at the end of a four-day technical and commercial conference.

World Steel in 1967

by John S Craig

This personal view of the prospects and the needs of the world steel industry is written by a man who has spent more than 25 years in the heart of the industry. Mr Craig is now Special Director and Secretary of Colvilles Ltd, the Scottish steelmaking company, and has personal knowledge of steelmaking on the Continent, in the USA, India and Japan.



John S Craig (right) with Jean Rey, 'Foreign Minister' of the Common Market, at Caux in Switzerland. The Presidents of both the French Jute and Textile Industries and Swiss and German industrialists attended.

THE PROSPECTS for British steel in 1967 are gloomy. The forecasts all indicate a year in which the productive capacity will not be used to the full. And this prospect is true not only for Britain but for the steel industry of the western world. In fact, in 1966 the unused capacity in the steel industry of the world as a whole was approximately equal to four times the amount of steel actually produced in the United Kingdom—24,315,300 tons.

The position has led to cut-throat competition between the steel industries of the different nations and steel is now crossing international frontiers at prices which do not cover the full cost of its production. Continuation of this type of trading will lead to the virtual destruction of the steel industry of the world.

There is, however, a hopeful factor in the situation. The world capacity to produce steel is not greater than the world's need for steel. Highly developed nations use annually over 1,000 lbs of steel per head of their population, whereas in India and China the average is a little over 50 lbs per head.

There is therefore a need for the world's steel industry to plan intelligently how to transform quickly the potential demand in the developing countries into an effective demand. This is the sound solution to the problem but, by its nature, it will be realised in the longer rather than the shorter term.

In the immediate future it is essential for the world steel industry to find a way of conducting its affairs so that it will not do itself irreparable damage. Otherwise it will be prevented from meeting the increasing demands that will arise when the potential demand in the developing countries becomes effective.

In a similar situation between the first and second world wars, the solution that was evolved was to build an international steel cartel which organised the existing market by giving different national steel industries their quota of production. The possibility of some similar arrangements is being considered in European circles, according to press reports.

Cartels and quotas frighten people. Governments and steel consumers fear that they will become the means whereby the producers are content to share restricted production amongst the people who are already in an industry, thereby creating an artificial scarcity and preventing the dynamic thrust to efficiency which competition brings. Labour fears them because of the restraints they place on the opportunities for employment.

Already voices are being raised to say that such schemes are not an acceptable solution to the problem of developing a well-balanced economy in the world steel trade.

Caux conference

From the discussions at the New Year Assembly at Caux with some of the leaders of Europe at both Community and industrial levels I am satisfied that the most effective solution will be found most quickly by the introduction of the larger purpose and the fresh dynamic that Moral Re-Armament creates.

In particular, the evidence of the progress already made in textiles, presented by the leaders of the French section of that industry, and in building construction, presented by speakers representative of the Swiss employers and British trade unionists in that industry, was particularly convincing.

By its insistence that the solution of any problem must be found on the basis of what is right for all interests involved and not just what suits any one interest, MRA removes the fear that any one section of the world steel trade will be able to exploit a temporary lack of balance for its own advantage.

In this way, the developing countries which are included in the suppliers of iron ore will be guaranteed a fair price for their primary product; the investors who have provided the plant and equipment will be sure of a fair return on their savings put at the disposal of the industry whether in the manufacturing or distributing branches; labour will be sure of a fair wage for equivalent work, so that differences between conditions in the labour market in different nations will not be allowed to distort the position: and the consumers of steel will be assured of a price that is competitive with alternative materials.

Competition is the best method of ensuring efficiency, but at present competition is only between producers who have achieved a certain degree of efficiency. Even to be 'better than the best' is no guarantee that the best is as good as it could be. By its insistence on absolute standards MRA ensures that competition will be based on aiming at the best possible and will replace the competition of a possibly destructive fight for survival by a healthy rivalry in the satisfying work of meeting the needs of humanity.

When each sector of the world steel industry accepts the basic principle of MRA that problems are cured when you start by putting your own house in order and not waiting for the other fellow to mend his ways, then it will avoid the frustration that comes from waiting for change in factors outside its control. Further, it will evolve solutions that will work because they are accepted voluntarily.

Already international moves are being made to restore the balance between production and demand in world steel. Lasting progress towards a sound steel economy will be achieved as the leaders of the industry throughout the world seek solutions to their problems in the wider framework that conferences such as those at Caux provide. I WISH TO MAKE MY AIM clear from the outset. I am not out to explain history. I am out to change it. I do not believe in a march of history, a tide of history, or a wheel of fate which like some great, mysterious, uncontrollable machine determines the fate of nations irrespective of what we do. History has no hands. It cannot grasp you by the throat and stifle your strength and shape your destiny. It has all the power of, but no more power than a memory. It is not stronger than the will of man. It is the record of our choices and of the short- and longterm consequences of those choices.

The choices we make have a spreading effect, like ink on water. When I choose greed I choose poverty for some of my brothers. When I choose to act by hate I choose insecurity for others. When I choose to act by fear, I choose mistrust for my friends. When I choose pride, I choose resentment for my neighbours. When I choose unselfishness, I choose security and goodwill in those around me.

There is suffering, deprivation, loss of liberty, famine and blood throughout history because men choose to live for themselves and themselves alone and for no other reason. And there is a record of progress in history towards liberty and integrity because men at times have chosen the unselfish course. History is the legions of Rome and the disciples of Christ. It is Genghis Khan and Saint Francis of Assisi. It is Mao Tse-tung and Frank Buchman-the materialism of man and the moral re-armament of man. History is rooted in hate and love, fear and courage, greed and sacrifice, pride and service, the lust to control and the lust to be controlled.

For me the most powerful and illuminating fact of history is the Cross of Christ. It unravels for me the nature of man, the nature of God, and why history is as it is. A father who has the wisdom and cares enough to develop his children in the exercise of freedom and responsibility makes as clear as he can right and wrong, wisdom and unwisdom-then gives his children freedom to choose. There is no pain like the pain of parents who dearly love their children, who know what the consequences of their wrong choices will be, but who know the child must be free to choose the wrong way as well as the right if the child is to grow in freedom and dig-



nity, endurance, integrity and responsibility.

Some parents refuse the pain of that crucifixion and retain a tight tyranny over their children until sullenness explodes in hate, or in character unprepared for adulthood. Others, fearing the child's reactions, never cut through its selfish will by fighting consistently, clearly and concisely for what is right. The Cross dramatises for all humanity the pain of a Father who dies to His control and leaves His children free to make the wrong choice if they must, but never withdraws His responsible, intelligent, eternal care.

The Cross is the symbol that I am free to choose. God does not create human misery, we do. He lets it happen. That is the price He pays for our freedom.

The struggle for political, economic and social freedoms is the source of much of history. But when it becomes the goal of a man, a people or a nation, it lets us down-it crumbles as we touch it. It is from the heart of civilisation with freedom on its banners, engraved in its laws and concretised in its institutions that have come the two most devastating wars in history, the red tide of Communism and the black ooze of Fascism, the nuclear bombing of cities, unparalleled affluence and a parallel decadence. Political, economic and social freedoms are neither goals nor answers.

Some men are jumping up and down with joy at the agonies of the Chinese people. They claim it proves the wrongs of their system and the rightness of ours. The Chinese have taken our Western materialism to its logical limits and applied it ruthlessly. China's suffering is our failure. We had our chance in China, and our business practises and gun-boat policies betrayed our earnestly expressed ideals. The headlines on China are our shame. They should bring conviction and repentance and change to us for our failure to rise to the challenge and to live and give a new way of life to humanity free from hate, free from greed, free from fear, free from self-righteousness.

We will never help China as we are, for as we are has fed the mistrust and built up their nuclear determination.

The hope of humanity is not in the USSR or the USA or in their alliances. But in men and nations committed to MRA. It is men with the power of God in their lives, love of God for all men in their hearts, and who possess the will and skill to recast the character and goal of friend and foe.

The next phase of history will be forged by those who have the power to heal hate-hardened hearts. There is no human power strong enough to cure men of hate. White power has failed to do it. Black power has failed. Red power has not succeeded and nuclear power only increases it.

Personally I leave to those who feel it their calling to forward the alliances and wars, the scientific developments and defence, their national image and devote myself unreservedly for as long as God gives me breath to develop men with the vision, guts and faith to morally re-arm men and their governments, their industry and culture and to bring all men under the loving control of the Living God.

Moral Re-Armament asks men to believe no doctrine they are not convinced of in their own minds. MRA does ask you to face reality if you can and take effective action to deal with it.

It takes more than purpose to change a man or a nation. It takes more than a world aim to make and keep me pure, selfless, hate-free, envyfree, greed-free. It takes a Power stronger than I. It takes honest listening and full-hearted obedience to the Voice of God striving to be heard and so often stifled in every heart. Through listening for an hour a day there is enough direction and power available for you to transform your living and thinking and enable you to play a revolutionary part in shifting history.

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