# MRA Information Service



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## TV and Press support Kenyatta's Harambee call Ethiopian Herald 4 March published the following report:

'IT WAS PRESIDENT KENYATTA of Kenya who urged us to take Harambee to the continent of Africa and to the whole world,' said Mr Andrew Peppetta, Director of *Harambee Africa*.

He was interviewed Thursday night on the Ethiopian Television. Mr Peppetta is spending a few days in Addis Ababa on his way to Khartoum, where he has been invited by Government officials and students to help launch a cast of *Harambee Sudan*.

Mr Peppetta was asked how *Har*ambee Africa started. He said it began two years ago in Nairobi at a student conference as a practical move to bring people and nations together from all over Africa. 'We are out to demonstrate that unity will only come from a change in motives, that we need to work hard for wealth, and that Africa with an answer to division and corruption can help solve the problems of East and West. Music is the vehicle we are using for this purpose.'

Mr Peppetta, who left his job as a teacher to join *Harambee Africa*, said that nowadays, all over the world, people are decrying the morality of youth. In *Harambee Africa*, he said, he saw a way of mobilising for a great constructive purpose the energy, talent and longing to see things different in the hearts of youth everywhere. 'It is our task, as young people, to maintain and develop the hard-won

freedom which has been handed to us by our fathers,' he pointed out.

Mr Peppetta said that if invited Harambee Africa would certainly return and visit Ethiopia. 'We need Ethiopians with us,' he added. 'Harambee Africa without Ethiopia is not complete. Just as the people of Ethiopia united to drive away the colonialists at the Battle of Adowa, so today we need the spirit of Adowa to drive out evil from this continent, so that Africa becomes a place where men and women live like true sons and daughters of God.'

VOICE OF KENYA TV In Nairobi a one-hour videotape programme of Harambee Africa was continued next page

Photo: Kobler

'Harambee Africa' was videotaped by Voice of Kenya Television and has been shown three times since January

# Brazilian leaders invite Sing-Out Deutschland

MEN FROM THE BRAZILIAN Cabinet, from trade unions and employers' associations have invited the cast of *Sing-Out Deutschland* for a six-week campaign. The 150-strong group of German university and school students, and young professional men and women will give the Latin American premiere of their musical in the 4,000-seat Municipal Theatre of Rio de Janeiro on 29 March.

Marshal Jaurez Tavora, Minister of Transport, and Marshal E G Dutra, former President of Brazil, head the invitation committee. Other members are: Olava Previatti, Secretary-General of the Industrial Workers' Union; General Edmundo Macedo Soares, President of the Brazilian Employers' Association; Guilherme Borghoff, President of the Bureau for Price Stabilisation (SUNAB); Air Marshal Guedes Muniz, President of the Guanabara Steel Industry; José Rota, President of the Brazilian Agricultural Workers' Union; Raymundo de Costa Rocha, Secretary-General of the Brazilian Commercial Workers' Union; Alberto Kowarick, Director of Moral Re-Armament, Brazil.

Assis Chateaubriand, Chairman of the largest Press, TV and radio chain in North and South America, and Julio de Mesquita Filho, publisher of *O Estado de Sao Paulo* and President of the Inter-American Press Association, have promised fullest backing for the action.

After visiting Rio the Germans will perform their musical in cities of the States of Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul, Sao Paulo, Guanabara and



Mobile film unit is loaded on a Lake Victoria ferry

Photo: Beare

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broadcast twice in one week over the Voice of Kenya TV.

On a popular Saturday night programme over Voice of Kenya radio, a Harambee cast member described the action of the musical during the past year. Members of *Harambee Africa* are at work in Dar-es-Salaam, capital of Tanzania. In Nairobi a performance was given recently at the Railway Training School. It was invited by Joshua Okuthe, Kenya's Triple Jump Champion, student of the school, and member of the cast.

## NIGERIAN STUDENTS ACTION COMMITTEE

Students at the University of Nigeria, Enugu, Eastern Region, have initiated an Action Committee for Moral Re-Armament. The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey for the Mid-West Region, M O Elebesunu, MBE, said at the Committee's inauguration that MRA was more than ever needed in Nigeria. 'Either we sacrifice our selfishness for the sake of the nation or the nation for our selfishness. If Nigeria will make these ideas practical in privMinas Gerais, before going to the hardship-stricken North East.

Cardinal Jaeger, Archbishop of Paderborn and one of Germany's three Cardinals, received a delegation of *Sing-Out Deutschland* at his palace and gave them his blessing for their coming action in Brazil. He asked them to tell him the news of response to the *Sing-Outs* in Germany and around the world. He stressed the importance of their visit to Brazil, offered financial support for it and gave them introductions to leaders of the Church in Brazil.

Members of the cast have made considerable sacrifices to raise money for their charter plane which leaves on 20 March. Many have emptied their bank accounts, sold cars, typewriters, tape recorders, bicycles and other possessions.

In Germany a European *Sing-Out* Conference has been arranged. It will take place in the Ruhr from 18 to 28 March under the title, 'Europe 67'.

ate and public life we will be able to set a pattern of leadership and progress for Africa and the world.'

The Nigerian Outlook on 1 March reported: 'In his address, the President of the University of Nigeria unit of Moral Re-Armament, Mr F Onyeagwa, said that corruption, bribery and injustice have ruined the Nigerian society and that the earlier these ills 'are salvaged from our society the better for everyone.

'Mr Onyeagwa then urged the University undergraduates and members of the University unit of Moral Re-Armament to educate the general public on the need for the people to be morally re-armed.'

As part of their campaign the Committee invited the musical *Harambee Nigeria* to the University. It was the musical's third visit and the cast consisted entirely of students of the Advanced Teachers Training College at Owerri, 300 miles distant. The Owerri students raised money for their fares through MRA film shows for the police, businessmen and educators. Some saved money by foregoing meals at college.

At the request of Commodore J E A Wey, Head of the Nigerian Navy, the all-African film *Freedom* was shown to the officers in the Naval Base at Apapa. The Commodore saw the film and gave orders for the film to be shown to the naval ratings and their families.

## CREDIBILITY GAP from a speech by

MRS PATRICK WOLRIGE GORDON at a ladies lunch in the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre 26 February

HER MAJESTY The Queen spoke to us all on Christmas Day. She said that women had played a part in all the great social reforms of history. Perhaps you wondered, as I did, what social evils remain uncured in the 20th Century for us to deal with. At least, which is the most critical and the most important. Perhaps you think it is bad hpusing, or famine, or poverty, or delinquency, drug addiction or crime, or is it sloth in industry, television or the politicians?

I am sure there is room for improvement in all these fields. But somehow there is something deeper, something more concealed, which underlies every one of these social evils. I will tell you what I think it is. In America they have a very good name for it. It is called the Credibility Gap. In the Soviet Union it is called the Cult of Personality and in the good old British language it is called being too big for your boots. In other words, the difference between what people say and how they live. The difference between what we are told and the truth.

People today tell you not to knock Britain, and I agree with them. The people who knock Britain for having a past and insist that she shall not have a future are wrong. But my father once said, 'If somebody tells you the truth, they are not your enemy. They are your friend.' At this point some people have got to tell the truth to Britain.

At a time when the whole nation has been asked to tighten its belt and not to ask for more cash, the Members of the House of Commons have received an 80 per cent rise. I say that as a Member of Parliament's wife, because I am deeply sorry that it should ever have happened. It has caused more disillusion among the people of this country at this moment than almost any other thing.

We are told we are about to enter the Common Market and that Europe will be extremely lucky if Britain goes in because she has a great deal to contribute. I agree. Britain has a very vast amount to contribute to Europe. But the truth is that General de Gaulle and many other people in Europe think that a nation which is in debt by several thousand million pounds is not a free nation. And how right they are. They do not want a slave nation in Europe.

We are told that if we are permissive we will be popular and if we take up old-fashioned moral standpoints we will be isolated. We are told it even by Christian Bishops. The truth is that if we are lenient with evil, we will not only be unpopular but we will destroy ourself and our nation. If you fight for what is right, as God gives you to see it, you will never be alone.

We are told that youth is supreme and must be left to do as it wills. But as somebody who is still quite young myself, I would like to say that youth without direction and without correction never becomes adult.

Loyalty and love are born out of sacrifice. Affluence without sacrifice kills them.

This enomous Credibility Gap in the world has made the ordinary man cynical, not just about politics and politicians but about his nation, about ideas, about God, about everything he has ever believed in. It means we are living in a very different world; different certainly from five years ago but even different from twelve months ago, a world that is heading at breakneck speed towards a precipice. It does not want to learn from the past, and it does not care much about the future. It is all for the swinging present, and you and I are on the other end of the rope.

### Not just politicians

So here we are at the beginning of 1967 with the results of living for too long in a Credibility Gap. It is not just the politicians, but all of us. The parents who are against drug addiction, but cannot say 'No' to a drink; the wife who does not like her daughter coming home late, but is never on time herself; the daughter who rebels against authority, but is a slave to her own will. The results are simple. It means that authority is not just disregarded and disobeyed, but mistrusted, written off and actively hated. And parents who ten years ago were afraid to say 'No', today pluck up their courage and get a slap in the face.

Those of us who have lived under this permissive society were told at the beginning that it was going to

breed happiness for all. Now we are faced with the complete disintegration of family and national life in the younger generation, and we are all forced to see that a permissive society does not work. I mean that in both senses of the word. A permissive society does not work, because if you accept a permissive society today, control becomes inevitable tomorrow. Optional abortions today, forced abortions tomorrow. Next we will be having the sick and old optionaly destroyed. Mark my words, in ten years you will have the sick and old forcibly destroyed before you know where you are. And before long those who have promoted it will take that needed step from the dream world of what they have promoted to the reality of what we have actually got.

Mr Woodrow Wyatt talked this morning about the Prime Minister's Credibility Gap. Well, good heavens, he is not the only one with a Credibility Gap. Mr Wyatt said, 'He is not a liar, but there is a doubt as to what he means or whether he means what he says.' And I think the same could be said of the whole of Great Britain. When Dr Borg Olivier left Malta to negotiate in London, he said, 'Do not believe one word you are told in London unless you have it in writing. Do not believe one promise that is made to you in London unless you have it in black and white on a piece of paper.' What a difference from fifty years ago when in Asia and Africa an Englishman's word was his bond !

The answer lies with every one of us. No woman can avoid it. And if we want an answer, we have got to be militant for one. Not bossy or loudmouthed, but outspoken for the right and against the wrong. Not ten years from now or ten minutes from now, but at once. And above all, we must create around us men and women who will bridge this Credibility Gap and restore the authority of God in the life of nations. People who mean what they say and do it. People who do not think it is clever to tell a lie and get away with it and foolish if they are found out. This can only happen if there is honesty in our own lives. I mean the sort of honesty where there is no difference between what we talk about at home and how our families see us live.

When that happens, children will find faith again in parents. The led will find faith again in their leaders, and above all every man, woman and child will find faith again in God.



WESTMINSTER THEATRE ARTS CENTRE



Henry Cass with 'India Arise' cast. Photo: Channer

Henry Cass, director of plays at the Westminster Theatre, and Louis Fleming, Director of the Arts Centre and the Westminster Theatre's expert on lighting, sound and stage management, have been to Caux, Switzerland to prepare *India Arise* for its European tour.

India Arise was invited to Europe by the Westminster Theatre.

The West Indies Cricket Vice-Captain, Conrad Hunte, who passed through London on his way from his team's tour of India, visited members of the cast of *Happy Deathday* in their dressing rooms. He talked with the Jamaican actor, Clifton Jones, who plays the role of Dr Sylvester. Hunte was on his way to Barbados to play for Barbados against the Rest of the World XI.

THE CAST OF "IT'S OUR COUNTRY JACK!"

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### A NEW COURSE FOR BRITAIN

EASTER WEEKEND

Saturday 25 March—Monday 27 March

WESTMINSTER THEATRE

The conference commences on Saturday, at 11 am For full programme write to the Conference Secretary, 4 Hays Mews, W1 Thirty eight copies of the film of the pantomime *Give a Dog a Bone* have so far been ordered, mainly from overseas.

The Westminster Theatre Arts Centre is the feature of a new ten minute news-film.

Titled 'Arts Centre', it illustrates both the address given by Kenneth D Belden, Chairman of the Trustees, at the opening of the Centre last November and also the many facilities now available.

The film has been produced by the Director of the Film Department, Eric Parfit, with the co-operation of technicians in the film industry.

It is available for promotional and fund-raising occasions at a low rental figure. Prints may also be purchased at cost price— $\pounds$ 12.10.0.

Requests should be addressed to P N Morshead, Westminster Theatre Arts Centre, Palace Street, SW1.

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The next Play Reading will be on Sunday, 2 April at 7.30 pm. There will be a reading by West End artistes of *Hero For Today* by Henry Macnicol, based on the life of Keir Hardie, turbulent founder of the Labour Party. Admission 5/-.

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Miss Dorothy Phillips, Costume Designer at the Westminster Theatre, has launched a 'Buy a Bus Fund' to pay for advertising in a new illuminated panel now fitted on many London Transport buses. Miss Phillips announced that for  $\pounds 2$ , donors could pay for a *Happy Deathday* poster on a London bus for four weeks.

A Progress Report on the Building Fund, published this month, says that  $\pounds$ 343,000 has so far been raised through gifts, pledges and covenants. The money has come from 51 countries.  $\pounds$ 70,000 is still needed before July to complete the fund.

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Friends of the Westminster Theatre in London have decided to repeat the International Fair in Kensington Town Hall which raised over £9,000 for the Arts Centre Fund. Sir Dermot Milman, Treasurer of the Fair, announced that it will last for two days and the Hall has been booked for 17 and 18 October.

## Milestone of British Drama

### says Journalist

The Ministry of Labour (London) Social Club Monthly News in its March edition published the following review of Peter Howard's Happy Deathday: 'I truly believe that Peter Howard was one of the outstanding Englishmen of our time, and Happy Deathday, the play that he was working on when he died unexpectedly two years ago, most certainly confirms this belief.

'The power of this play lays in its Moral—it hammers home its message of TRUTH with a force which cannot be denied, yet it is enveloped in a most engaging plot, streaked here and there with the famous "Howard Humour".

'Superb stage direction by Henry Cass, supported by simple but effective settings by W Cameron Johnson and striking lighting by Louis Fleming give powerful backing to a formidable cast of the first order. It is hard to choose the star of this production—they are all stars, shining with a brilliance seldom found in the theatre today. Godfrey Kenton as the old man Jos gives a portrayal which will live in my memory for a long time, and Barbara Ewing is most convincing as the young "Mod" who finds that LOVE in the truest sense has very little foothold in the modern world.

'Happy Deathday will certainly make you think hard—that was why it was written! It is harsh in its play on passion, but beauty and pathos are also to be found enshrined together with hope for a new world. The closing lines are most moving—Faith and Materialism come to a final reckoning, and one leaves the theatre feeling "soul-struck" by a most wonderful experience.

'If you miss this play you will have missed one of the milestones of British Drama.'

Harold L Willoughby

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