



# STABBING AWAKE THE EUROPEAN CONSCIENCE

**"Will Europe shake off her shackles of wealth, comfort and complacency and take up what her tradition and training have called her to do?" — British M.P.**

NO ONE WOULD DISPUTE that the four Apocalyptic horsemen ride mad and hard in today's world.

The twin threats however of war and famine in Asia were spurs in the flanks of Europeans meeting at a Moral Re-Armament assembly in London last weekend. These Europeans came in large delegations from Holland, Scandinavia, Switzerland, France and from all parts of the British Isles. They met at this assembly in the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre Indians and other Asians from Ceylon, Korea, the Republic of China and Indonesia.

They heard Rajmohan Gandhi, Chief Editor of the Indian news weekly, *Himmat*, appeal for a mobilization of European resources and manpower to meet the Asian situation. 'We need to demonstrate in India that there is a speedier, more radical and revolutionary way to change the world. The Indian example could be followed in the rest of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Men who are morally straight, fearless and have God's power in their lives could change society quicker than any dedicated materialist.'



At a session of the Assembly: Rajmohan Gandhi; Patrick Wolrige Gordon, Conservative MP for East Aberdeenshire; A Lawson Wood; Jack Carroll and Albert McGrath, militant workers from Bristol  
*photo Strong*

They heard Hiralal Jedihya, head sweeper of the Maharashtrian town of Panchgani and a leader of the Harijans there, say, 'I am beginning to feel the 500 million people of India are my concern. There are lots of people who feel for their own group or caste, but not many who think for the whole of India.'

'My daughters said we need to bring purity into our home. In our community we are used to marrying off our daughters at 14 or 15 years and they have about 4 children by the time they are 23. I have decided to live absolute purity and I want to take the four absolute moral standards of MRA, especially purity, to every home in India.'

'If every man and woman lived purity and taught it to their families we could answer the gigantic problems of our age.'

They heard R D Mathur from New Delhi, one of the men responsible for MRA in India, condemn the theory that India's problem could be answered by swallowing the pill or killing the cows. 'Cows would

feed India for about three days,' he said. 'About contraception or sterilization, I don't want to create a generation of irresponsible men and women. If men and women are irresponsible for their acts in their private lives and family lives, how can they be expected to be responsible citizens of a nation that is crumbling because of irresponsible living?'

He said one nation that could greatly help India today with wheat has told the Indian Government that they will only do so provided New Delhi begins a nation-wide sterilization campaign and sets up a Ministry of Family Planning. They have offered helicopters to transport doctors on their sterilization missions to every village in India. 'But why don't they put hundreds of helicopters at the disposal of men and women who could give the answer of purity that Hiralal Jedihya spoke of?' asked Mathur.

In the next five years, unless the crisis of food and division was answered in India, the world faced a

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greater conflict there than the current Vietnam struggle, he warned. 'The present Vietnam war could look like chicken feed. Already violence is breaking out in the various parts of the country. Many are openly talking of a violent revolution. Arms from Peking are being smuggled into Nagaland. People cannot be asked to be patient indefinitely.'

## Act now

He appealed for men of faith and moral conviction to go to India and said, 'Is it not better to plan now to answer problems than to plan in five years' time the movement of bombers, tanks and military equipment?'

But the crisis facing the world could not be resolved in India alone. Revolutionary changes in the policies of Governments in Asia, Europe and North America would be needed.

The Europeans saw the drama *India Arise* and met and talked with the young Indians whose conviction and patriotism had produced it.

And finally they heard a British Member of Parliament, Patrick Wolrige Gordon, ask, 'What is Europe going to do? Is she going to shake off her shackles of wealth, comfort and complacency and take up what her

tradition and training have called her to do for Asia?'

It was clear to the conference that if European Governments and people said 'yes' to this question in the next five years the effect would be decisive in Asia. Last weekend at the conference industrialists, trade unionists engineers, teachers, nurses and students began to give Europe's reply.

Swiss building contractor Gottfried Anliker said that industry must make the world-wide battle of MRA and its financing as important 'as the development of our own firms.' Anliker said he planned to join Gandhi in his campaign in India this autumn.

British workers and management also undertook to organize a delegation to visit the ports and industrial centres of India.

These men and others from the medical professions and many other walks of life are among Europeans who will go to India as part of a world plan to meet the crises of famine and possible war. Others took on the raising of money for film units to take MRA films across the Indian sub-continent. Doctors and scientists announced their decision to raise the money to film Peter Howard's play *Happy Deathday*.

BRIAN LIGHTOWLER

Rajmohan Gandhi interviewed in Hindi by the BBC Overseas Service. This week extracts from 'India Arise' and interviews with the cast were broadcast to India by the BBC

photo Henderson



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**THIS WEEK** marks the second anniversary of launching the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre Building Fund. The Chairman of the Westminster Memorial Trust, K D Belden, said it was remarkable what had been done in such a short time to build the Centre, and he thanked all those who had taken part. Now a special effort was needed to raise the £32,000 to complete the Building Fund by 31 July.

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## SPRING CONFERENCE

### A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

will take place in the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre, London, from Saturday, 27 May to Monday, 29 May.

Sessions will be at 10.30 a.m.

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## INDIANS SWEAT TO BUILD CENTRE

INDIAN STUDENTS in a message congratulating India's new President, Zakir Husain, told him last week they were uniting castes and classes by working together to build the new MRA centre at Panchgani near Poona.

When the cast of *India Arise* left India in February, Dr Husain, then Vice-President, received them in his New Delhi residence. He said they would give much on their 'important journey' and would 'bring back something to India'. 'I know,' he said, 'the work you are doing of putting right what is wrong in the world.'

The students are using their holidays to lay foundations for the centre and also to grow rice. A visiting industrialist was impressed with the unusual sight of students working hard with their hands instead of despising manual work. A Roman Catholic priest working with them commented on their high level of discipline.

In skits and songs, based on their own experience, the students are showing nearby villagers how changed men can change India. Some students are regularly giving money for the centre, and villagers are also making collections for it.

Girl students last weekend put on a Summer fair to raise funds.

# 'Its plays and films have enriched our ministry..'



photo Blair

Kenneth Belden receives from Rev Guy Cornwall-Jones, Rector of Weddington, Coventry, a volume containing a message of support for the Westminster Theatre from clergy in eight countries. With them on the stage at the theatre are Rev Hugh Atkinson, Vicar of Claybrooke, Leicester; Father Melliton, representing Archbishop Athenagoras II and clergymen from Britain, Germany and Sweden

**NINETY-THREE CLERGYMEN** and ministers from 12 denominations from all parts of Britain and in eight other countries have put on record their gratitude to the Westminster Theatre.

On Whit Monday a leatherbound volume containing their signatures and a message of support was presented to the Trustees in a ceremony at the theatre.

'For twenty years the Westminster Theatre has presented in a world perspective the Grace and challenge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ,' they state. 'Its plays and films have enriched our ministry with new insights and enabled us to reach those whom we would

not otherwise have known how to approach.

'Some have found a starting-point for their understanding of God; others have seen how to make relevant to the problems and tensions of the modern world what they have long believed.

'We share your determination that the mighty creative forces of the theatre and other arts shall be directed by the Holy Spirit of God Whose gift they are. Seeing your theatre thronged with people of many nations, we rejoice that you have marched forward sure of Christ's eternal promise to draw all men to Himself.'

Thanking the clergy for their pre-

sentation the Chairman of the Westminster Memorial Trust, Mr Kenneth Belden, said, 'Many will come to the theatre before they come to a church. They will come through the theatre to the church. It is a gateway.

'This theatre takes its place on God's side in the eternal struggle between good and evil. General Booth said he did not see why the Devil should have all the best songs. We do not intend that he should have all the best plays.'

Fifty of the clergy and their wives and representatives of the religious press stayed for dinner in the Arts Centre and for a performance of *Happy Deathday*.

## FRENCH PRIEST SPEAKS

**ABBE JEAN DES TOUCHES**, a French priest, speaking on Whit Sunday morning at a meeting in the Westminster Theatre, said, 'I think God has for some years been more in my mind than in my heart. He has been more an object of intellectual, scientific research than a person who reveals Himself to the humble of heart.

'Since being with Moral Re-Armament I have accepted in my life the four moral standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love as absolute and not as relative as they were before.

'And perhaps it will be the way for me to recognize clearly one day, not only with my intelligence but above all with my heart that the one who enables me to accept and accomplish

During the run of *Happy Deathday*, the Westminster Theatre makes a special offer to the churches. Parties of 10 or more may have two seats for the price of one at the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening performances and at Wednesday and Saturday matinees.

these moral standards is nobody else but God Himself.'

Abbé des Touches has been travelling with the cast of *India Arise*.



# HEALING THE RANCOURS

A 60-DAY STRIKE of 10,000 shipyard and metal workers on France's West Coast was settled earlier this month.

The Times correspondent reported that this was 'greeted with a sigh of relief on both sides and by the Government, which had fruitlessly attempted to mediate some weeks ago.' The trouble was part of the malaise caused by 'a search for security of employment in the face of upheavals brought about by a rationalization and modernization of French industry, and by increased foreign competition.'

Immediately after the strike a conference of men from engineering and shipyards was held in nearby Nantes under the auspices of MRA. The City Council provided a castle as a meeting place. The Deputy Mayor of industrial Pontchateau near Nantes told

the trade unionists, managers and civic leaders present that 'the task is now to heal the rancours left in men's hearts' through the strike.

Delegates pledged themselves to further the change of climate which had already affected the area and which led the national radio's commentator to say when the strike ended: 'Negotiations have been conducted in a new spirit where both parties were looking for common solutions rather than opposing each other with grievances.'

British trade unionists from Coventry and Aberdeen trained in MRA were thanked for coming to Nantes to take part in recent industrial conferences. A further conference, to be held at Caux, Switzerland, 13-23 July, was announced. It will seek solutions to the upheavals in European industry similar to those in St Nazaire.

## Brazilian President invites German cast

AT THE INVITATION of the President of Brazil, Marshal Arthur da Costa e Silva, *Sing-Out Deutschland* visited the Brazilian capital last week.

The 190-strong force and eight tons of equipment were flown into Brasilia by the Air Force.

The Germans, accompanied by 40 Brazilians, are guests of the city who made all the arrangements and put a fleet of buses at their disposal. A company of the President's Guard Regiment moved out of their barracks to accommodate the men of the cast.

United Press International wrote in their dispatch from Brasilia, 'In the sold-out National Theatre these young messengers of MRA stormed on the stage and sang the Brazilian National Anthem practically without accent, holding up the flags of Brazil and Germany. They were greatly applauded by the audience.'

'The cast of *Sing-Out* in the last seven weeks has travelled more than 5,000 kilometres performing in the theatres, universities and colleges, singing songs that challenge young people and men of goodwill to enlist in the task of Moral Re-Armament.'

'A conference will take place in Petropolis near Rio from 20 to 25 May, where representatives of all *Sing-Out* groups in Brazil will gather to form a musical show *Sing-Out Brazil*. The first Brazilian songs have already been created.'

After heated discussion among the student leadership *Sing-Out Deutschland* was invited to the University of Brasilia. In this university, where four weeks ago the students rioted against the American Ambassador and burnt an American flag, the two American representatives in *Sing-Out Deutschland*, Pat Ector and Dorothy Jo Scott from California, were greeted with cheers when they said that they and tens of thousands in the USA had decided to make MRA the policy of their nation.

More than half of the newly formed *Sing-Out Brasilia* are students from this university. One student declared, 'We have lived only for ourselves. Thank you for giving us a vision for our country and the future.' The President of the university stated, 'You have opened a new door in this university.'

## 'FREEDOM' ON ADEN TELEVISION

THE SOUTH ARABIAN Federation Minister of National Guidance and Information, A R Girgirah, arranged recently for the Arabic version of the film *Freedom* to be shown on Aden Television one night during the curfew. It is planned to show it again. *Freedom*, produced by MRA, is the first full-length all-African feature film. It is a story of the resolving of power conflicts in the struggle for independence.

## CAUX DISCUSSED ON RADIO-LAUSANNE

RADIO-LAUSANNE in Switzerland interviewed representatives of Moral Re-Armament on Caux—its outreach in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America, its financing and plans for sessions this summer.

## DUTCH RADIO REPORTS GANDHI

THE DUTCH NATIONAL RADIO in a world news roundup reported a suggestion made in London last week-end by Rajmohan Gandhi that Indian leaders of different political parties sink their differences and make a united appeal to the world to answer the Bihar famine crisis. The broadcast also quoted a Dutch delegate to the MRA Whitsun Assembly in London. He said if aid to India was to be effective in creating a spirit of teamwork in India then there would need to be a change of attitude in the Dutch Government, in Dutch industry and trades unions and in every aspect of Dutch life.

## 'INDIA ARISE' SCOTTISH TOUR

June 2 Town Hall, Greenock  
June 5, 6 Citizens' Theatre,  
Glasgow  
June 9 His Majesty's Theatre,  
Aberdeen  
June 13, 14 Music Hall, Edinburgh