MRA Information Service



AT 'INDIA ARISE' OPENING IN THE WESTMINSTER THEATRE In the audience were ambassadors, members of Parliament, trades unionists, businessmen and students from this country and overseas. Crowds stayed on to meet the cast after the performance at receptions in the foyer and the theatre restaurant.

Top: H. E. Le Ngoc Chan, Ambassador of Vietnam, after the theatre Left: Ibrahima Thiam, Counsellor, Senegal Embassy; Agnini B Malan, Counsellor, Ivory Coast Embassy; Rafael Bile-Amon, Consular section, Ivory Coast Embassy talk with Rajmohan Gandhi

Right: Lord Colgrain, former Chairman of National and Grindlays Bank at the theatre photo Strong

WHO WILL Melt the hate?

THE HORROR OF WAR HAS STOPPED, but who will build the peace? Shellfire no longer blasts Jerusalem, Galilee and Sinai, but the pitiful flood of refugees continues to try to scramble over the twisted girders of Allenby Bridge and wade the waters to the Jordan's east bank.

The minutes of the United Nations are sprinkled with sound and strongly worded resolutions on the subject of Palestine, Israel and the Arabs. If these were implemented—even at this late date—we would be a very great deal further on the road to peace than we are.

But, until the hate and fear, hurt and frustration are treated, nothing will be solved, and each succeeding cease fire will but prolong the tragedy.

Dr Frank Buchman once said, 'Until we deal with human nature thoroughly and drastically on a national scale, nations must still follow their historic road to violence and destruction. The problem is not just an iron curtain which separates nation from nation, but steely selfishness which separates man from man and all men from the government of God. And when men listen to God and obey, the steel and iron melt away.'

It is a proven answer. In 1945 the bombing stopped in Europe, but the steely selfishness continued to divide France and Germany. Men and women began to listen and obey. A new atmosphere was created and a high official of the German Foreign Office was able to say, 'The most astonishing event of post-war European politics is the reconciliation of Germany and France. A major factor in the birth of an apparently permanent friendship between these former enemies is Moral Re-Armament.'

Dr Adenauer wrote to Dr Buchman, 'Unless this work is extended, the peace of the world cannot be preserved.'

The politicians are up against the hard fact that the human mind, unaided, cannot solve the problems created by the human passions of hate, greed and fear.

Yet to men who listen for wisdom beyond their own, ideas do come. When these ideas are obeyed they work.

Any man-in London, Cairo, Tel Aviv or New York-can stop, if he will, to listen.

HARRY ALMOND

at a glance

'CENTRE OFFERS TRAINING LEADERSHIP'

Under this headline the 'Sunday Standard', India's largest circulation newspaper, published on 25 June an article with photographs on the MRA training centre now under construction at Panchgani, Maharashtra. The report described the progress of the building work and the scope and purpose of the centre:

'THIS IS THE SPOT where in a few months time will arise modern India's beacon of hope—the Moral Re-Armament training centre—destined to change the hearts and minds of the people. From here will come out trained men and women, their ambitious task to remould a nation currently steeped in poverty and despair with its image distorted beyond recognition.

'The centre in a sense will try to do what Asoka did shortly after the famed Kalinga War—when he sent out his emissaries to the distant ends of the earth to rehumanise man.

'The Panchgani centre among other things will: help mould the youth of India for the tasks of leading India, Asia and the world; give industrial labour the necessary training to fight not only for a fair day's wage but also for a fair day's work; help traders and industrialists to put people before profits; train teachers to revolutionize the educational pattern; give the peasants sufficient training to place the nation before themselves; properly direct politicians on the fundamentals of teamwork; and in short, instil in every man and woman the need to care for the family, the neighbours, the community and the country.'

The Western India editions of the paper also carried the statement by the cast of *India Arise* headlined 'Bihar Can Be Fed!' (See *MRA Information Service No* 40).

Towards training 10,000 children a week

BY STAN SHEPHERD

'THANK YOU, THANK YOU,' said a group of five and six year olds as they filed out with beaming faces from the hot, stuffy school hall. They were a few of the more than three thousand children who have seen *Give A Dog A Bone* in the past week in Bangalore, contributing 2,500 rupees to the MRA training centre at Panchgani.

Everywhere people are talking about it. Girls in their long graceful skirts and boys in khaki uniforms chatter animatedly in the streets as you pass by. In spite of crowded conditions children of all ages have sat in rapt attention laughing at the antics of Ringo the dog and cheering at the capture of King Rat.

These children come not only from many parts of India but also from Tanzania, Malaysia, Cambodia, Mozambique, Borneo and Britain.

In one Catholic girls' school two showings of *Give A Dog A Bone* marked the opening of 'politeness week'. Following the film each class discussed it and stated resolutions they had made. The final event was a concert for parents at which the girls sang the theme song of the film and gave original skits and songs written on the theme 'Please, thank you and sorry'.

One hundred and seventy orphan boys, sitting on the floor and beds of a dormitory, considered the film the highpoint of their lives.

The Vicar General of Bangalore, Monsignor D'Mello, who was present at a showing, said, 'This is the best medium to get across the message.'

At a private showing a newspaper editor, a senior Government official of Mysore State, the General Sales Manager of a large industrial concern, an army colonel and workers from an insurance firm all responded as eagerly as the children to the film. Many citizens have assisted to make this programme possible including two institutions who have lent projectors.

This is the beginning of a continuing action in Bangalore and the south of India. It has been a step towards fulfilling Peter Howard's vision that *Give A Dog A Bone* would be THE DUTCH MINISTER of Culture has decided to give broadcasting time to Moral Re-Armament on the Dutch National Radio. The allotment will be 10 minutes every four weeks on radio and half an hour on television a year.

THE ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY of Education has bought *A Challenge Met* and *Freedom* and is using them through the schools of the country following a special performance for the 50 secondary school principals in Addis Ababa.

THE FILM OF Peter Howard's play Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill had its preview in German last week in Hanover for those attending the Deutsche Evangelische Kirchentag, the bi-annual rally of the German Protestant Church. Young men and women of Hanover—the cast of the MRA musical, Sing-Out Hannover—distributed 10,000 leaflets among the 18,000 people attending the rally and sold tickets. Preparations are now being made to show this film in all German universities.

THE MUSICAL, *Harambee Africa* has just made a thousand mile safari through Uganda. In Hoima the cast were the guests of the Government of Bunyoro, Uganda's oldest kingdom. The head of the Bunyoro Government said at a reception for them, 'Here is the unity of Africa in action. How you managed to come together and unite is hard to believe.'

MRA PRODUCTIONS has so far sold 44 copies of the film of Peter Howard's pantomime *Give A Dog A Bone* in 22 countries.

used to train ten thousand children a week in every part of the world and enlist them in the eternal battle between good and evil.

Showings of *Give A Dog A Bone* have also started in Bombay.

MUST WE KOW-TOW TO THE LITTLE ENGLANDERS?

The writer of this article, Hugh P Elliott, CMG, CON, has just returned from Africa on retirement from what used to be called the Colonial Administrative Service. He first went to Nigeria thirty-three years ago. He served in the bush as a District Officer. Since its independence in 1960 he has spent the last seven years working in the service of an African Government. 'These were the most exciting and not-to-be-missed years,' he writes, 'difficult with crises, but rich in friendships. The changes I have seen in that vast country, now in tragic turmoil, are almost unbelievable. But what concerns me more are the changes I meet coming home to Britain.'

THERE IS A REVOLUTION IN attitudes. We British used to criticize the Empire, but at least we felt responsible for what happened in large sections of the globe and for the welfare of millions whom we thought it was our job to prepare for self-government at some future date. Now there is a new school of thought.

A British High Commissioner newly posted to a formerly British-protected territory in Africa, a man of great intellectual brilliance, the other day put it this way. He was speaking of a senior British administrator who had been asked to stay on by his African Government and was considering doing so.

His words were to this effect: 'We must clear our minds of sentiment. Britain has no more responsibility for what happens in this country than, say, in France. Our sole concern is to protect our commercial interests. It is not a British interest to have our nationals working for these African Governments any more. On the whole it is better to leave them to their own devices.'

Is that British Government policy? Is it common sense in a world that needs all the willing hands and accummulated experience it can get for the benefit of the developing countries?

Today the most important feature of our times is not rockets to the moon, perhaps not even the H-bomb, but the explosion into freedom of the hundreds of millions of people we once called backward.

Must Britain then simply abdicate all over the world? An Indian factory manager working in Nigeria, formerly a passionate nationalist in the freedom struggle, said to me recently, 'If only you British would realize it! Your most important task only begins when self-government is attained. You understand us. Now is the time we need you in India.'

This is not the usual view of the British public. There is a strong school of thought which is still flogging the dead horse of imperialism and its wickedness. With them go those who want us to have no commitments east of Suez—and the same lot would have us pull out of everything south of Gibraltar. The new fashion appears to be 'non-involvement'.

SUITS OUR MOOD

Britain, it is argued, should go into Europe and become a super-scientific, modern nation of advanced technology and the highest standard of living. She should resolutely turn her back on her imperial past and the 'sentimental' connections with these overseas peoples for which she used to be responsible.

This suits our mood today. We are hurt, disillusioned, cynical. Our attitude easily becomes, 'Why should we be kicked in the teeth or shot in the back by people whom we tried to help? Leave them to it. If they want to shoot each other, let them do it.'

I am not one who thinks that Britain should have held on to her colonies, against the will of their peoples, in order to maintain law and order-even to prevent the disasters we are now seeing. I think imperialism is wrong. Even when well intentioned it is harmful to the soul and spirit of another people and also to those who govern. But if imperialism was a sin, the present attitude of non-involvement is a greater sin.

The selfishness and cynicism of the new Little Englanders is nauseating. It plays on the indifference of a comfort-drugged, affluent society towards the suffering peoples who are going through the birth-pangs of nationbuilding, through the hell of famines, coups d'etat, wars and dictatorships.

But the point is: how can Britain help? What should her new role be?

The arguments of the non-involvement school must be seriously examined, but they need to be weighed against the following facts:

1. There are huge masses of ordinary people in these countries and a significant number of their leaders who still look to Britain as the country which exported certain ideas and institutions (parliamentary government, the rule of law, the freedom of the press, a non-political and honest civil service) which to them are precious treasures representing the highest form of civilized society. They expect Britain to champion them. When they get into difficulties, they would rather get help from us than from any other country.

2. We have a vital long-term interest in preserving peace, stability and economic development in these areas. There may be overwhelming reasons for reducing military commitments in some parts of the world, but immediate economic self-interest should not be the deciding factor. Withdrawals set off far-reaching repercussions. It is one thing to reduce forces in Singapore, say, or to pull out of Aden with some relief, thinking of our shortterm interests. It is another thing to weigh the consequences of creating a power vacuum.

The views of the Prime Minister of Singapore, who is anything but a British 'stooge', on the consequences in South-East Asia are worth studying. So also are those of the President of Kenya or the Emperor of Ethiopia on the effects of increased gun-running across the Red Sea and aid to Somali raiders or Eritrean rebels, if the British presence is altogether withdrawn from the Aden area.

3. We have many millions invested in industrial and commercial ventures in the developing countries (over £100 million in Nigeria alone). They provide employment, teach industrial skills and standards and promote the multiplication of small industries which are urgently needed to answer the growing unemployment.

Trade and industrial investment are the form of aid most valued by these countries. (Incidentally, our former colonies offer huge undeveloped markets and, with more enterprise, an outward-looking Britain could greatly improve her exports to them. Let anyone who wants to preach an out-ofdate sermon on economic exploitation by overseas capitalists examine on the spot the benefits brought by industries run by British investment compared with socialized industries run by government bureaucracy and financed either by loans from Communist countries or loans from the many unscrupulous European machinery sellers. Workers in Nigeria have learned to distinguish the types of factory and show a marked preference in seeking employment.)

4. In spite of our mistakes, the people in these countries we used to govern are our friends. They have been educated in our schools or at our universities. They come to Britain first when troubles in their countries compel them to leave or when they are seeking help. 'Where else can we go?' said a West African. It is a major longterm interest of Britain to maintain ties of friendship, and enhance them, especially with the peoples of the Commonwealth.

Britain is not wanted any more as an imperial power. We are meeting storms of hatred in the Arab world because our motives are suspect and because we dirtied our hands in the past. What is it they want—the Arabs, Africans, Asians—what form of aid are they after?

They are looking for some country

which truly has 'no axes to grind'—is not playing power politics; which can send experts and volunteers who are men they can trust, men who are willing to learn and who will work shoulder to shoulder with them in the colossal tasks to be faced in their lands; some country which wants their genuine development and understands how they feel.

GENERATIONS OF TRAINING

Britain is in a unique position to do it. It is an asset, not a handicap, that she is no longer a super power. She has had generations of training and experience in developing countries. Though she has little money to give, her role could be, if she chose, that of the country which gives aid more intelligently, with more mutual trust, and with more skill in helping the people of these countries to help themselves, than any other nation in the world. It is a fascinating task.

To this thesis the Little Englanders have one stock reply. They play it as a kind of trump card. 'Yes,' they say, 'but look at what these countries do with our aid. They waste it through inefficiency or corruption. They do not have the honest men who care about their own people's welfare.'

It is true that there has sometimes been misuse of aid. But the answer is: "Then we must look for every growing point where Asians, Africans and others do care and are fighting for honesty and for that vital spark which makes any project work, whether an agricultural development scheme, a teacher training college, an industry, or a national development plan. These men are there if we are not too blind or cynical to see them. If we chose to look, our long association would help.'

I have seen many examples in different parts of Africa and I have just seen a perfect example of what I mean in Britain. It is a musical demonstration called *India Arise*, which is presenting the needs and the determination of an outstanding group of young Indians to do this very thing. It exactly answers this point. I wish thousands in Britain could see it and meet them—and millions more see them on television. They would immediately begin to see what Britain's new role in the world could be.

We are dealing here with fundamental issues affecting the whole of humanity. In a special article in *The Times* of May 19 the correspondent, Stewart Harris, speaks of the 'pearl of great price' which the Americans have so far failed to find in Viet Nam. He records conversations with many South Vietnamese. They want help in building a society which is a convincing alternative to Communism. They want their Government's 'revolutionary development' teams in the villages to have what it takes to win over the Viet Cong. Some of them believe it can be done. The article concludes, 'The search for that pearl goes on. I hope the foreigners find it too, for Viet Nam's sake.'

Britain's role is to lead the world in that kind of aid.

The Editors announce that the next edition will be edited by Richard Thwaites and a group of young Australians and New Zealanders currently in Britain. The theme of the edition: 'A new angle on the new Commonwealth.'

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Call for Moral Re-Armament at ILO Conference

THE INTERNATIONAL Labour Organisation Conference in Geneva, attended by 1200 delegates from 119 nations, has urgently been seeking ways to increase its world-wide social and economic effectiveness.

The President of the 51st Session of the ILO, Getahun Tesemma—Ethiopian Minister of Community Development and Social Affairs—said, 'Many of us feel that its (ILO's) transformation has not kept pace with the dynamic, social, economic and political change that sweeps the world with unprecedented speed. Recognition of this evolutionary process is a must and it should be taken as a challenge by this year's ILO conference.'

To meet this situation an Indonesian workers' delegate, Darius Marpaung, in a later plenary session urged the ILO to 'stress the basic need for moral and spiritual re-armament'.

He said, 'It is not an easy thing to talk about God, humanity and social justice if one has to deal with greedy and dictatorial employers or selfish, hateful and self-righteous workers. It is our conviction that labour relations throughout the world if they are going to be effective, stable and permanent, have to be based on certain moral and spiritual principles.

'In a country like Indonesia with a predominantly agricultural economy and a labour force consisting of more than 40 million agricultural workers.



our priority is still how to give work to the 3.5 million unemployed, the more than 14 million under-employed and how to cope with the problems of the 1.2 million young workers who enter the labour market every year.

'I believe on the eve of the International Year for Human Rights which we are going to observe together we should solemnly pledge and commit the organs of the ILO and the member states "to care enough and share enough so that everybody has enough", because it is true that "there is enough in the world for everybody's need but not enough for everybody's greed".

'Along with the demand for improvement and productivity there must also be a demand for improvement and morality. To this end the ILO should stress the basic need for moral and spiritual re-armament.'

Last weekend ILO delegates from Britain, India, Pakistan, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Tunisia, Morocco, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Dahomey, Bermuda, Chad, Mauritius and Senegal attended the MRA world assembly at Caux. A Yugoslav workers' delegate said, 'Are there not new questions we have to ask now? The first is, can we find a common aim for the people of different classes, political beliefs and races? Is ideology not important any more? Are technical programmes becoming more important? The tech-



nical programmes can never be an adequate solution to the world's needs.'

A Moroccan delegate, Hassan Zemmouri, General Secretary of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, recalled the important role played by the first Prime Minister, Si Bekkai, in the achievement of independence. 'All his work to free his country he owed to the inspiration of MRA.' said Zemmouri.

'Si Bekkai was twice Prime Minister. As a man he was a common denominator for all political viewpoints. As Premier he was the first to establish the legislation which now exists in Morocco—freedom of association, freedom of expression and the cooperative spirit. Mr Bekkai left his mark on independent Morocco and thus we can say the spirit of Caux continues despite his absence.

POSTAL SERVICE SUSPENDED

BY ANNE ALMOND, 19, who just arrived in Britain from the Middle East

THE QUIET of the curfew in our apartment in Beirut was punctured nightly for over a week by dynamite explosions. One evening the horizon was lit as a large fuel depot went up in flames.

A few days later we watched a furious mob shouting anti-British, anti-American slogans go under our balcony—men, women and children, all equally passionate.

In other parts of town cars were burned and shop windows smashed. One building was stoned for an hour so hard that it shook. The army had to be called in with armoured cars and guns to disperse the demonstrators.

It has been quite an experience as an American to be in the Middle East these last weeks, to find yourself and your country the object of violent demonstrations and to look from your balcony at a small boy writing, 'Arabs are forever against imperialism' on a nearby wall.

I felt it all especially deeply as I was born in Iraq and have loved the Middle East all my life.

Twice during those days our embassy phoned, recommending strongly continued next page

World Festival near New York

A WORLD SING-OUT FESTIVAL, called 'Freedom on the Move', will open on an island near New York in the USA on 2 July for two months.

Coming to it are the casts of Harambee Africa, Let's Go '67 from Asia, Sing-Out Deutschland and other Sing-Outs from Latin America.

These youth from outside the United States will meet with the three national casts of *Up With People* and thousands from the 148 regional singouts.

From the Festival these youth will go to major cities across the United States and stage big-scale demonstrations for the moral re-armament of America and the world. Commenting on performances of *Up With People* in Washington, David Lawrence, publisher of *US News and World Report*, wrote in his nationally syndicated newspaper column: 'It is an example of what can be done by orderly assembly. It is indeed a contrast to what we have witnessed in many of the impassioned "demonstrations" by youth which have swept the land.' Said a Negro member of the cast, 'Some people are worried about the "long hot summer" (of racial violence) but I assure you that the hottest action is going to take place at Fort Slocum (Festival site).'

Last weekend hundreds of visitors including civic leaders from the surrounding area, came to Fort Slocum to see the Festival preparations. An executive of the Chevrolet Division of General Motors flew from Detroit. He said after seeing a performance of Up With People, 'This is more than a show. It's an experience. I have never felt so involved mentally in anything in a long time.'

The city of New Rochelle, 30 minutes' drive from New York, has made Fort Slocum, David's Island, available for the Festival, where there is accommodation for 3,000 people at a time. It is expected that 20,000 people will attend the Festival during July and August.

Eighty thousand dollars was given by citizens of New York to start preparations for the summer festival. One man offered all the milk needed for the summer from his dairy. Committees were formed to secure food, furniture, transport, kitchen equipment and everything needed for the festival.

This week the Hearst Foundation have made a grant for purchasing all the office equipment in the former Hearst newspaper, the New York *Journal American*. Oneida Silverware Company has given all the silverware needed at the Festival. Kelloggs has given 80,000 packages of breakfast cereal. All the orange juice, sugar, salt, potatoes, fish and much of the meat for the next two months has been donated.

8-page issue Vol 15 No 38 edited by the cast of *India Arise*

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FROM 4 HAYS MEWS, LONDON W1

continued from previous page

that we leave the country. They would give us transportation, they said, if we would be at an appointed place in a few hours, but might not be able to help us any more.

Faced with the decision of leaving our home and all our possessions behind, or staying on in violence, possible fighting and personal danger, our family sat down and asked God's guidance together. Both times we felt clearly we should stay.

When we finally did leave last week, it was when we had planned to leave for our holidays anyway. It was with no sense of evacuation—but rather with the full intention of returning in the autumn as normal.

During those weeks we were welcome and wonderfully cared for by all our Arab friends—not as Americans, but as friends in Moral Re-Armament. For one week it wasn't safe for us to go out of our apartment. But all our friends came to see us bringing food and other supplies, or phoned to see if we were safe and if there was anything they could do.

It was often at their own risk that they cared for us. One Arab lady came with her children. We thought their visit was brief. We did not know why until a week later.

As they had driven up to our house in their large American Ford two men had approached and cross-questioned them as to who they were, whose car it was, where they were going and why. Despite this they visited us again and later sent the car to take us for a wonderful day in their home.

One other friend phoned us and said that her husband had asked her to ring several days before to see if we were safe. But she had not been able to bring herself even to speak English for two days so strong were her feelings against Britain and America.

She, as many others in these hopeless days who face a grim and uncertain future, felt that the only possible hope was in Moral Re-Armament.

In many ways the people to whom my mind and heart turn most often are our many, good friends in occupied Jordan, from whom we have heard and can hear nothing. We do not know if they are alive or dead, prisoners or refugees, at home or homeless. Letters return marked 'POS-TAL SERVICE SUSPENDED'.

It is days like these that mark and re-emphasize the urgency of the work of MRA. The person whom you see and care for, or do not care for today may never be seen by you or heard from again, or at least not during the hardest and worst time of their lives.

It also shows even more clearly that the problems of the Middle East and of the world will go on multiplying and worsening until the day when Arabs, Britons, Israelis and Americans, Easterners and Westerners, Christians, Moslems and Jews decide to change and sacrifice themselves to follow God's way and find His plan.

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