

# MRA Information Service

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Men and management from the transport and shipping industries of Sweden and Norway, Britain, France and Holland held frank discussions last week in London. Norwegian docker Ildar Karlsen (back to camera) talks with London docker Jack Manning, John Houlder, managing director of Houlder Brothers Co. Ltd (Shipowners) and John Söderlund, organiser for the Swedish Transport Trade Union in Norrköping, Sweden. *photo Strong*

## LOOK OUTWARDS EUROPE!

By our European correspondent

**'Oh East is East, and West is West,  
and never the twain shall meet.'**

Certainly some people want it that way. And the fragmentation of continents will soon bring the fragmentation of humanity with it.

We in Britain criticise General de Gaulle for his restricted conception of 'The Six'. But 'an enlarged Six', blessed by Britain's presence, and created, as the Foreign Secretary suggested, to counter the mounting influence of the super-powers, is just as fragmentary a conception if we venture to turn our imaginations to fifteen hundred million people in Asia and the Pacific, to the Americas, to the African continent, and to the bursting lands of the Middle East.

It is time we buried the either/or mentality in Europe, and resurrected the concept of humanity. The Common Market only makes sense if it is born from a common heartache, a common passion, a common purpose and a common plan.

The musical production, *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!*, which

nearly a thousand people saw (or heard in the foyer or the restaurant in overflow sessions) at the Westminster Theatre on Sunday morning, calls on Europe to tell the world what she is living for. Its theme is expressed in the song 'Have you anything to declare, Mr Europe?'

The French and the British, so long and so often at cross purposes in their sense of their own rightness, joined to help create this musical weapon to swing the eyes and the minds of Europe outwards to the needs of Asia. The Scandinavian nations poured in their verve and their talent. So did the Swiss and the Dutch. Men and women of Vietnam, Cambodia, India, Ceylon, Afghanistan and the West Indies marched with them, and forged for the world truths which Professor Eiliv Skard, Professor of History of Ideas in the University of Oslo, described as producing 'the mentality of the new age.'

Europe's need is a revolution of thought. Even when bloody wars are ended, a restricted spirit of self-

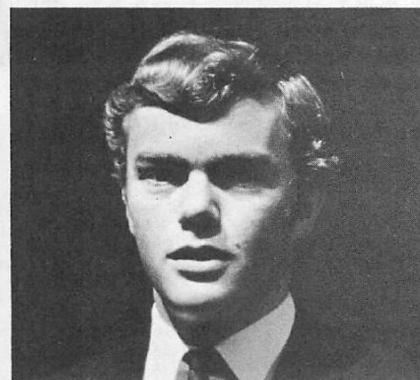
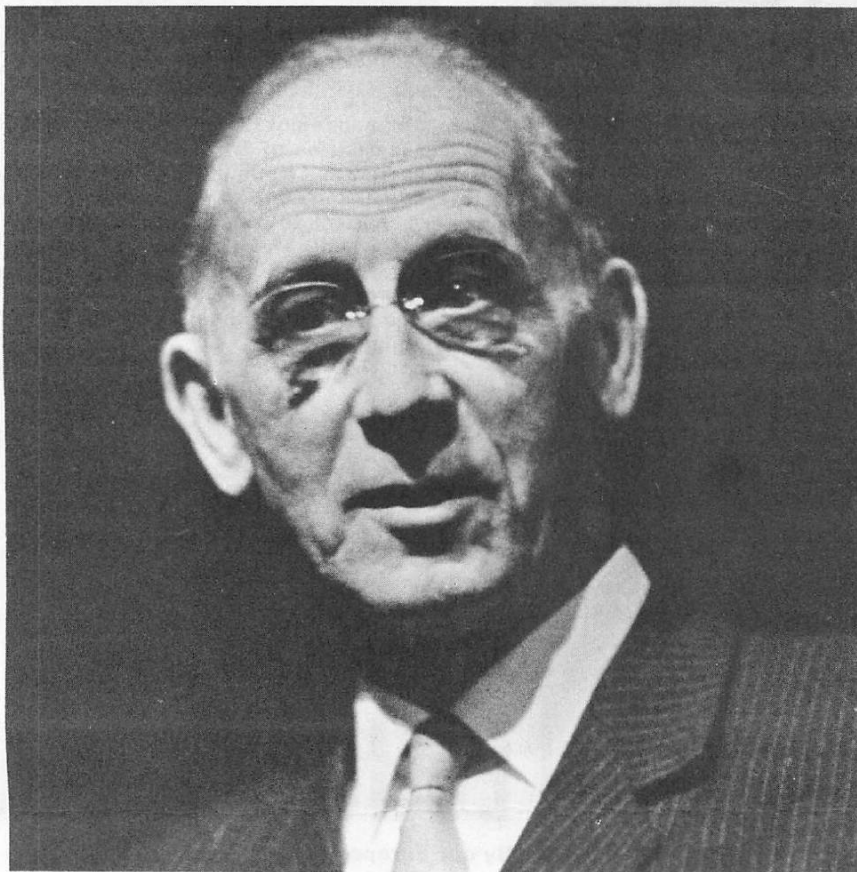
interest, age-old viewpoints, remain and could easily prevail. Nothing but an aim outside herself will draw forth her latent powers, stir heart and emotions to action, and produce from her a programme of ideas to which Asia and Africa will say a clamorous yes.

*Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!*, which challenges Europe to look out beyond her own windows as the world's train rushes forward, was launched in the Jura region of Switzerland a month ago. The divisions of language and the battle for control in the Jura region are perhaps Switzerland's most pressing problems. Passion and violence are at work, in a land traditionally at peace. Every element in that area was swept into the greatness of the ideas which this musical play presents. Pace-makers on both sides of the conflict acclaimed its truth. Peace comes not by chance but by change.

After recent showings in Paris and London the musical now goes to the

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**Ninety-five Scandinavians flew in a special charter plane to be at last week's MRA assembly in London. All saw the performance of *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!* Below, two are speaking to the assembly.**



Above, Esten Benestad, Chairman of the Student Debating Society of Grimstad, Norway: 'MRA is something that deals with the human heart and soul. There are many people in the western world who are searching for something even though they may not know it. Here in the columns of MRA they might find answers to their questions.'

*photos: Strong*

Left, Professor Eiliv Skard, Professor of the History of Ideas at Oslo University: 'We have felt here the mentality of the new world. We had unhurried time to think and plan. We saw plays that restore the dignity of man. It is said about St Paul—"When Paul saw the brethren he took courage", and that goes for all of us.'

industrial areas of Lorraine, and later this month to Gothenburg in Sweden.

Automation and technology are transforming the face of European industry. Hundreds of thousands of workers who tend the mines, factories and furnaces will no longer be needed for our European production programme. But there are world needs, not yet touched, of which men have barely thought. More than half the world's families earn less than £50 a year. The Europe that steadfastly expands its horizons and its planning to the whole of humanity will open up markets beyond human imaginings. Every man's arm, mind and heart will be needed. This expansion is the challenge presented by *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!*

The response on Sunday in London took practical form. John Söderlund spoke, after the performance, from the stage. The cast, which included his own son stood behind him. Söderlund is a Transport Union organiser for Nörköping, Sweden. He is one of those from European industry invited by Rajmohan Gandhi to go to

India to help save and refashion that land. He said, 'I am going humbly to study the problem in the ports and give my experience as a union man, and my heart, to the only man who can give an answer—the man in the port himself. If I can do anything to help them I would like to do it.'

### **World task**

In the audience were others from France and Britain who will also go shortly to share Gandhi's struggle to set India to her world task.

Through the weekend men and women engaged in education stepped forward with a programme to take the films of Moral Re-Armament out from Europe across the globe. Plans were made to support the opening of the Asian Centre at Panchgani in India early in the New Year. And a Christmas and New Year conference at the world centre of Moral Re-Armament at Caux, Switzerland, was announced, where men and women from Europe, Asia and Africa will meet to give practical effect to Europe's enlarged conceptions.

The editor of a Norwegian pop paper who came with ninety-four others from Scandinavia on a charter plane from Oslo arranged by the Norwegians, said that *Il est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!* was the best show he had ever seen. Certainly in the theatre your correspondent was surrounded by tears and laughter and by a sense of movement and decision in men and women, young and old.

The schoolboys and schoolgirls, the university students, the businessmen, the civic leaders, from Norway and other Nordic countries are clear they want to see more of this weapon and use it to create a new thinking. The trade union men of many lands, faced with mounting unemployment, also claim its aid. A cast, young and old, seventy-strong from fourteen nations, presented the show.

At the heart of it is a transformed mind, the revolutionary concept of a Europe modern enough to serve humanity, humble enough to learn from other continents, and resolute to relieve for all men the Faith which gave birth to her ancient greatness.

# Have you anything to declare Mr Europe?

by Rosemary Phelps

*Il est permis de se pencher au dehors* is a revue of the past, present and future.

It opens with Europe today and moves from a French pavement café to a British bus queue, and on through Scandinavia, Germany and Italy. The cast sing 'Le Destin des peuples est entre nos mains' and proceed to show with great variety how and why—through the precision of 'Chaque Homme Compte', the poetry of 'Stella Polare' and the simplicity of 'Bring Down Those Barriers'.

At the end of the revue the mood changes. In stylised choreography, mime and song, a glimpse is given of Europe's present state, and of her heritage—the way she has been prepared in history for the task that lies ahead of her.

Recently Gabriel Marcel, the French philosopher, described sin as 'being engrossed with oneself'. The question that *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!* explores is: 'could this be the greatest sin of Europe?'

At the end of this European tableau, five Asians appear in the light on the opposite side of the stage with their hands outstretched as if to say: 'Is your way of living the bread of life or a stone?'

It is certain our generation has the capacity for greatness. Yet Europe's creativity and capacity to care could too easily become so absorbed in the petty, that she forgets about everyone and everything else.

Indeed Jean Rey, the President of the Commission for the Common Market, said recently that Europe's most urgent need was to find an aim outside her own borders. The cast of

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'Have you anything to declare Mr Europe? Have you anything there for anyone else but you?' sing three Asian representatives in the cast. Right to left: Peter Bonny (India), Sam Rainsy (Cambodia) and Vijitha Yapa (Ceylon)

## The cast declare

### ANNETTE WIETUCHTER, Germany

What I want most for my country is that people forget themselves and start sacrificing their time, money and energy to be of service to the world. As a nation we have known what it is to be tyrannized and to tyrannize others but I believe that someone who has suffered much and has made many mistakes has much to say when he changes and chooses to live selflessly for others.

### METHE MAGNUS, Norway

We in this force are from 14 different nations and continents. We all come from different backgrounds, have different senses of humour and different ways of doing things. Being in the same show does not necessarily unite us, but because we have found a common goal and decided to change when it's needed we really have found unity.

Many of us including myself had to change our immediate plans to make this force possible.

Our aim is not just to unite Europe, but we feel that Europe, if she wants to do so, has so much to give to the rest of the world.

### SAM RAINSY, Cambodia

I am grateful for what MRA is doing for under-developed countries by re-awakening the conscience of Europe. I am also grateful to those men who, through great sacrifice, have gone to work in India, in Africa or elsewhere, whether they be

doctors, farmers, trades unionists or young people like ourselves, but all living the four standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love. We need your material aid, but above all we need this spirit of MRA.

### LOIC MORICE, France

Until a few months ago I refused to set foot in England and for me Europe finished at the Channel. I was glad when the English were hit by difficulties such as the oil troubles in the Middle East or other economic and social problems. In fact I was jealous and suspicious of England. I apologise for this attitude. It is this kind of pride which prevents Europe fulfilling her mission in the world.



Brian Easdale, British composer well-known for his music in 'The Red Shoes', shows a point in the score to Magnus Robach, Swedish drummer, in the six-nation orchestra accompanying the show

photo: Maillefer



The Renaissance: Scholar, Artist and Scientist sing the praise of their new world where man is at last free to follow his instinct and be master of his own destiny

Below: One of the musical's quartets. Peter Thwaites (Australia), Danielle Maillefer, Sylvie Haller and Christoph Spreng (Switzerland)

photos: Strong



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this revue believe when Europe finds this, she will achieve her destiny.

The music for the ten-piece orchestra, which alone represents six countries (with eight hands from three different nations on the piano) was especially written by Brian Easdale, the composer of the music for *The Red Shoes*. The overall production was supervised by the Canadian director Howard Reynolds.

## Meet the cast

### ELISABETH DAVEY, 22 Esher, England

Elisabeth met MRA eleven months ago when she saw *It's Our Country Jack!* in Poplar. She was a secretary in an architect's office, had a flat in Earls Court, an old black MG sports car ('I saw the car advertised in a magazine, went and bounced on the axle and bought it'), and was in fact living the casual, independent and self-centred life typical of thousands of English girls. Yet she and her friends seemed to be looking for something they could not find.

—Until that time in Poplar she had never considered that God might have a specific plan for her life and the life of those around her. Although she taught the children in Sunday School every week that God could speak to you she had never thought of finding out for herself. 'The difference now is that instead of doing immediately exactly what I want to do I try to think first what needs to be done. Life is much more unexpected.'

Elisabeth is also working as a secretary and is particularly concerned with the Press and publicity.

### NILS-ERIK SARNBRINK, 26 Orebro, Sweden

When Nils-Erik arrived in the MRA centre at Caux he was dressed in scarlet. The letter he wrote to announce his arrival was in red ink. A passion for Socialism runs through the Särn-brink family and goes back to when Nils-Erik's grandfather was called the 'red forester' because of his (then dangerous) Socialist beliefs.

Nils-Erik studied political science, sociology and economics at Stockholm University. He was a member of the



The 14 nation cast sing one of the final songs of 'Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!' photo: Strong

militant Swedish Socialist Students' Society there. He spoke in debates, planned demonstrations and marched with torches through the city to protest at a foreign Embassy. He worked too in a hospital for alcoholics and mental cases because of his interest in the human condition and environment.

When he met some people of Moral Re-Armament, Nils-Erik was impressed by their passion and freedom. He realised, 'We have constructed the social skeleton, but need to fill it with the flesh and blood of the Socialist man'. MRA showed him how this was possible.

He travelled in Norway with an MRA play, produced and written by young Scandinavians, called *The Wind is Shifting*. Then he went to America, moving with a speaking panel of young people to hundreds of high schools and universities. He has worked with labour leaders and dockworkers in New York and Pennsylvania.

#### **HENRI THEBAUDEAU, Paris**

At 20, Henri has moved from door-to-door salesman to ambassador's chauffeur, from shop boy to teacher's assistant, from looking after children to waiting in a café, and from gauging rainfall for an electricity company to plumbing. He ended up in a drama school in Paris, where he found his

true vocation training to be an actor.

When *India Arise* came to Paris, Henri was in the audience. 'At the end when they raised their arms and said, "We need everyone of you", I felt a finger pointing at me', he says.

Although he was first interested in acting because he believed it developed people and made them more intense personalities, he soon noticed in drama school the lack of a valid aim in his own life and in the lives of the people around him. So he was enthusiastic when he was offered the part of the trade unionist in the MRA French musical play *Pitié Pour Clémentine*.

In *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!* he sings the French version of 'The Ballad of Les the Plumber'.

#### **SYLVIE HALLER, 19, Caux**

During the two weeks of the Comptoir Suisse, the annual Swiss goods exhibition in Lausanne, the crowds turned from the washing machines, jewellery, razors and food to press around the counter where Sylvie was selling the record made by her folk group. By the end of the fair she had sold over four hundred copies and went off to make a second record.

Sylvie has been singing ever since she can remember. When she was seventeen, a friend put her name down for a national television talent contest

against her will. She won first prize.

Her father is the postmaster at Caux and Sylvie has often acted as assistant postmistress, climbing up the mountain sometimes five hours at a stretch delivering peoples' parcels through fog and snow drifts in winter or in the brilliant sunshine of summer.

'Songs reach people more easily than just words', she said. 'They cut right through their defences and touch their spirit.'

#### **DANIELLE MAILLEFER, 22 Lausanne**

'I want to capture the hope expressed in people's faces when they see the show'. Danielle is a photo reporter, and she has also done work on radio. She helped to start a record critics programme which is very popular in Switzerland. She was all set to start as a television producer when she met Moral Re-Armament: 'I felt then I had discovered an alternative to the cynicism of my artistic world.'

As a photographer for the American MRA magazine *Pace*, Danielle travelled as a public relations officer for *Sing-Out*, touring many of the universities particularly in the Southern States. Now she is concerned with the press and publicity of the tour of *Il Est Permis de se Pencher Au Dehors!*

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She says of the show: 'In Switzerland we have the United Nations, the Red Cross, UNESCO, and the World Health Organisation, but we are still moralising spectators. We need an unselfish sense of care for the world.'

**PETER THWAITES**  
**Australia**

When the Russian diplomat arrived at Caux from Geneva, there was a scuffle in the orchestra rehearsal. Peter put down his trumpet and picked up a dictionary to prepare to translate. It was because of situations like this that Peter, after graduating in German and Russian from Melbourne University, took a scholarship to study Slavonic Philology in Zürich. He is seriously concerned by the language barrier which he believes runs through Europe. 'This show gives a challenge which cuts through ideological and cultural barriers,' he said.

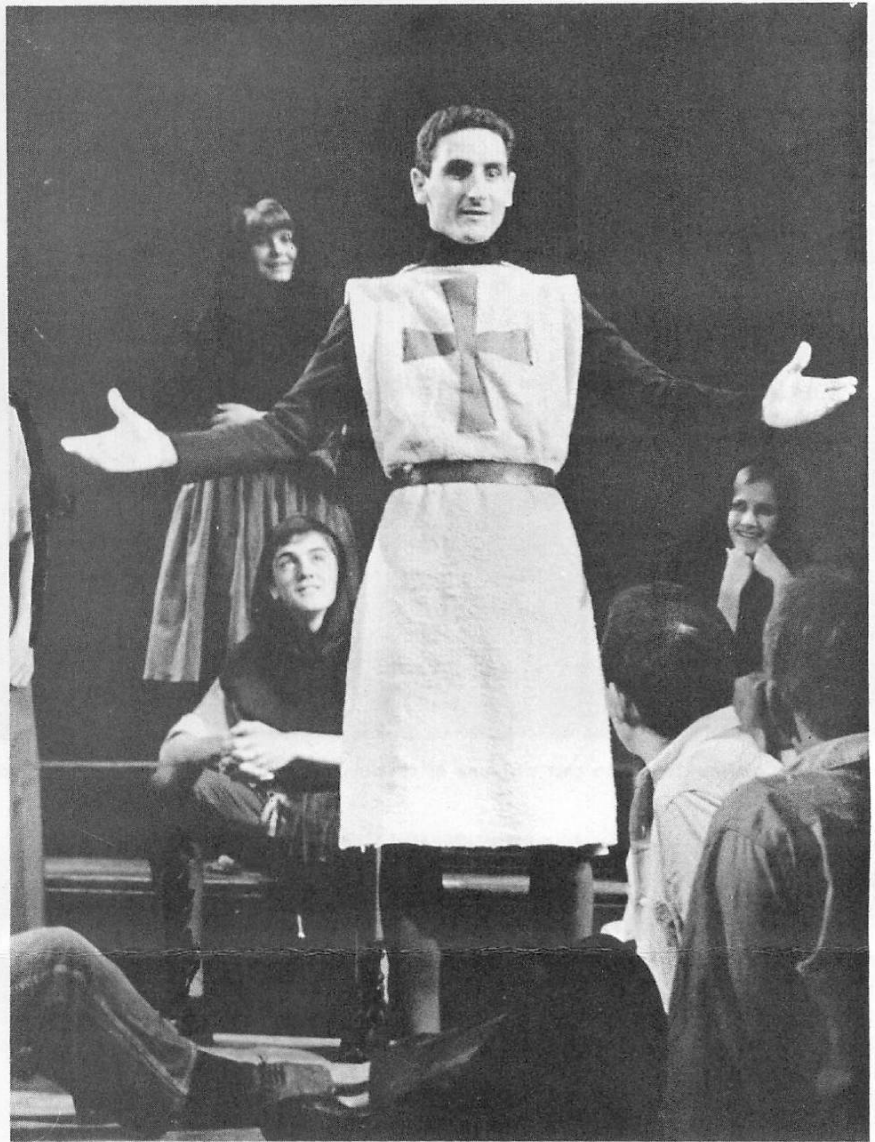
He found at university that one cannot base life on intellect, because that alone is not satisfying. This was brought home to him when some of the most brilliant students who appeared so strong and lucky in their talent committed suicide.

The Thwaites are a family of many talents. Between the four of them, they play ten musical instruments, compose and sing. Their father is a distinguished poet and works for the Government in the Australian Defence Department.

**VIJITHA YAPA**  
**Ceylon**

Vijitha's sales record is 175 copies of *Frank Buchman's Secret*, which he sold in under half an hour to a crowd of 300 people. 'You can talk with someone for 15 minutes, but if you sell him a book, the ideas stay with him for life,' he says. He is in charge of book sales for the tour.

Vijitha is one of 9 children and his father is one of the politicians responsible for the Southern Province of Ceylon. Vijitha was President of the Students at St Thomas's College and preparing to start as an executive in a textile mill. One day he was struck by a statement of his Prime Minister's, that Moral Re-Armament could lead to 'a rational world order free from conflict and hate.' 'It was then I decided to be one of those committed men who would be willing to risk everything, including security, to do that,' he said.



Above: The Crusader (Michel Orphelin) sings of 'A World Out There', where one day might be found 'the City of God'.

photos: Strong



# WHO ARE THE TRUE EUROPEANS?

BY PIERRE SPOERRI

Pierre Spoerri of Zürich, Switzerland is one of the men responsible for the work of Moral Re-Armament in Europe and is a member of the Caux Foundation. He has spent ten years in Asia and the Middle East and is European correspondent for the Indian newsmagazine 'Himmat'.

Published below are extracts from a talk given last week in 45 Berkeley Square, London.



A FRENCH philosopher visiting Switzerland three years ago commented on his return, 'Switzerland—or the folly of wanting to be decent all by yourself.' There can only be one legitimate reason for a Swiss like myself to come and talk in London on the subject 'Who are the true Europeans?'—to say that we on the continent need the voice, the wisdom and the strength of the British more than ever before.

There is a great deal of talk about European unity these days. The German weekly *Die Zeit* rediscovered last week the old dream of the tunnel under the Channel, and predicted that by the year 1976 through the 'chunnel' the continentals would have made all the British into Europeans. Lord Chalfont obviously hopes the evolution will go the other way round. When asked why he spoke in French in his first major policy statement in the Belgian capital, he replied, 'Because French is at present better understood in the Community than other languages. When Britain has been a member for a while, this may change, and I shall then speak in English.'

In truly French manner, a high Paris official, according to an American newspaper, compared the creation of European unity to the preparation of mayonnaise. He explained French resistance to British membership by saying that one should not add a new element just when the mayonnaise is about to blend. What the French official did not say was who will be the cook who finally decides who will 'blend in' and who will 'separate out'.

The columns of newspaper space and the hours and hours of oratory dedicated to the question of European unity, and in particular to the question

of whether some nation should or should not join the Common Market, stem from an almost irresistible temptation today to reduce the question of European unity to simply an economic one. There seems to be a fascination in quoting figures which are repeated and repeated until everybody believes that they represent the fundamental issue at stake. By sheer logic one tries to prove that in this question of European unity both practical utility and idealistic pioneering can be marvelously combined, and that out of it will grow a glorious new continent which will bring something new to the entire world.

For me, one thing is absolutely clear. Whether Britain joins the Common Market or not, her voice and part in European affairs are essential. Our countries on the continent, together with Britain, face so many big tasks which need to be undertaken together, that common thought and aims have become indispensable.

It is not by chance that all the great men of post-war Europe came from regions of the continent which had experienced suffering, hate and war. Robert Schuman came from Lorraine which had been a bone of contention between Germany and France for decades. He served in the German Army before he became French. Dr Adenauer came from the Rhineland which had been occupied for a long time by the French. De Gasperi came from South Tyrol, and served in the Austrian Parliament before becoming a librarian in the Vatican, which gave him a cover during the Fascist regime.

For these men, the creation of European unity was not one of self-interest or expediency. For them such

unity could only be born out of forgiveness and change. No wonder all three men were linked in friendship with Frank Buchman, and found in him and in Caux, the Moral Re-Armament centre, a uniting power and common source of inspiration.

In his historic letter to Chancellor Adenauer, in which he first proposed the creation of the Coal and Steel Community, Robert Schuman wrote, 'The best protection of a nation, however powerful, does not lie in "splendid isolation", nor in her own strength, but in solidarity with other nations who are guided by the same spirit, and who undertake with her common tasks in their common interest.'

Even de Gaulle, whatever he may say at the present moment, may be closer to Schuman's view of European unity than some of the European enthusiasts who speak so often and so passionately about it. De Gaulle thinks that it may take fifty years for the right political unity of the European continent to be achieved. 'Europe needs to be born,' said the General to one of his friends, 'because the problems of the world demand it. But she is not yet ready to be born. Europe does not yet realise what she represents in tradition, capacity and potential.'

It is interesting that the man who in the mind of the public is most identified with the Common Market, Jean Rey, the new President of the United European Commission, pointed recently to the next step Europe needs to undertake. In a private conversation he said to two of my friends that the only hope of Europe finding unity and the right destiny lay in her taking

# Malta prepares for the future

MALTA, coveted in war for its fine natural harbour and its strategic position, is now under a different type of pressure.

She has suffered serious blows to her economy in recent years. The closure of the Naval Dockyard and the withdrawal of the Royal Navy, although greeted with some disturbances at the time due to the tactless way in which it was announced, was borne with courage and the dockyard was converted to civilian use under the efficient management of Swan Hunters. But the closure of the Suez Canal has brought a serious loss of work to the dockyard. This was followed by the run-down of British military forces which will throw a further 5,000 men out of work.

The Maltese Government has responded to these blows with an ex-

port drive and a tourist policy. Significant quantities of wine have been exported to France and Germany and other countries. Early potatoes and tomatoes are also exported in increasing quantities.

The tourist policy has led to a building boom which, whilst it absorbs the unemployed today, is largely speculative and so does not hold much promise for the future. The tourist industry itself, capitalising on the long hours of sunshine, the beautiful bays and the historic and artistic treasures of the Island has got away to a good start. Hotels have sprung up all over the Island. The new Hilton Hotel is said to be the best Hilton in the Mediterranean area.

The now permanent presence of the Russian Fleet in the Mediterranean and the streams of tourists from Pol-

and, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, give Malta a further challenge. Could Malta, known as the island of St Paul, now so live the Christian faith that it has impact and relevance to the men of East Europe?

On 6 November the Catholic Institute started to show the film *Give a Dog a Bone* to all the schools on the Island. On 24 October the Government passed the film *Men of Brazil* for universal showing. On the same day requests were received for this film from the Trades Union Federation and from the Catholic Institute. Simultaneously came requests for *Annie* and other plays from the Westminster Theatre for the State Theatre and for the Catholic Institute.

Malta is now preparing ideologically for the next stage in her long history.

IAN SCIORTINO

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on big tasks outside her borders.

For Rey, the construction of Europe is like the building of a cathedral. He does not think that his generation will see its completion, but that it is up to him and his colleagues to lay the right foundations.

One incident of Jean Rey's life may also throw some light on his character and ideas. He visited Caux during the last year of Frank Buchman's life. He was at the time a Belgian Cabinet Minister. Rey spoke of the advance of Moral Re-Armament across the world, and said to Dr Buchman, 'You must be very proud of all this.' Buchman answered, 'I do not feel that way at all. I have had nothing to do with it. God does everything. I only obey and do what He says.' Rey said, 'Oh, I cannot accept that. You yourself have done great things.' Buchman replied, 'I have done nothing. Or rather, I have been doing what men like yourself should have been doing all the time. I stopped trying to run things the way I wanted many years ago. I started listening to God and letting Him have His way in everything. If men like you did that you would find the answers, instead of spending your lives beaten by the problems you yourselves create.'

If Jean Rey is serious in what he said to my friends about Europe's unity and destiny depending on her taking on big tasks in other continents, this may also be the shortest way to unity between the Common Market countries and those nations who, for one reason or another, cannot join the European Economic Community now. It may even be a programme on which some of the potentialities and powers of heart and mind of the Eastern European countries could cooperate with those from the West.

Finally, I come back to the question, 'Who are the true Europeans?' The answer is linked with the two words, leadership and choice. Who in

Europe will today give the right lead and proclaim that there is a new way for the whole of humanity? One of the gnomes of Zurich said recently to a friend of mine, 'The question today is who will take the lead? The world is suspicious of the leadership of the super-powers. In Europe, for some countries it is difficult to give a lead because of their past and their geographical position. Could Britain take this lead?'

The other question is one of choice. Some people seem determined to force our countries to choose between two small, wrong alternatives. They say that our countries must declare themselves for or against this or that association with a country or a group of countries. Others feel that only the Big Two have something to say concerning the future of the world. I do not believe this is true. I am convinced that what European nations decide may well tip the balance one way or the other.

What about choosing, not as a pious phrase or empty words but as a practical, real decision, to be responsible for the future course of the *whole* of humanity? If a nation like Britain, with all her history and the great potential of her people, proclaimed this aim, all Europe would follow her lead.

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