MRA Information Service

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NEW AIMS FOR STUDENT PO

British and overseas students urged a constructive use for student power at a national meeting for MRA last Sunday at the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre. The meeting was attended by students from different colleges and overseas student organisations.

Introducing the 15 speakers, George Williams, the Arts Centre's Student Representative, said that students could proclaim and live a purpose to match the needs of a world facing war, hunger and race conflict.

Student power can be used selfishly or for putting right what is wrong in the world, said David Belden of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.

JON SWALLOW Final Year in Architectural Studies

We can opt out of participation in the world or we can opt in. In my experience of six years at college and my time in London the most exciting thing is to opt in. Will we individually make a solid decision to accept responsibility, to cut out the dirt and false motives in our lives and take on with all our energy and imagination and creativity the job of building a world that works? Britain has built into its character world responsibility. I decided therefore to set aside the time and the savings to go to India in the near future to help at Panchgani, the MRA training centre in India, and to give what I can to the housing problem of India where they need 75 million homes.

KATHERINE VIBERT Regent Street Polytechnic, London

Two weeks ago I decided that I would write down in full what I was for, what I was against and what I wanted to

see different in the world. It took six full pages. I decided if everybody lived the four standards, absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness and love then things would be different in the world. Then I realised people was myself and that I had to start living these standards. So I started and I am now trying to do this in my college.

RICHARD BRANSTON Editor of national magazine 'Student'

The magazine is related to general developments in recent years that have directly involved our own generation—an increased awareness of



Chris Gill





Noorullah Delawari



Jon Swallow





Andrew Stallybrass



Hilary Belden



Howard Grace

what is happening in the world, and a consequent attempt to shake off the parlousness of our situation.

ANDREW STALLYBRASS Student of English entering York University

The most practical thing in the world is to change my own way of living. If my behaviour is multiplied three billion times, would the world be better or worse?

NOORULLAH DELAWARI Colombo Plan Scholar, Afghanistan

When I came to London, many things were new to me, and I started a bad way of life. By accident I met with MRA, through the play Annie, and it brought a change into my ideas. Now I am able to study more, properly use the scholarship and return to my country to help it. I believe MRA is a principle of all religions to solve individual and national problems.

HILARY BELDEN St. Ann's College, Oxford

Moral Re-Armament is not an extra activity. It's the way you do every-

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TARGETS FOR TOMORROW: DECISIONS FOR TODAY

H S Addison

UNDER THE HEADLINE 'Our World in 2000 A.D.' The Sunday Times published an article summarising a report by a group of scientists predicting what the world will look like a generation from now.

Britain will no longer be among the most prosperous countries in the world. On the other hand it may well be possible by then to control the weather over large areas. So what we lose on the swings we may gain on the roundabouts. But the saddest prediction of all is that there will still be a thousand million people in the world with per capita earnings of less than £70 a year, and that the gap between the rich and the poor countries will be wider than ever.

All these predictions are based on the assumption that the tide of his-

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thing, the way you do your work, the way you act in debates or in journalism or anything else. It's the way that you do care for people.

CHRIS GILL Trainee banker

MRA seems to me rather like a breath of fresh air, especially the revue Anything to Declare? when I saw it at Queen Mary College, London. I have felt the general atmosphere of the British people today—apathy and discontent. MRA has given me a purpose and this is why I am going to join the cast of Anything to Declare?

HOWARD GRACE Former President of City University Students

They say it's men like Harold Wilson who decide things for us and there is nothing we can do about the situations we find ourselves in. But it's me who has to decide whether I am going to give my life to see that the problems we face around the world are answered. We may not know all the answers, but if we decide at least we have a chance of finding a solution. If we don't decide then we don't stand an earthly.

tory will continue to flow in the same direction as it is flowing today. They do not reckon with the fact that history is made by people, and that the direction of people's minds and imaginations and wills can be changed, and have repeatedly been changed, very swiftly indeed, by invisible forces—and especially by the force of ideas. The economist J M Keynes wrote of ideas: 'The world is ruled by little else . . . Soon or late, it is ideas, not vested interests, which are dangerous for good or evil.'

Pragmatism

I belong to a generation which was moved by ideas—ideas which have convulsed the world but have not cured its problems. I believe that what is fashionably called the pragmatic approach to politics springs largely from disillusionment with ideas which have not been realised, and from the lack of great ideas to fill the vacuum. Vision fades. Governments busy themselves with petty aims. The Left becomes frustrated and rebellious. The Right loses inspiration. Apathy descends on the millions.

Pragmatism of this sort is thin fare for hungry minds and hearts. The world is ready for a great idea. There is nothing so powerful as an idea whose time has come', said Victor Hugo. Moral Re-Armament is the idea whose time has come.

Armed with this idea, what sort of world are we going to build by 2000 A.D?

We need to set ourselves targets—targets which are concrete enough for us to fix our sights on them, but so big that they throw us on the power and wisdom of Almighty God to reach them.

Take, for instance, the division between Communism and anti-Communism. Today these are false alternatives. They are out of date. Both are too small in the age of the H-bomb. One of our targets must be to win the world for an idea big enough to change and unite the Communist and the non-Communist blocs. Everywhere men are longing for it. It is a realistic target.

Next, what are we going to do with technology, which keeps marching forward with giant strides? Are we going to make it an end in itself? Are we going to use it merely to make the affluent societies more affluent, while the poor remain poor? Frank Buchman, the initiator of Moral Re-Armament, said: 'There is enough in the world for everyone's need, but not for everyone's greed. If everybody cares enough and everybody shares enough, everybody will have enough'. Harnessed to that philosophy, the mighty resources of technology can banish poverty and famine from the world. That is a second perfectly realistic target.

But there is a third target too. Out of the revolutionary turmoil of these days some new world society is bound to emerge. It could be a dictatorship. But we can, if we will, create under God a society of men and women who are truly free because they are governed by God, and truly equal because they care for one another equally as children of God—whatever their class, whatever their race, whatever their colour.

These are all perfectly realistic targets. But we shall not achieve them tomorrow without costly decisions today. Frank Buchman used to say to us: 'You will never build a new world on the cheap.'

It will mean a decision to accept absolute moral standards as the norm for our living. We have to choose between a permissive society today leading to a slave society tomorrow, and absolute purity today releasing the energies which will create a free society tomorrow.

It will mean a commitment to accept God's plan for ourselves, in detail and every day for the rest of our lives. Human power and human wisdom will never do it.

It will mean a decision to learn the most urgently needed art in the world today. Cabinets need to learn it. Scientists need to learn it. Above all the men and women who have the responsibility of shaping the future need to learn it. It is the fascinating and difficult art of changing human nature-of curing the selfishness of the haves and the bitterness of the have-nots, the lust for power which makes dictators, and the apathy which can turn millions into slaves. As we learn that art we shall achieve our targets and fulfil the programme of Moral Re-Armament-new men, new nations, a new world.

Archbishop Makarios receives British workers (left to right) Jack Carroll, Ron Howe and John Pate.

Dr Fazil Kuchuk, Vice President of Cyprus (lower photo), receives the same delegation.

BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS MEET GREEK AND TURKISH LEADERS IN CYPRUS

THREE BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS this month conferred with both the President of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios, and the Vice President, Dr Fazil Kuchuk.

The trade unionists were on the last leg of a return journey from India where they had been for two months, meeting the workers of India and their representatives, and members of the political and industrial leadership of the country. They had been in India on the invitation of Rajmohan Gandhi to aid in the moral re-armament of India and Asia.

The party consisted of Jack Carroll, a Bristol dockers' union leader; Ron Howe, Shell Chemicals' (Carrington) deputy convenor of shop stewards and Councillor John Pate of Sheffield.

The Free Trades Unions' Secretary-General met them on arrival. His own district branch of Famagusta, led by Costas Christodoulides, MP, and Andreas Vassiliou, arranged a full programme of visits to the Port of Famagusta, where Greek and Turkish trade unionists and Government officials still work together, to the headquarters of the union labour centre where they were received, and





also to the headquarters of the Communist Trade Union (PEO). The Mayor of Famagusta conferred with the British workers in the city hall,

The convictions of the three British labour leaders aroused great interest and eagerness in all those they met.

At a time of great stress and difficulty over the political situation on the island, its future and its peace, the voice of a united force of men was particularly welcome. The President of Cyprus, receiving his guests told them, 'I would like you to consider me as a friend of Moral Re-Armament. You will always be welcome back here.'

The British trade unionists have been the best ambassadors Great Britain has had here, and at a time when London is deciding to shrink back, these men showed an expansion of care, interest and humanity which millions in the Middle East and the Far East still hope Britain will go on providing.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

TWO INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCES AT THE WESTMINSTER THEATRE Sunday 18 Feb, 17 March at 11 am Lunch at conference rates

Tap-dancers in "Annie"



photo Houston Rogers

DENNY BETTIS (left) and Freddie Eldrett are tap-dancing East End ice-cream and milk men in the musical *Annie* at the Westminster Theatre, London.

Bow-born Denny Bettis, 'a Cockney and proud of it', broke through into big time character-dancing in High Button Shoes, whose music was writen by Jerome Robinson of West Side Story fame.

He has done satirical review and ballet, as well as the choreography for many TV shows and *Annie* itself. Recently he recreated the Fred Astaire role in *Lady Be Good*, the George Gershwin musical.

Freddie Eldrett of Wood Green, London started tap-dancing at the age of four and at eleven won the junior All-England Tap-Dancing Championship. He won the tap-dancing and singing award three times at the London Musical Festival.

SHIFTING HISTORY'S COURSE

Address to the MRA Assembly, Panchgani, India by Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed Surur, a senior civil servant from Ethiopia

WHENEVER A MAN UNDER-TAKES a work for the good of mankind he runs into difficulties. This was, in fact, my experience when I planned to attend the conference here at Panchgani. But I drew from these obstacles a certain challenge and the help of Mr Hugh Elliott encouraged me to overcome the difficulties. So here I am with you—coming from Ethiopia—the oldest independent nation of Africa.

I assume you all know of Ethiopia, for it is the centre for the Organisation of African Unity. Ethiopia has also many connections with India. Many teachers in various fields are Indians.

I have heard here at the Conference many opinions and views on how to deal with the problems of the world through Moral Re-Armament. I have been deeply impressed by many people who have totally committed their lives to Moral Re-Armament. The saying is indeed true that, if a man gives his life to God, then God gives him the help he needs and the power to shift the course of history for the benefit of mankind.

Mr Peter Howard once said in a speech, 'I wish that the men who are capable of so wide a range of thinking in scientific fields would apply that same intelligence to the building of a new world'. Whenever thought is concentrated along moral lines, the results are more positive and more effective in avoiding bloodshed and in guiding humanity to lasting peace and the establishment of law and order. This was the principal aim of Dr Frank Buchman in his battle to change men.

The world today suffers from lack of stability, corruption, and lack of caring. The cure for these things does not depend merely on thinking or talking about the problem. It comes through continuous work applied with commitment. Neither shame nor flattery is effective in restoring character. But practical commitment to the task is.

It is the good fortune of Ethiopia

to have Mr Jim Baynard-Smith* with us. Our Government, feeling the need for Moral Re-Armament, invited him. He co-operates with a committee of five prominent people of which I have the honour to be one.

We began our work with films, lectures and programmes in the schools and in various public halls. Then a big meeting launching Moral Re-Armament was attended by leading personalities from all faiths, classes and walks of life.

In the brief time since that beginning we have already seen profound changes in relations between individuals and in our society. I draw a great hope and confidence from this beginning, for the results so far plainly indicate the possibility of victory over corrupt thinking and of bringing about a fundamental change which raises the standard of unselfishness.

Another indication of how seriously my country views Moral Re-Armament is that I am with you in this conference. When I leave Panchgani it will be with the conviction that we can build together a whole new generation for the Moral Re-Armament of the world.

In Ethiopia as in India and other countries, people carry a burden of hate and bitterness. But when truth is applied, error disappears. This is what our Emperor calls for in order to create unity in our people.

Ethiopia is the place where Africa meets, and at the same time it is the link between Africa, Europe and Asia. Ethiopia needs the high standards of Moral Re-Armament for self-protection. We have within our borders those two divinely inspired faiths, Christianity and Islam. My country, as our Emperor says, believes in the concept of unity and that religion is the property of God while the country is the concern of all.

When I saw *India Arise* I was bowled over and captivated by the revolutionary spirit of the cast who

aim at putting things right. I hope we can see in our own country a similar review performed with the same passion. I also hope we can start a Centre like Panchgani for Africa so that from Ethiopia there will radiate an answer to the whole world.

I salute Mr Gandhi and his work in India and what he is doing to create a sound and sane future for the world through Moral Re-Armament.

*Mr James Baynard-Smith, an Englishman, was invited last autumn with his family to Ethiopia to aid in the initiation of a campaign for Moral Re-Armament undertaken by the government.

Ethiopian guerillas see 'Freedom' film

EX-REBELS of the Eritrean Liberation Army last week saw the MRA film, Freedom, in a rehabilitation camp near Asmara. They had layed down their arms under an amnesty from the Emperor of Ethiopia. The ELF has been fighting against the Ethiopian Government in the country's northern province of Eritrea.

One former guerilla said after the film. This stirs the spirit to recognize the cost of bitterness, to understand what division does to our people, and how to build real unity for this land. Freedom, the first all-African feature film produced, is the story of an African nation finding a way beyond tribalism, politicking and violence.

Another ex-rebel said, 'Having faced the near certainty of being hung as traitors if captured, we consider the rest of our lives as "backsheesh" (literally a tip or bonus) to be used effectively. A revolution of the spirit interests us'.

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