

## FLOW OF IDEAS ON MERSEYSIDE

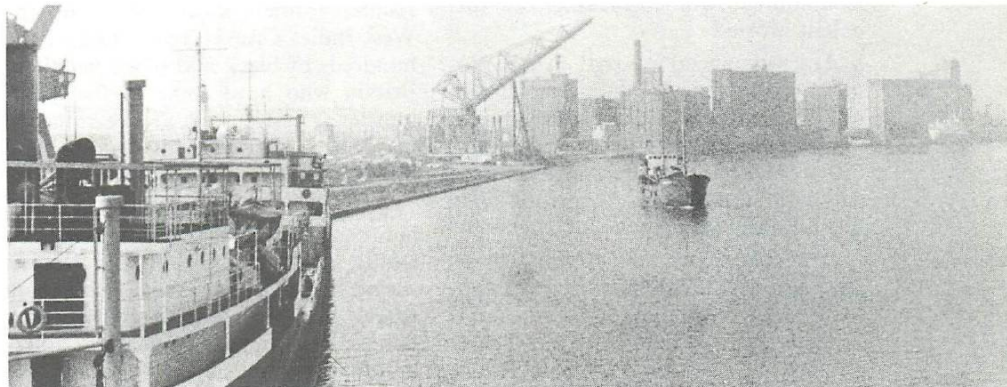
By David Porteous

TURBULENT MERSEYSIDE is at a critical stage of its long industrial history. The teething troubles of de-casualisation in the docks led to a six week unofficial strike last autumn and the settlement was reached only through the intervention of the Prime Minister, when most of the men's demands were granted.

Negotiations have been going on which will guarantee dockers £17.1.8. a week, with a possible pay packet of £30. Seventy-five new tea-rooms are being built at a cost of £250,000. Yet, the management says productivity has dropped by 10% in recent months. Mistrust still prevails in Britain's premier export port.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Councillor Mrs E M Wormald, receives members of European revue at Town Hall

photos Maillefer



Jim Beggs, last year's Vice-President of the dockers of Melbourne, commented this week about Liverpool, 'Mechanically, this port would take a lot of beating anywhere in the world, but you could sense the cynicism on the quayside.'

Since his arrival on the Mersey Beggs has visited the homes of militant shop stewards and the board-rooms of the shipping management and the Port Authority. He is in Britain following his visit to the ports of India and the Middle East.

One senior executive, after hearing from Beggs about management and

men working with a common aim, asked, 'We have offered better wages, new canteens and tea-rooms, but how can we really get across to the dockers? What can we do about the sour spirit in our port?'

Beggs found that the man had never met an ordinary docker. 'Why not get to know them?' he asked and added, 'I am all for better conditions and better pay, but the years of mistrust and suspicion in the docks will never be answered by these alone. Unless both sides have a concern for other nations the portworker, like myself, thinks that by working harder he is only making more profits for the boss. And the boss thinks that the sooner he can mechanise and containerise and eliminate dock labour the better. In other words you will never get our ports to work properly without people living out Moral Re-Armament'.

*The Journal of Commerce*, the daily paper read by Britain's shipping management published an article on Beggs' visit. It detailed his report of the practical results for the maritime industry brought about through MRA in Australia, India, Lebanon and Cyprus.

Beggs has been working with cast members of the European revue, *Anything to Declare?* Their penetration, with the ideas of MRA, was as wide as the Mersey itself. The dockers received them enthusiastically at their clubs. Said one docker about the

continued on back page



# WOMEN CREATE THE FUTURE

1968 IS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY of the Suffragette Movement. Today women are asking, what now? Are there new territories to conquer, new fights to take on? What special contribution can women make to our turbulent world?

Any woman taking part in the Women's Day at the Westminster Theatre on 29 February would have found immediate answers to these questions. 600 women packed the theatre for a day with the theme 'Women Create the Future'.

I watched women from Bristol, Sheffield and Birmingham crowd into the foyer, meeting visitors from France and Germany, Holland and Sweden. Coaches arrived from Brighton, and North and South-East London, and the biggest group of all was a plane party of fifty from Switzerland.

What London theatre, I wondered, has ever entertained 600 women for the whole day, offering a continuous programme, including meals, from eleven in the morning until eleven at night? It was a unique occasion.

At the morning conference issues important to women were outlined by speakers including Miss Saidie Patterson, first woman Chairman of the Northern Ireland Labour Party, and

Mrs John Pate, delegate to the Sheffield Trades and Labour Council.

How, for instance, can women help to make our society, with its different races and cultures, work? Conrad Hunte, former Vice-Captain of the West Indies Cricket Team, told of the hundreds of black and white people in Britain who have come to the Westminster Theatre and are learning to build a society that is colour-blind because it is character-built.

'Britain's strength', said Hunte, 'is her heart-power that beats firm and steady in the hearts of the women sitting here. Our weakness is our hate power that threatens to destroy our homes, our industry and our international relationships. I believe we could together create a model of unselfish sharing that would be eagerly copied in America, Africa and Asia.'

The Hon Mrs Brian Boobbyer, whose grandmother, Lady Sybil Smith, went to prison for her beliefs as a Suffragette, said: 'The days are graver now than any my grandmother faced. Women are guardians of the nation's character. If women are faithful, then the homes are sound. If women are promiscuous, you get delinquent youth.'

'We women have a colossal job ahead of us—to put God's values and



'We must convince our leaders that the majority of citizens want to maintain the basic loyalties in life. We must get that majority articulate,' said conference chairman Mrs Donald Simpson *photos Strong*

standards into every level of life in this country,' she said.

A speaker from France was Mrs Robin Evans, a member of the French Society of Authors. 'The world expects the best from Britain,' said Mrs Evans. 'Recently many people in France have said to me: "Your husband is English, can you tell us what has happened in Britain and what is wrong?" I want to answer: "Whatever is wrong the people of Britain are going to put it right."'

'I have seen six hundred women in the Westminster Theatre who will stop at nothing to do so in their homes, in their schools, in their cities and hospitals, and we will stand with you until the job is done.'

A recurrent theme of the conference was the importance of homes as the growing point for a new society, and the vital connection between a nation of sound families and a sound family of nations.

Mrs Belden, wife of the Chairman of the Trustees of the Westminster Theatre, described the home as a place where the children learn to care, or where they learn not to care; where they learn to face whatever the future may bring of change or upheaval because they have learnt to depend on God and not people, or where the weakness begins that lets

Six hundred women attended Women's Day Conference. Left to right: Madame Robert Carmichael, wife of the President of the French Jute Industry; Mrs W van der Wyck from Holland; Mrs Paul Campbell and Miss Lillian Wood from the USA



others decide and do everything because 'mum' decided and did everything at home.

The afternoon's programme was a matinee film show of *Voice of the Hurricane*, starring Muriel Smith. The ladies were given a tour of the Arts Centre, getting a rare behind-the-scenes view of the restaurant, kitchen, dressing-rooms and theatre library.

Many stayed for the evening performance of *Annie*, the musical which tells the true story of Annie Jaeger, the North Country woman who believed passionately in homes and their importance in the life of their nation.

MARY MEEKINGS



Frenchwoman Mrs Robin Evans speaks  
Miss Saidie Patterson, former Chairman of the Northern Ireland Labour Party.



## SING-OUT CAST MEET POPE PAUL

DURING HIS WEEKLY audience in the Hall of Benediction, attended by 3,000 people, His Holiness Pope Paul VI referred to the presence of the 250-strong *Up With People* Sing-Out force.

Seated on his throne, the Pontiff turned to the *Up With People* force and said:

'Today we extend a cordial welcome to a group of young people known as the Sing-Out movement. In this modern day there is almost too much stress put on the purely material aspect of life. Religious motivation should be predominant if people are to live in harmony and accord. The peoples of the world form one human family and all are children of God. The recognition of this fact and a commitment to making it a reality will benefit all mankind. Brotherhood under God is that which binds us all to one another. We pray that your efforts to rally the young to take responsibilities will be a success and that youth will respond generously to your invitation to commit themselves to bring about the union of all men under the Fatherhood of God.'

After the formal greeting the Pope came down from his throne and was presented with an album of *Up With People* by Ralph Colwell and Joe Green. Colwell told the Holy Father, 'We represent an explosion in the spirit of a generation that wants to

accept a new responsibility for the future and to work to make every sacrifice to cure the causes of war and to build the kind of society we all long for.'

To this the Pope added, 'That is absolutely right and we must create peace in the world and the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God'. Joe Green said, 'Young America needs young Italy to take on the task of building a new world with us.' Again the Pontiff nodded his head in agreement and said, 'Yes, that is it—to build a new world.'

His Holiness then came further down the steps of the platform to meet other members of the cast seated in the front rows of the auditorium. At the Pontiff's request the cast began to sing *What Colour is God's Skin?* and the Pontiff stood and listened attentively, encouraging the singers with movements of his hand.

*Up With People* arrived in Italy from the United States in January for a tour of Italian cities from Milan in the north to Naples in the south. Another cast of the musical has visited Norway and Finland.

## 'Up With People' in Finland

THE SPEAKER of the Finnish Parliament, Dr Johannes Virolainen, welcomed a cast of the *Up With People* musical in the State Hall of Parliament last month. Its premiere was given the following night in 20 below zero centigrade weather in the Messuhalli, Helsinki's largest concert hall. Among the 2,000 people in the audience were a former Prime Minister of Finland, four bishops and the General Secretary of the National Sports Federation.

Following performances in Helsinki, *Up With People* left on a tour of Central Finland. The Governor of Central Finland, Eino Palovesi, addressed the cast before a performance in Jyvaskyla. He said, 'It is necessary to channel the action of youth to valuable and noble work which will improve society. You have really started to work for the benefit of the youth of the world. This is seen especially through your own example'.

# India—focal point of new crusade

From an article by K E BEAZLEY, Australian MP and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, published 25 February in 'The Sunday Standard' of India.

INDIA IS A NATION. One meets some Indian and other pessimists who suggest that it is not, but there is present in India a basic will to unity.

Nationhood is a decision, and the decision for India has been made.

Differences of language, religion and culture do not prevent Swiss unity and will not impair India's nationhood. From this we can proceed to consider India's international influence.

Whether India chooses to seek influence in the world or not, the Indian presence has an enormous impact. For centuries from Clive to Kosygin major diplomatic struggles have been waged around India.

But India since independence has been a force in herself and her decisions or lack of decisions in the future will inevitably have a great outreach.

India has decided to try to solve her great problems within a system of government by consent. This keeps democracy in good standing in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. If democracy fails in India it will die in those continents and be shaken elsewhere.

## Moral standard

No power can dominate Asia which does not first dispose of India. Rajmohan Gandhi's concept of an India fearless, united, clean and strong is one sure guarantee of the freedom of Asia.

If Communist China wishes to control South-East Asia she must first fragment India, and the strategy of Peking-orientated Communism in India appears to be to achieve just that fragmentation.

The Assembly of Nations at Panchgani demonstrated a leaven at work which will lead to the use of India's immense ideological assets in the way they should be used. These ideological assets appear to me to include:—

The fact that India has links with the whole English-speaking world. The

leadership of India speaks English.

India has links with the Moslem world. She is the third Moslem power after Indonesia and Pakistan.

India has links with the Christian world. She has a church older than the church in Europe, perhaps even including Rome.

India's image, thanks to Mahatma Gandhi, is that of a country which rights ancient wrongs, or which strives to do so.

## New thinking

These ideological assets can now serve a world purpose which is right. At MRA's Assembly of the Nations at Panchgani, a force came into being whose focal point is India, the most populous nation in the free world, and this force has a potentially powerful impact in Europe, Britain, South-East Asia and the Pacific.

At the Assembly, India took its rightful place in the world as the initiator of a new thinking valid to solve India's own problems and to create unity East of Suez. There is a growing tendency to frenzy in political and diplomatic action which can only be checked by men and women whose minds are stayed on God. The Panchgani force will provide such a check. There is a tremendous power in a minority guided by God.

Among the peasant and Harijan



millions of India there is a great hunger for dignity. The basis of dignity is absolute honesty and absolute purity.

This dignity came into the lives of Indian trade unionists and Harijans at the Panchgani Assembly and swept from their own lives bitterness and frustration. Some of them can therefore take their convictions to a great part of humanity which needs freedom from bitterness and frustration also.

The Panchgani Assembly showed that a committed force united to tackle evil in themselves, their nation, society and the world is in being. Convinced people will profoundly influence civilisation and create it anew. A civilisation based on absolute moral standards and the guidance of God is the next for mankind.

Cultures which reject absolute moral standards condemn themselves to decay, and ideologies which pander to bitterness will destroy civilisation. But India's millions will lead the way to the next phase—to the sanity which was demonstrated at Panchgani.

## WEEK-END CONFERENCE FOR MEN OF INDUSTRY

Saturday 16 March 1968 at 10.30 am and 6 pm  
Sunday 17 March at 11 am and 3 pm

Trade Unionists and Management from the transport, communications and heavy industries of Britain will give practical evidence of the new incentives and aims required to meet the needs of the world

WESTMINSTER THEATRE ARTS CENTRE



# The missing factor at UNCTAD

by Hugh Elliott

FEW CONFERENCES can ever have dealt with issues more profoundly affecting the future of humanity than the present United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Delhi.

It also is one of the largest international conferences ever held—the representatives of 132 nations, from countries as small as Gambia to those as powerful as America and Russia, are attending. The hotels of Delhi are overflowing with nearly 2,500 delegates, armies of secretaries, fleets of cars.

The debates have gone on for over three weeks. The opening policy speeches have all been made. Ministers from every country have had their turn and have mostly flown home. The permanent staffs are now getting down to work in committees to see what specific recommendations can be agreed.

Beneath all the complications of commodity agreements, preferences, 'compensatory finance' and so forth, the issues are at bottom simple. They are: in a world where the gap is growing wider every year between the rich nations and the poor, will the rich nations be unselfish enough and far-sighted enough to share their wealth?

**If the wealthy nations do not at least inject the aid necessary to give the developing nations the prospect of closing the gap, the next three decades will be even stormier than the present decade. Marx's thesis of class war within a capitalist society may be proved true on a far more dangerous scale between nations—unless there is fundamental change.**

The developing nations, now numbering 88, are pressing their demands that at least 1% of the gross national product of every rich nation should be given annually as aid; that there should be agreements on the world prices of the primary products they export—cocoa, sugar, rubber and the rest; that there should be tariff reductions and preferences in favour of the manufactured and semi-manufactured products of their factories.

Painful issues are involved. A drop in the price of rubber on the world

market more than counterbalances the entire aid programme to Malaysia. The burden of debt repayments by the poor countries will soon become crippling. The Colombian delegate pointed out that the 1,700 million people of these countries were committed to paying 14,230 million dollars as their debt by 1975.

**At the same time the civil war in Nigeria has thrown away all the aid given to that country. Liberia demands preferential treatment for the manufactured goods of poorer countries by the richer ones, but is unable to reach agreement for the exchange of such goods with her neighbour Sierra Leone. India and Pakistan could assist each other, but the Indian Minister of Trade, when asked by a correspondent whether he envisaged any co-operation between them in regard to jute as there had been between India and Ceylon over tea, replied 'It is our cherished hope we will be able to do so, if the Government of Pakistan will be willing to start it.'**

So far, in the plenary sessions, there have been some good speeches (notably that of George Woods, the retiring President of the World Bank), but little promise of anything but minor adjustments emerging from the conference. Politics has been brought in and hours have been wasted on procedural wrangling. Many hidden antagonisms, including France versus USA, were reflected all too clearly in the discussions.

I do not discount the quiet work being done behind the scenes by able and sincere men. There might be some sudden and happy agreements emerging in the last days of March. But the danger is that UNCTAD will become a confrontation, not a meeting of the minds of men who talk honestly together in order to change the present trends in the world.

It is an exhausting and frustrating task, even for the best intelligences, trying to make a selfish world work. The fundamental issue is: how can men's motives and aims be changed? Can a new factor come in which would shift men out of set positions and generate agreement? Three years ago, honesty, the guidance of God, an

unexpected apology and a decision to take a risk produced an agreement in Rome which stabilised the world price of jute. It happened because a French industrialist representing the manufacturing interests and a Pakistani representing the jute growers began to trust each other and found the courage to think beyond self-interest for the world.

Last year a group of Indians, led by Rajmohan Gandhi, visited Europe and in a few months revolutionised the thinking of thousands of Europeans towards the developing countries. They were frank about the needs of India and gave their passionate commitment to change what was wrong in it, beginning with themselves. Their visit has had practical results. Their faith and fight has inspired large numbers of Europeans to take on the job with them. Gandhi appealed for a million Europeans, people with technical experience and a faith, to come to Asia in the next decades. This is one way aid is meant to flow.

In the Indian villages near the MRA centre at Panchgani, Maharashtra, a new spirit is affecting farming and productivity and is breaking down corruption. Two brothers in one village, both leading farmers, ended their personal feud which had divided the village. They and their families are now working together. A land dispute was settled. Another man quitted black marketeering in Government building materials.

**Through the recent MRA world conference at Panchgani a new approach to Asian problems has been initiated by India. The Australian Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs, K E Beazley, MP, wrote in *The Sunday Standard* (25 February) that through the conference a new force, committed to God, with its focal point in India, was in being.**

It had a new thinking valid for solving India's own problems and for creating unity east of Suez. They were united to tackle evil in themselves, their nation, society and the world.

UNCTAD might find its colossal task a lot easier if it were to study the evidence of changes in human nature—and to apply the same methods.



*continued from page 1*

presentation given by the cast, 'I would not have missed this for the world.'

The Catholic Archbishop, the Anglican Bishop, the Lord Mayor, civic officials and university societies received them and Liverpool citizens read reports of the musical in the press and saw the cast on television.

The cast last week were out at 7 am with leaflets at the dock gates, announcing two public meetings in the imposing St George's Hall in the City centre.

On the platform at these meetings the cast were joined by men of industry from this country and the continent. Students also spoke from the 14 schools where the men and women of MRA had been invited to speak. Fourteen year-old Brian McNerney said, 'In school I hid behind a pious wall. Now I have torn down this wall and am prepared to stand for this revolution of MRA.'

He was joined at the meeting by both his father, an active trade unionist, and the principal of his Catholic college. The principal was curious to see what had brought a change in the boy, who had decided to do some-

**Top left: The Anglican Bishop of Liverpool, Rt Rev Stuart Blanch, talks with members of the MRA international force. Both he and the Roman Catholic Archbishop gave receptions for the cast**

**Left: Schoolboys meet 'Anything to Declare' cast member at school assembly**

**Below: Jim Beggs, Melbourne dockers' leader, talks with Merseyside dockers**

*photos Mallefer*



thing about pilfering in his school because he wanted to see it stopped in factories and docks.

Robert Hetherington, an accountant, thanked Beggs and the cast for coming to Merseyside. 'MRA has shown me just what is expected of a person who calls himself a Christian,' he said. 'We have been shown the way to answer the world's problems. The responsibility is now ours.'

## PRESS REVIEWS

### LIVERPOOL DAILY POST

It zipped along at a fine pace, and contained a mixture of funny and sometimes conscience-pricking sketches.

### LIVERPOOL ECHO

Nearly every member of the cast—from 16 different nations—had a chance to reveal their talents as the show rapidly changed from song to dance to sketch.

For those who like sketches with a real point to make, songs that are catchy, but clearly sung, and dances that have quick movement this revue should fill the bill.

### BOOTLE TIMES HERALD

Only the brave or the foolish try to impose order on the chaos of the world. The youthful, energetic company who presented 'Anything to Declare' are certainly not foolish.

Yet they are endeavouring to do exactly that—change the world.

'Anything to Declare', billed as a 'New European Musical', makes for an invigorating, thought-provoking evening.

The burden of the show's message is unmistakable: the barriers of racial intolerance, class antagonism and the individual's mistrust for his neighbour must be torn down. Only then, it says, can a world worth living in be built.

The choreography is precise without being pedantic, the lighting effects startling and the singing enchanting. At a forceful pace (no time for applause) a medley of beautiful ballads—some French, some Italian, some German, but mostly English—are sung by the company to the accompaniment of a well-drilled jazz sextet.

**45 rpm EP RECORD**

**'ANYTHING TO DECLARE?'**

**10s from 4 Hays Mews W1  
postage 1s**