MRA Information Service

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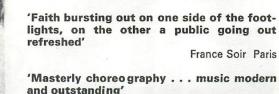
'Anything to Declare?' comes to London

Opens at the Westminster Theatre on 30 January







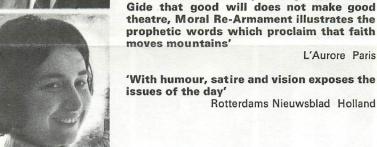


'Penetrating, full of melody and colour'

















'In answer to the depressing assertion of

THE ARRIVAL of Anything to Declare? will be an exhilarating experience for Britain at the end of this month.

The run at the Westminster Theatre is the climax of a tour from one end of Europe to the other, including Austria, Sweden, France and Switzerland. The show has been given to every kind of audience from the Salzburg Opera House to Merseyside dockers' clubs.

The cast, some of whom are pictured on these pages, ranges from a German miner to a Swedish pastry cook, a Danish pop singer to a French steelworker, a Swiss hairdresser to an English wireless operator. Many are students who have postponed or interrupted their

'We are bringing "Anything to Declare?" to London,' said Kenneth Belden, Chairman of

Continued on page 2



the Trustees of the Westminster Theatre, 'because it brings to Britain the impetus of hope that can lift our spirits and spur our wills to triumph over present difficulties. Our people is one of the most inventive and energetic in the world, and "Anything to Declare?" can help to free us from the cramp of frustration, and point the way to new initiatives that Britain can take in the world.'

The première on 30 January will be the start of a continuous assembly through February, entitled 'In 1969 a hero's task awaits the common man—on earth'. It will be a chance to plot together Britain's and Europe's role in the world.

The cast say:

'We wrote this show to express the idea that Europe has more to offer the world than strikes, goslows, lock-outs, battles in the streets and in the home.

'We believe that the richness of Europe's past has prepared her for more than the slumber of self-satisfaction. We believe in Europe, and in her future—that the greatest challenges are ahead, and that she will rise to them.

'We Europeans are the lucky ones, the privileged few. We have enough to eat, clothes to wear, a roof over our heads at night, and little reason to lose hope in life.

'The world lives under the constant threat of war, but we in Europe live further from war than most of our contemporaries. Billions of pounds are being spent on armaments while millions of men go hungry. Soon it may be simpler for a man to go to the moon than to cross the barriers that divide this earth, East from West, rich from poor, race from race, colour from colour.

'The advances of science and technology are immense but alone they do not contain an answer. They leave unchanged the hate, fear, distrust and greed in man's nature. These advances have provided us with swifter, more efficient, more economical methods of eliminating one another, but not the secret of unity; the machines and methods of massive exploitation but not the compulsion to care.

Lean out

'Whether Britain joins the Common Market or not, all of us as Europeans can have a common target in the reconstruction of the world. In a railway carriage one can often read, "Do not lean out of the window." The title of this show in French—"Il est permis de se pencher au dehors"—is the contradiction of that: our aim is to see Europe lean out of her comfortable compartment.

'Only an aim bigger than our differences—of colour, of class, even of humour—could unite us. We have given this aim priority over our careers and our studies; many of us have given our savings to help create this show. All have made sacrifices.'

Australian Archbishop calls for moral dynamic

THE IDEAS of Moral Re-Armament, if expressed in action, would bring about a peaceful revolution in our whole manner of living,' said T E Wardle, Lord Mayor of Perth, receiving Rajmohan Gandhi at the opening of the MRA Conference in Currie Hall, University of Western Australia.

The opening session was chaired by K E Beazley, M P, Australian Labour Party spokesman on foreign affairs.

The Archbishop of Perth, the Most Reverend G Appleton, who has recently been appointed Archbishop in Jerusalem, moved a vote of thanks to Gandhi following his keynote address. He said, 'I believe that in Panchgani Rajmohan Gandhi and others are presenting a combination of service and the raising of standards of living . . . and with it an emphasis on the need for moral foundations.'

ple crowded into a vacant lot in one of

the poorest areas. The meeting was or-

ganised by unemployed workers who

have decided on the basis of MRA to

clean up the area as an example to the

The State Governor, receiving the

Asia Arise group at Government

House, asked them to give his people

'the will to work'. 'They won't take it

from a politician, but they will from

you,' he said. 'We have the skill, in-

telligence and capacity to reduce hard-

ships, but people need to decide to

serve the interests of the community.'

He spoke of improvements he had witnessed in the state of the Indian economy through the efforts of Indian people, and of the need for moral standards to see these efforts do not go wrong. 'We can encourage our Indian brothers to have moral dynamic if we will try and have it in our own lives and our national life.

'Having got to know Rajmohan Gandhi when I visited him in Bombay, and when I had an hour's very creative conversation with him a few days ago,' said the Archbishop, 'I have the greatest pleasure in inviting him to Jerusalem next year.'

During the course of his opening address Mr Gandhi described the type of revolution Asia wanted as, 'not Communism, not anti-Communism, but an economic and social revolution —a revolution where the practice of responsibility moves like a chain reaction from man to man and from some men to millions.'

The West Australian, Western Australia's leading daily newspaper, quoted the Conference Secretary Gordon Ashman's statement that people in Australia had sent 20,000 dollars last year to the work of MRA in India and this year plan to send 50,000 dollars.

Unemployed decide to clean up city

'FROM TONIGHT I can see it is up to us to take Moral Re-Armament where it is needed,' said the head of a Calcutta factory after a performance of *The Forgotten Factor*. He immediately began to plan for the MRA force to visit the main industrial area of the city. In the audience of 1,000 was the wife of one of India's best known Communist leaders, as well as members of the families that control the nation's great industries.

Among many students was the former Maoist student leader from the college which has been the centre of revolutionary activity in Calcutta University. He has arranged a meeting for the Asia Arise force to address the student leadership.

At least half a million of Calcutta's population live on the streets. One third of the families have less than a third of a room for their use. The force addressed a public meeting of 600 peo-

A common wealth of character

THE MARQUIS OF GRAHAM said at the Westminster Theatre on 12 January:

THE WESTMINSTER THEATRE with its world framework and world outreach is a great stimulus at this time of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference.

The usefulness of the Commonwealth has hardly even begun to be implemented. If the Commonwealth is to continue, it will have to encompass a revolutionary element, by which I mean that those who lead it will have to be motivated by a divine dissatisfaction with the present state of the world.

I believe the task which faces these leaders is to show the world that there is a form of government, other than coercion and the police state, which can provide the ordinary man and woman with a decent life, a decent home and a satisfying purpose to live for.

The Commonwealth provides great

opportunities for discussing and comparing ways of making government more effective. If all are enabled freely to exchange their experiences, might they not emerge with some entirely new concepts?

Four years ago here in London, Peter Howard, a journalist and author, made a speech on 'The New Type of Commonwealth'*. In it he dared to suggest that the British Commonwealth might consider becoming an association of common wealth. He was also a man who believed that there are still untold riches to be mined in human character.

I believe the Commonwealth could be a worldwide platform for these riches of human character. It is for this that the hearts of so many of the world's millions hunger.

*The New Type of Commonwealth by Peter Howard, available from MRA, 4 Hays Mews, London W1X 7RS. Price 1s.

'A hero's task awaits the common man—on earth'

DURING the February conference in London, there will be sessions each weekend on Saturday at 10.30 am and on Sunday at 11.00 am at the Westminster Theatre. Further meetings, film shows and events will be scheduled each week. If you would like information about the conference or about meals and accommodation, write to:

Captain Richard Channer, MC Conference Secretary 4 Hays Mews, Berkeley Square London W1X 7RS

Tel: 01-499 3443

In my view

Colour is only skin deep

by Sirr Makwenanai, Sudan

I RECENTLY READ an article with the title, 'A Pill to Make Black People White'. It says an American skin specialist has discovered a pill which can turn black people white.

His first patients were exhibited in public in America. It apparently costs a negro £200 in America to get his brand new white skin!

I am black and a layman who understands very little about the miracles modern scientists are performing in their research laboratories. What I would like to know is whether this pill could also make a patient different in his attitude towards the fellow he hates or is most divided from. If it would not do that, how could it then be claimed to be a 'bombshell on the world of racial conflict?' Needless to say, I think this discovery is only skindeep.

The real problem today in America, Africa and the world is far deeper than what most people would dare to admit. It is bigger, to be sure, than the pigment which gives colour to our various skins. It is in the heart of man. When a person by his own choice develops a dislike of the other person's face and determines to disagree with him on all matters private and national, a problem is born. And if the dose of change is not quickly applied the problem then begins to worsen and spreads like a bush fire.

In my country, the Sudan, I have seen the history of violence and hatred unfolding before me. We pretend to blame imperialists, but these passions are so actively at work that switching the blame on to colour means also being dishonest about the reality of our own lives. We are afraid to pay the price of changing our pride and self-righteousness.

I was once a part and parcel of these destructive forces. I used to judge other people by the colour of their skin

and not by character. I knew it was wrong but I was taught that 'birds of the same feather flock together and never mix with other birds'. I was told it was natural to hate!

When I met Moral Re-Armament I found a cure to the hatred and bitterness which had not previously allowed me to open my heart to anyone besides myself. Now, in spite of my being black, I am working together with

white and brown men and women to bring this necessary cure to people and nations through a change of character, not of colour.

The so-called colour or religious problems all over Africa and many other parts of the world can be ended by a fearless application of MRA.

As an African I believe that the challenge of Moral Re-Armament to us at this hour is timely; and to accept it would undoubtedly mean healing for our trouble-stricken continent and would lift us from Africa-centred policies. The white, black and brown races of Africa could again make Africa the continent she was meant to be.

If Africa is going to pattern a selfless leadership for America, Russia and China she will have to apply the revolution of Moral Re-Armament.

Is this not a more challenging thing than trying to change the colour of people's skins?

A pensive moment in a student gathering at Caux, where 38 universities in Eastern and Western Europe and America were represented at the recent MRA confer-

photo Malllefer



WESTMINSTER THEATRE

A morning conference for Clergy, Ministers and Christian workers Wednesday, 5 February 1969, at 11 am on the theme

Enlisting the next generation in a world battle

Speakers will include members of the company of 'Anything to Declare?'

IN THE CHAIR

Kenneth Belden, MA, Chairman of the Westminster Memorial Trust

Coffee served from 10.30 am in the foyer

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