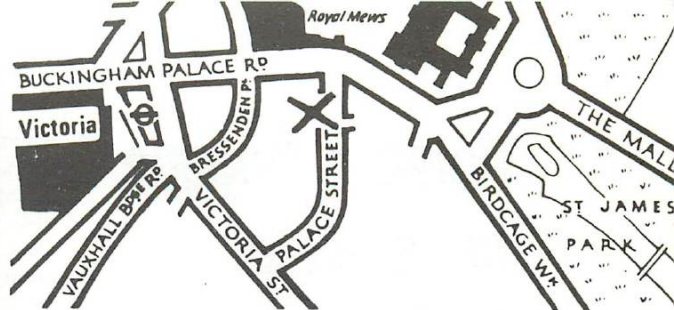


MRA Information Service



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Students from thirty universities at Caux

Student-worker participation in action

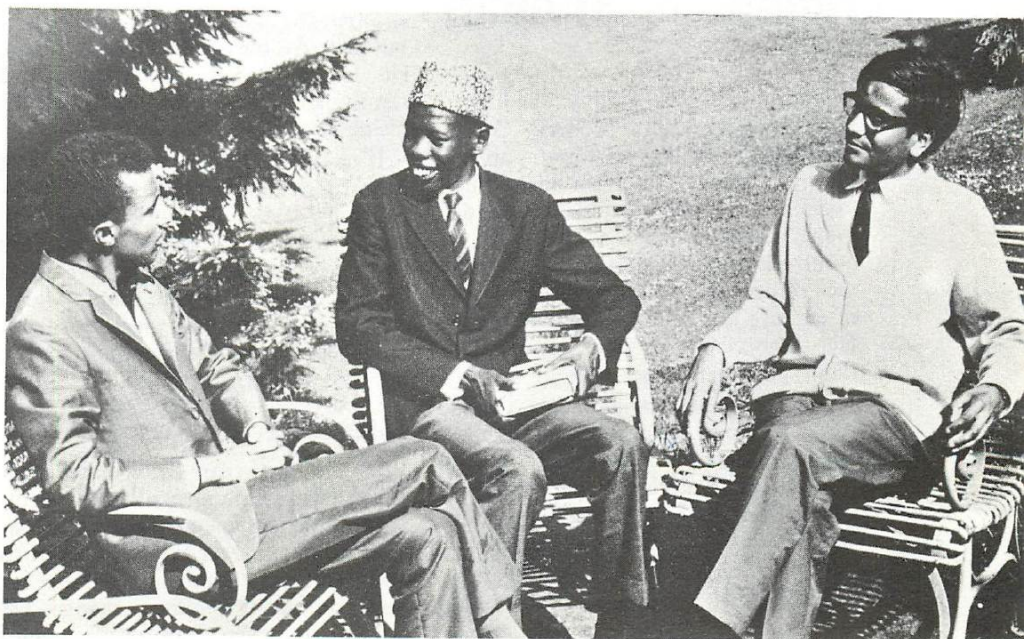
STUDENTS from over 30 universities joined with workers at a Moral Re-Armament assembly last weekend to hammer out the meaning of participation in today's society.

Attending the sessions at the Caux world conference centre in Switzerland were students from Queen's University, Belfast; Ankara University, Turkey; Göteborg University, Sweden; Oxford and Cambridge Universities; Harvard and the American University, Beirut, Lebanon.

The conference initiators, in their invitation, give as a theme of the sessions a statement made by Rajmohan Gandhi, Chief Editor of the Asian newsweekly *Himmat*. Gandhi's statement reads:

'I like the idea of permanent revolution, continuing change—although I sometimes think we can have furious motion and yet be completely stationary. If your revolution does not create an unselfish man, Asia and Africa are not interested. We count on Europe to produce real revolutionaries, not phoney ones. Let all the French, German, Czech, European revolutionaries live up to the requirements of a new type of man.'

At the opening session of the conference Catherine Guisan, graduate in



Ahmed Surur (Ethiopia), Sirr Makwenanai (Sudan) and Devi Prasad Chapagain (Nepal).
See article on page two photos Franzon

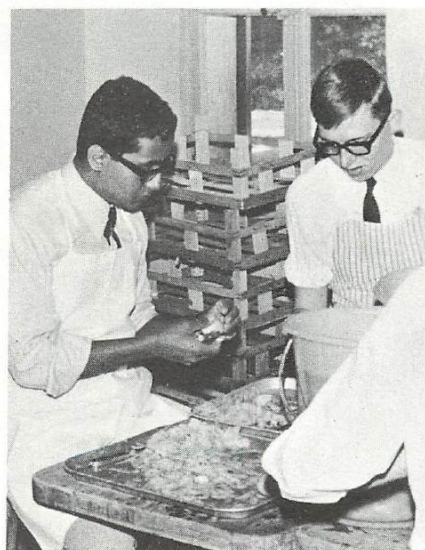
Political Science from Lausanne University, said, 'If we do not start living out what we talk about, no kind of participation is possible.'

Speaking on 4 July—American Independence Day—Richard Ruffin from Virginia said, 'As you know, today has a special meaning for America. We are all proud to be Americans and yet we have never been more conscious of the great needs of our country.'

'I love my country and believe that we have much to give the world. I feel we should not stop trying to give because we ourselves are torn by internal divisions and moral chaos. Rather, we ask each of you to help us find a new God-guided conception of how we are meant to live at home so that with this truth we might be better able to give to others.'

Meeting concurrently with the student-worker conference is the training course for leadership in the modern world. The course, which started a week ago, has participants from 14 countries, including five students

from Ethiopia and two priests in training from the Collegio di Propaganda Fide in Rome.



Magdi Bissada, an Egyptian student whose family lives in Ethiopia and who came to Caux with the Ethiopian delegation, with Lars Thulin from Sweden

Raise a brigade of 'spiritual Gurkhas' says Nepalese student

DEVI PRASAD CHAPAGAIN comes from the rugged country of the Gurkhas. His home is in the Himalayas, 12 miles outside Katmandu, Nepal's capital. He is not slow to point out with an engaging smile that the armies of Britain never managed to capture this mountain stronghold—Nepal he claims is the second oldest monarchy in the world.

Four giant neighbours—China, Pakistan, India and Russia—ring his country which is now facing up to the task of modernising her economy and developing a system of communications across precipitous terrain.

Devi is typical of the fighting, forward-looking character of Nepal's young people. He grew up in a home without electricity, yet is now mastering electrical engineering at the

American University of Beirut. Hunger accompanied his school days. At the age of nine he was made responsible for his family's finances. Often there was not enough food for the family. 'I learnt early the value of money,' he says philosophically.

Five years ago Devi left home to go to university. In Beirut he says he has learnt what it takes to be a responsible citizen. He found that it was not enough to fight for his own rights but he had a duty to be an honest man. He learnt to help his friends and family. He wrote to his brother apologising for his superior attitude.

It was in Beirut that Devi met Moral Re-Armament, through a musical show *India Arise* performed by young Indians. He said: 'It was my first encounter with people devoted to an unselfish way of life and it was a challenge to me that there were not only people guided by money or sex but by a concern for others.'

Student strikes

In the last year there have been serious strikes in universities of Beirut. Students complained of corruption in their country. Devi feels you need to change the corruption in yourself before you can help others change. He apologised to the dean of his faculty for cheating in his everyday work and decided never to do it again.

Devi is now at Caux, the Moral Re-Armament centre in Switzerland, where he is participating in a training course for responsible leadership in the modern world. The night before he left Beirut he told a group of friends: 'There are so many wrongs to be cured (in Nepal) that I feel it is not only the duty of the Government to do this, but mine. I have to find out ways of tackling this job. At Caux I will meet people who are answering the needs of their countries and I will be able to draw on their experience.'

Gurkhas are known as some of the world's bravest soldiers. They have won decorations on the battlefields of the world. Today their services as soldiers are less and less required. But Devi wants to raise a brigade of 'spiritual Gurkhas' who will go into battle in Nepal and all over the world against the modern enemies—corruption, apathy and criticism.

Conferences of the Caux World Assembly

Saturday 5 to Sunday 27 July:

A session for students, trainees and young workers with representatives of industry and the Third World.

Friday 25 to Sunday 27 July:

Conference for doctors, scientists and nurses. Medicine's responsibility in the world of tomorrow.

Friday 1 to Monday 11 August:

Conference for educators from Europe and other continents. Challenge for education: exploring the science of character-building.

Weds. 13 to Weds. 20 August:

Conference of clergy and laity from all denominations.

Friday 29 Aug. to Sun. 14 Sept.:

Special session for men in industry, politics and the universities.



Americans at Caux. On American Independence Day, Mitchell Bingham, an artist from Miami, Florida, presented one of his paintings to Professor Theophil Spoerri for Caux. Left to right: Anne Almond, New Jersey; Mrs H Almond; Richard Ruffin, Virginia; Professor Spoerri; Mitchell Bingham; Linda Rice, California; Evelyn Thomsen, Virginia; Betsy Almond

Britain's way ahead— Permissiveness or Destiny

'I believe Moral Re-Armament to be the issue in this country, a focus of the struggle between good and evil, God and materialism, Christ and anti-Christ.'

H W 'Bunny' Austin speaking last week in London.

Speaking forthrightly on the British scene, 'Bunny' Austin, at a dinner for the Friends of the Westminster Theatre attended by sporting and theatre personalities, said:

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN a nation of pioneers and I believe we are meant to be the pioneers now of a moral and spiritual revolution that can regenerate the world. Unfortunately at the moment we seem to be leading an anti-moral revolution.

We live in a permissive society but I believe there is a wide public opinion that hates it and wants what is right. If we can mobilise this public opinion, rouse it and make it articulate, if we could get men and women fighting as passionately for what is right as others are fanatical for what is wrong, we could begin to see Britain finding

her destiny again. Even our parliamentarians might stop what seems to me their endless wrangling and party politicking and the passing of bills to make permissiveness easier, and might turn to God to help them solve the vast problems of the country and the world. Our troubled and often troublesome students would begin to understand what life is all about. Our industry would find the new incentive it so desperately needs and we would be out of the red before we knew it. And we would be able to build under God the multi-racial society which would be a pattern for the world.

I believe Moral Re-Armament to be the issue in this country, a focus of the struggle between good and evil, God and materialism, Christ and anti-Christ. To make it plainer, to tell what my wife and I have been doing and to

clear up a lot of nonsense spread about MRA is the reason why Phyll and I have written our book.

On the outcome of the struggle between evil and good everything depends; not only the greatness of Britain but the survival of our civilisation and even the survival of life on this planet. What good will it do us if we land on the moon and then blow ourselves off the earth?

We live in a topsy-turvy world and if our book, *A Mixed Double*, plays some small part in helping to put things right way up, Phyll and I feel it has done its job.

From the Sunday Telegraph 6 July

Moral forehead

by Rosanna Lloyd

A MIXED DOUBLE by H W 'Bunny' Austin and Phyllis Konstam.

Chatto 2 gns.

A CHAMPION tennis-player and a well-known actress make up the couple in *A Mixed Double*, an autobiography of 'Bunny' Austin and his wife Phyllis Konstam, who take it in turn to write alternate chapters.

They met playing shuffleboard on the deck of a transatlantic liner—a true shipboard romance. Mr Austin, the heart-throb of tennis-fans in the 1930s, was one of the successful team that won the Davis Cup for Britain in the years 1933-36. His wife acted in Galsworthy's *Escape* and in many other pre-war plays.

Mr Austin's chance encounter with the Oxford Group—later the Moral Re-Armament movement—just before the war changed their lives. The flighty young things of the 1930s became serious-minded citizens dedicated to the ideals of MRA, working all over the world and especially in the MRA headquarters in Switzerland, and Mackinac Island, USA.

The first part of this book is fun to read—the faintly hung-over Edwardian flavour of the 1920s and 1930s is nostalgic; Mr Austin's exploits on the tennis court are exciting and his wife's achievements on the stage most interesting. Their conversion to MRA marks in the book the beginning of a less frivolous story, but nonetheless admirable for the sheer determination and gusto of its heroes.



H W 'Bunny' Austin and Phyllis Konstam

photo Nieman

Pop fans want something new

by Christopher Hartnell

IT WAS NOT the blaring pop music that captured my interest as a representative of the press at a free concert given by the Rolling Stones in Hyde Park last weekend. It was those 250,000 people in my generation who sat, stood and listened.

I began to think about that massive crowd who apart from listening to the music looked quite bored with life. They lacked as I did some years ago a big enough purpose in life to live for.

Part of my job at that time was printing of publicity material for the Rolling Stones and other pop groups in one of this country's largest record companies.

I was frankly fed up. I saw the problems facing this country and the world and wished that an ordinary person like myself could do something. Like others I blamed bosses, the government and my parents for the things that I saw wrong in our society.

A challenge was put to me at work by a person who applies Moral Re-Armament in his own job. He said that if I wanted to see change in the country, I had to change my own attitudes first.

He told me about absolute standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love and that God could redirect the course of my life. However, I was disillusioned at the time. We as a family went to church on Sundays but things remained as they always were during the week.

I decided to accept this man's challenge and sought God's guidance about the past and the future.

I thought immediately of how I had pinched company paper and printed letterheadings for my friends at 15s a 1,000. I decided to go to my department head and apologise, returning the money I had made. He said, 'I knew that the paper was disappearing but I could not pin it down to one

person. At the end of every year I do a stock check and I sometimes have to write off as much as £100's worth of goods that disappear. You are the first to admit it.' I was not sacked but I could have been. From that time on I found a new unity with my boss. Others in the company also decided to be honest as a result.

Our generation may grumble at the government and the people who run industry, the nation and the world, but I believe that ultimate responsibil-

ity lies with us as individuals in society.

To accept responsibility myself, I decided to ask my employers for leave of absence to work and train with the force of MRA and left with their backing in 1966. I have for the past two years helped without salary in the production of Rajmohan Gandhi's Indian newsweekly *Himmat*, a newspaper that gives the truths of MRA and clear thinking on the urgent issues facing Asia and the world.

Some people write off those pop fans in Hyde Park but I believe they can find a bigger purpose in life. They are waiting for something new.

People in my generation may have long hair and wear short skirts but they are all people. Human nature I have discovered is the same in people everywhere and I know it can change because it is an experience in my own life.

Conference with a difference

Ethiopian committee publish report

'THIS CONFERENCE is different from the others,' commented one delegate to the MRA International Conference at Asmara, Ethiopia. 'I go back from Asmara with new hope and faith to fight for my country and bring an answer to hatred and bitterness,' said one of the Nigerian delegation to the conference. 'The work of Moral Re-Armament is essential. We welcome the International Conference here,' stated His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie I at an audience given to the committee of citizens responsible for Moral Re-Armament in Eritrea.

What was it that made this Conference 'different'? What was the essential work that could give hope to strife-torn Nigeria? Why was it that 'at a time when in many African countries Asians are being asked to leave, a delegation from India and Ceylon were welcomed to Ethiopia'? 'When almost all the colleges and secondary schools in Ethiopia outside Eritrea were closed owing to student

MODERN MEN to make MODERN NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT IN ETHIOPIA

Asmara, in Eritrea, the northern province of Ethiopia, was host to the conference from 25 April to 5 May 1968. Held in the new Expo Central Pavilion, Sheikh Muhammad Ahmad Saraf, one of the Co-Chairmen for Moral Re-Armament which organised the conference, said: 'Last year I attended the Asian Assembly for MRA in Panajachel, India. Now one of my greatest hopes has been fulfilled - that a similar conference might be held here, so that my country could be a touch of light for the African continent and a bridge connecting Asia and Europe.'

Below: Symbols of the conference. Above: The International Conference for Moral Re-Armament in Ethiopia. Right: The International Conference for Moral Re-Armament in Ethiopia.

unrest,' what made possible the 'teacher-student partnership demonstrated at the Conference'?

The answers to those questions and other important issues facing Africa and the world are given in a 12-page pictorial report of the MRA International Conference, 'Modern Men to Make Modern Nations', held in Asmara from 25 April to 5 May. The report has just been published by the Committee for Moral Re-Armament in Asmara. Copies are available from 4 Hays Mews, Berkeley Square, London W1X 7RS, at 1s 6d each, or 7s 6d for six, 24s for 20.