

'Anything to Declare?' opens in Indian Capital

Cabinet Ministers, Ambassadors and MP's present

'Anything to Declare?' declares a message in no uncertain terms that we ourselves can open the door to the world we are looking for, because we ourselves are the key.'

'The Times of India'
14 January

MEMBERS OF THE Indian Central Cabinet—Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs, and S Chandrasekhar, Minister of Health and Family Planning—attended the opening night last week of the Moral Re-Armament revue *Anything to Declare?* in Delhi.

Among heads of missions attending were Pakistan, Malaysia, Burma, Vietnam, New Zealand, Nigeria, Kenya, Roumania, Switzerland, Sweden, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon. Also in the audience were Members of Parliament, editors of the Delhi newspapers, representatives from TV and senior civil servants. The performance was introduced by the Mayor of Delhi, Hans Raj Gupta.

The revue says, and the 19-nation cast lives it out, that Europeans morally re-armed can offer a teamwork and purpose, providing a fresh factor in the affairs of all continents.

Rajmohan Gandhi, referring to the demonstration of unity on the stage, said, 'If all Europe can be one, all India can be one. Some say we are a nation of talkers. We could do more listening to one another. It is more important listening to the inner voice. When we do this, we may discover that many other people make mistakes, but we too have made mistakes. We could learn to use the magic word 'sorry'. When that happens, difficult problems can be

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The Mayor of Delhi, Hans Raj Gupta, greets Hubert Eggemann from Germany (back to camera) and Peter Thwaites from Australia

LEFT Mrs Keziah Fashina, former City Councillor of Lagos, with His Excellency A Lindt, Swiss Ambassador to India, formerly responsible for Red Cross operations in Nigeria

Visit to Australasia announced

'ANYTHING TO DECLARE?' will arrive in Perth, Western Australia, on 27 May following the scheduled visit to Malaysia, it was announced at the conclusion of the MRA international conference in Adelaide last week. The cast will tour Australia and New Zealand and will take part in an international assembly in Canberra in August.

Paul Lapun, Member of the Papua-New Guinea House of Assembly for South Bougainville, where one of the world's largest coppermining projects is being established, has also invited the revue to visit Papua-New Guinea. He has been joined in this invitation by 14 other Papua-New Guineans attending the Adelaide conference.

Lapun has said that MRA is urgently needed in this island territory to prevent an explosion of racial hatred which could cost many lives.

The conference, which has been attended by 460 from 13 countries, decided to raise \$55,000 (Australian) to bring the revue to Australia, New Zealand and Papua-New Guinea, and of this \$8,000 are already in hand.



Paul Lapun, MHA, speaking in Adelaide, issues invitation to 'Anything to Declare?' to come to Papua-New Guinea. Seated are J R Coulter (Australia) and Mr and Mrs Thianetone Chantharasay, Laotian Chargé d'Affaires in Canberra

The conference tackled issues before the nation, such as education, industry, and the future of Papua-New Guinea.

Let's make the Commonwealth work

by Pankaj Shah from Bombay, India

I HAVE BEEN IN BRITAIN for the last three months and I have come to love this country very much. There are literally millions in India even today to whom anything British still means something special. There may be a lot of sentimentality in it, but there are certain bonds that exist between our countries which cannot be just wished away. No matter what happens, I hope these links will not be severed.

At a time when many nations are trying to come closer together by creating new associations (even the Russians are suggesting that Asia and Western nations get together in security pacts against the threat of China), why *not make the Commonwealth work*? It has all its historical links and its conception is global. It is not regional like the OAU, nor purely economic like the EEC, nor restricted to one race and religion like the Arab League or the Conference of Islamic Nations.

Heritage

It has all the races and continents of the world, rich and poor nations. Cannot we demonstrate to the world how nations are meant to live together?

This is my second visit to Europe and, after looking around, I cannot avoid coming to the conclusion that a very large part of what you have in Europe

in terms of prosperity and civilisation is because of your Christian heritage. Anyone who says there is no connection between the two is not being honest. Therefore it is tragic to see the very same heritage being flung out of the window in the face of so-called 'progressive' ideas.

The situation in the world calls for answers, answers that can be applied in any part of the world. If a man has flu, in India or in Britain, you give him the same medicine.

Wild-cat strikes

Can you pioneer in Britain the kind of solutions that we can apply to our problems? Many workers in Britain go on unofficial and wild-cat strikes to force their demands.

The same tactics in my country can only make things worse for the country, for industry and the workers themselves, and have done so.

Students in Europe want freedom to do what they like. They want to have 'sit-ins' and demonstrations, to smoke 'pot', even to have the right to decide what shall and shall not be taught in schools and colleges.

In countries where no one has to go hungry and where fees are paid by anyone but the students themselves, I suppose you can afford to play such

games. But at a time when my country needs doctors, engineers, teachers and other skilled men to free us from the gravity of our own poverty, such means of 'self expression' can prove to be very, very costly.

My mind goes back to the MRA conference at Caux this summer. We had there German and Italian Members of Parliament from South Tyrol. They were on the verge of a solution to the difficult situation there. Both sides said the spirit of Moral Re-Armament was what they needed. Now we hear that agreement has been reached between the two communities. An end to hate, people becoming different, that is a universal answer.

We must find ways of exporting these answers swiftly and effectively to the trouble spots of the world. The spirit of Moral Re-Armament is the answer to the world's needs, and it needs saying.

12 page pamphlet

An Indian worker looks at European Industry

by Satya Bannerji
Trade Union leader from Calcutta

1s. each, 6 for 5s, 20 for 16s
from MRA Books, 4 Hays Mews,
London, W1X 7RS. Postage extra

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solved. The day will come when the world will say, "Behold, how these Indians love one another. Behold how they love to serve the world".

This week the Mayor, who is Chairman of the Committee of Hosts, gave a reception for 120 of the MRA force in the garden of his home to meet 100 of his friends. Among the guests were the former Chairman of the Indian Railways Board and Vishnu Dalmia, Chairman of the Dalmia Industries.

Students from St Stephen's College, Delhi, talk with Howard Grace from Britain, at the Delhi premiere of 'Anything to Declare?'



Britons eager to strengthen bonds with India

by Margot Young

INDIA AND BRITAIN are woven together by unbreakable threads in the tapestry of history. Are these threads at last separating for ever? Is Britain burning out in the glare of the permissive society, with no interest in the world around her, while millions go to bed hungry in the countries she once ruled?

Returning after eight years in India, these questions drummed in the background of my mind as I travelled through the British Isles these last six months. Like pictures flashed on a screen came the answer in the faces of the people we have met and talked to, and in the eagerness of their response to the needs and bold initiative Rajmohan Gandhi through MRA is taking to bring radical change to India.

In one day in one of Britain's largest cities we met four outstanding men; an international cleric; a travelled journalist; a fiery young trade unionist and an able manufacturing exporter.

Prime Minister to peasant

After some weeks in India, the journalist said he was struck by the honesty of the Government information officers who never tried to hide facts and were most helpful in allowing him to find out for himself. He interviewed people from the Prime Minister to the ordinary peasant, and added what a

privilege it had been to meet Shri Rajagopalachari, the first Indian Governor General. Far from being cynical or despairing about India, he hopes for an opportunity to return.

The manufacturer, after two or three visits, had a very deep faith in the long term business opportunities with India. He already has some technical collaboration with Indian firms and believes in the importance of more contacts of every kind with the people of India. Hearing of the work of the Moral Re-Armament Centre in Panchgani, Maharashtra, he said, 'I would like to recommend it as a place for my British business colleagues to visit.'

The cleric, after spending thirty years in India, agreed with me how fortunate we were to have people from other countries choosing to make their home in England. His work, which is with the immigrant peoples of this city, had started that morning at 6 am. He is bending all his efforts to make a go of our multi-racial society, and eagerly took a copy of *Himmat*, the Asian news weekly edited by Rajmohan Gandhi, to study. He said, 'I spent the whole morning bringing two people together and sorting out the misunderstandings between them. Settling people's rivalries and jealousies is the hardest job.'

The trade unionist works in one of Britain's largest industries and is in-

involved in some of the most up-to-date and complicated labour-management relations. Three years ago he opened his home to some of the cast of the Indian MRA musical *India Arise* when they visited Europe. This has left a lasting impression and he is deeply intrigued with the immensity of a task that he feels many more could help with in that vast continent.

In the same city we met an Asian responsible for the impact of one aspect of Britain's mass media on his own country. He was very anxious about the corroding effect of the permissive society. He had drawn on the plays and weekend conferences at the Westminster Theatre for the kind of constructive news and entertainment he needed for his programmes.

Deeply etched memories

In Sheffield a building company director came to an evening of films about MRA in India. On arrival he said, 'You don't have any hope for India, do you? You must agree that the problems are too overwhelming?' We barely had time to say we did not agree with this view, when the film started. Afterwards he spoke to the organiser of the evening, saying, 'This is marvellous. This is the way to do it. Can we have another show for a much larger number?' He left the hall with new hope.

We stood on the quay of a fishing town in the far north of Scotland. It was 6 am and boxes of fish lay glistening in the cold night light. We were talking to the head of the fish porters whom we had last met in Panchgani two years ago. He still has the experiences of India deeply etched in his memory. It has

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'WE ARE on a collision course today and we must take evasive action. The most urgent task is to change the people who have the steering wheel in their hands. That is the governments of the countries of the world.'

Dame Flora MacLeod, Chief of the Clan MacLeod, speaking at the international assembly at Panchgani, India.

Dame Flora MacLeod talks with Rajmohan Gandhi at the Conference of East and West at Panchgani

Dame Flora MacLeod will speak at the Westminster Theatre, London at 11 am, Sunday, 25 January



Iran

IN THE MINISTRY'S Great Hall, the Minister of Communications of Iran introduced an official screening of the Persian version of the film *Men of Brazil* this month. The Deputy Minister, the Director of the Ministry and the members of the staff were all present.

The Minister, whose father, and whose brother, Dr Fereydoun Setoude, Iran's Consul General in Geneva, had attended the 1969 World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament at Caux, Switzerland, said, 'MRA is welcomed in Iran since it not only embodies the principles taught us by our religion, but further provides us with a practicable way of applying those principles in our daily life, and making them the basis of individual and social living.' The Ministry has requested that other MRA films be given similar official screenings during 1970.

In Tehran University in the same week 1000 students, and many leading personalities of Tehran intellectual life, attended a showing of the Persian version of the film *The Crowning Experience*. Two graduates of the University introduced the film. Mr Rahbar said that in MRA he had found a power able to change the direction of his life, and to guide him into positive action in service to the nation. It exactly met the people's most pressing needs.

Mr Iranparast said that the assassination of his father had left him embittered and frustrated, with a cynical sense of incapacity in face of corruption and injustice. Through Moral Re-Armament he had discovered a way to a revolutionary personal change which he was able to pass on to his colleagues. It became infectiously effective in producing new men for a new community.

Later in the week, *The Crowning Experience* was shown to 1000 students in the 'College of Shah Abbas the Great'. Similar invitations have been received from universities in Isfahan and Mashhad.

The effectiveness of these films as character forming factors and as signposts for the road that a nation's youth can take in constructing its future, has been proving itself. There have been tangible results in the lives of those who have seen these films.

Zambia

STUDENTS FROM SCHOOLS in Lusaka and on the Copperbelt came last month to a Sing-Out conference in Zambia under the auspices of MRA.

H M Nzunga, Permanent Secretary to the Cabinet Minister for the Copperbelt Province, opened the conference. He said, 'The Government attaches great importance to the character training of the youth in the nation. Yours is a movement which seeks to create this will to work hard, to achieve discipline that will not yield to corruption, to live above divisions of race and tribe, and to produce resistance to hate, revenge and bitterness.'

The assembly was widely reported by the radio and press. In a radio interview, Noah M'ndangepfupfu, the Conference Secretary, said that one of the aims of the conference was 'to find ways of how to spread this spirit of working together and to create a brand new society.'

The film *Give a Dog a Bone* was screened on Television Zambia at the peak children's viewing period on Christmas afternoon and was seen by thousands who live in Lusaka, Kabwe and on the Copperbelt.

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given him vision for his own industry as well as a determination to continue to aid less privileged people and places.

The Provost (Mayor) of a Scottish coal mining town in Fifeshire, who entertained *India Arise* in 1966, is enlisting the Provosts of the other Fife towns in supporting the work of Rajmohan Gandhi by raising money for the third phase of the construction of the new MRA Centre at Panchgani. At the end of a film show which he sponsored, a senior lady educationalist in charge of primary and nursery education for the next county, came up to me and said, 'I can see they need help over there. Next year when I retire, I shall be taking a band of teachers.'

An old age pensioner writes about raising money, 'We in Brighton and Hove have been thinking about Panchgani. Many of us have had coffee mornings, musical evenings, slide shows, luncheon parties, bring and buy sales. Some of us old age pensioners have pledged the 10s a week we have just been given on our pension.'

This is what lies beneath the surface in so many hearts and homes in Britain. Can India and Britain together weave a new pattern of faith for the world?

Holland

MRS CHARLOTTE VAN BEUNINGEN was recently interviewed on Dutch television by Fred Ladenius about her book *A New World for My Grandchildren*. Bookshops in The Hague and Utrecht had sold out of the biography four days later. *De Telegraaf*, largest daily newspaper in Holland, wrote that the book tells the story of 'a long life full of adventure dedicated to the fight for a better world and better people in the sense of Moral Re-Armament'. It is 'lively and readable, idealistic and nowhere preachy'.

Papua—New Guinea

WHILE NEGOTIATIONS were taking place on the island of Bougainville for the purchase of native land for a new town serving the copper mining project, the film *Give a Dog a Bone* was screened in the area. Screenings were held at the mine at Panguna and other performances were given in the villages of Rorovana and at Kieta, the chief city of the island.

'Happy Deathday' preview for Clergy

'The film was first rate; it was enthralling all the way through and put over its powerful message in a most attractive way. I wish it could get on to TV — it would do a world of good.' *The Bishop of Whitby on 'Happy Deathday'.*

'A film of genius.' *Fred Ladenius, correspondent of 'L'Osservatore Romano'.*

'HAPPY DEATHDAY' is a film about faith—about people who have it and cannot pass it on, about people who hate it and fight against it and about people who hunger for it and cannot find it.

With this in view, a special preview has been arranged for clergy, ministers and church workers to see the film for themselves. It will be screened at 2.45 pm on Monday, 26 January 1970, in the Westminster Theatre. All clergy, ministers and Christian workers are welcome to this special preview.

The world premiere of the film *Happy Deathday* will take place on Thursday 5 February at the Westminster Theatre, London, followed by a commercial run of four to six weeks.