

An international force of Moral Re-Armament with the European musical revue 'Anything to Declare?' is visiting India at the invitation of Rajmohan Gandhi, one of the men responsible for MRA in India. The force is in India for a six-month period before continuing on to Malaysia and Australia. 'Anything to Declare?' with an international cast explores what a reborn Europe can declare to the rest of the world. It has performed in Bombay, Delhi and Chandigarh and is now in the state of Assam in the Northeast of India.

THE CHIEF MINISTER of Haryana, Bansi Lal, and the Chief Minister of Punjab, Gurnam Singh, both received last week the Moral Re-Armament musical with a 21-nation cast, *Anything to Declare?* Both Chief Ministers are using Chandigarh as their state capital for the next five years whilst the newly formed state of Haryana builds a new capital. This decision followed fierce rioting over the issue of ownership of Chandigarh earlier this year.

Bansi Lal welcomed the MRA group over tea in his office. He was flanked by

CHANDIGARH

Chief Ministers of bordering Punjab and Haryana states welcome international force

several members of his cabinet including the Ministers of Finance and Culture, and several members of his staff. The Chief Minister thanked the cast for their songs and convictions. 'You must continue this work,' he said.

Gurnam Singh with most of his cabinet gave a garden party reception to the force. Addressing the men and women from MRA, Singh said, 'I have no doubt your determination and resolve will bring unity and remove bitterness from the oppressed world. It is through Moral Re-Armament that this world

can be made happy because at present the nations are more interested in making weapons of destruction than removing bitterness. I welcome you all to Punjab and we shall render you whatever help we can.'

Later the MRA group presented the play *Through the Garden Wall* to an overflowing audience which included the Chief Commissioner for the Union Territory of Chandigarh, the Governor and Finance and Labour Ministers of Punjab, and the Vice-Chancellor of the Haryana University.

ASSAM

'Message of unity has great relevance for us' says Chief Minister

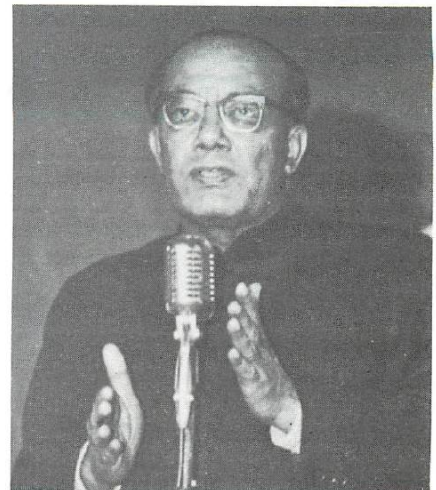
B P CHALIHA, the Chief Minister of Assam, invited the cast of *Anything to Declare?* to Assam. In a letter of invitation addressed to Rajmohan Gandhi and the *Anything to Declare?* cast, he and other leaders of India's North-East wrote, 'We have followed with great interest the work being done by the international force of MRA with the musical revue *Anything to Declare?* in Bombay and Delhi. We extend a very warm invitation to you to come north to Assam State.'

The letter continued, 'The visit of such a force from Europe will be unique, and the message of unity which you bring above every division of race,

religion and class, has great relevance for us at this time.'

The letter was also signed by K P Tripathi, Assam's Minister of Finance; L N Joshi, President of Nepali Hitkari Samiti of Assam; P R Kyndiah, Chairman of Shillong Municipality, and B B Lyngdoh, APHLC (*All Party Hill Leaders Conference*) leader. The Principal of the Law College in Shillong, L Sharma, and the Chief Executive of Khasi Hills District Council, J Swer, were also amongst the invitees.

Another invitation for the MRA force to visit Assam came from the General Secretary of the APHLC, Stanley Nichols-Roy. The APHLC is the party



The Chief Minister of Assam, B P Chaliha

responsible for the formation of an autonomous Hill State, Meghalaya, within Assam. The MRA force will spend one month in Assam.

NEW DELHI

'Hope that problems can be solved' (see page 2)



NEW DELHI

'Hope that problems can be solved'

by Evelyn Thomsen

MORAL RE-ARMAMENT is the talk of the town in New Delhi, according to reports from newspapermen, diplomats and Members of Parliament. *Thought*, An English-speaking weekly, said MRA was 'creating shock waves in the murky involvements of the capital'.

Old and new live together in this, the seventh city built on the present site. Bullock carts and pedestrians carrying huge loads on their heads vie with cyclists, scooter drivers and chauffeur-driven Mercedes for dominion of the roads. Moghul tombs and ruins stand proudly in the midst of modern housing developments. Neon lights brighten streets which are hand swept by Harijans. Delhi is a city of politicians and pomp, of diplomats and discussion, of businessmen and bargaining, of students and strikes, and of Harijans and history. The MRA group had occasion to encounter, give to and learn from all.

The cast of the European revue, *Anything to Declare?* had a two-week run of ten performances in January, followed by an additional three performances in early February, put on in response to public demand. Four matinees were given for some 3,000 school children.

The Committee of Hosts, which invited the revue to Delhi, was headed by Delhi's Mayor, Hans Raj Gupta, and included Members of Parliament from different parties, two retired Generals, labour leaders, businessmen, educators, a Christian worker and housewives. The Mayor entertained the whole group to lunch in his home.

Politicians see plays

When one thinks of Delhi one thinks immediately of politics and perhaps also of the present political crisis in India. Many politicians attended performances of *Anything to Declare?* and of the plays *Through the Garden Wall*, *The Ladder* and *Jotham Valley*.

Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Union Minister of Industrial Development, and Dr S Chandrasekhar, Minister for Health and Family Planning, attended the opening performance of the show. Other Ministers and MPs came to later performances.

S Nijalingappa, President of the Congress Party (Opposition), received a delegation from the MRA force, exchanged ideas and heard some of the music. Others saw Jagjivan Ram, President of the Congress Party (Ruling).

On the opening night fourteen ambassadors and chargé d'affaires, were present. A diplomat from the Middle East commented, 'I am accustomed to see the problems of the world through a wide lens, but I was struck by the way you people deal with these world problems—racial, economic, industrial, political, youth and home life. It left you with the hope that they could be solved.'

Harijans respond

In a Harijan colony, where 18,000 people formerly known as untouchables live, the men who have decided to live straight and work responsibly for a new India, are multiplying. A group invited the whole MRA force for a meeting.

People were led along the narrow dirt paths between the white-washed mud huts to the MRA office, which is also the home of Mange Ram, a young man of the colony.

Later, at a weekend conference, Mange Ram called on rich people to care practically for the poor by working with them to build character and bring a change to the whole country, rather than giving money which would be wasted. Ranjit Singh said he had decided to throw off his hatred of higher castes in order to live for the world.

Seven trade union representatives from India's seven biggest steel mills saw *Anything to Declare?* while in Delhi negotiating with the Government and company directors.

Strike averted

An executive of the Gestetner Company who saw *Anything to Declare?* was deeply impressed by one skit on a French businessman who decided to put people before profits. The following day, he received an urgent call from his office in Calcutta, where the workers were threatening strike action over a refusal to grant them a work bonus. When the executive delved into the situation he discovered that the bonus was refused because the workers failed to reach a production target, but that the reason for their failure was because management had not been able to supply materials needed on time. He remembered the idea presented in the revue and feeling the failure was management's fault, granted the bonus and averted the strike.

Two students, one from Delhi's major university college and the other from a leading medical college, both decided to return funds they had misappropriated from their colleges. They are determined to make honesty the fashion.

One hundred and thirty-six families in Delhi, including MPs, diplomats and businessmen have had members of the international force to stay in their homes.

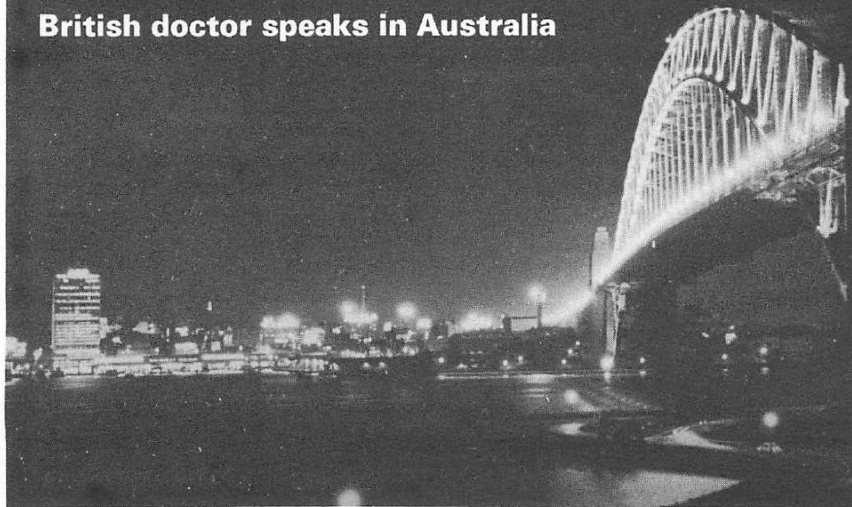
Many in Delhi now plan to go to the conference 'Continents in Partnership' at the MRA centre in Panchgani in April.



Delhi Harijans at open-air meeting

How a nation can win affluence and keep its soul

British doctor speaks in Australia



Dr R W Luxton, for many years Chairman of the planning and development committee of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, attended an international assembly for MRA in January in Adelaide, Australia. At the end of February in Melbourne he spoke to a cross-section of Australians. We publish his talk below:

I HAVE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA for several weeks so I am no authority on Australia but I have gained certain impressions and some of them I would like to pass on to you.

First of all it is quite clear that Australia is a young and vigorous society. Secondly, it is also clear that Australia is on the same slippery slope as Britain as regards permissiveness. But not so far down the slope. Thirdly, it is very pleasantly clear that people are open to ideas. Now one trouble in Britain, a rather older society, is that we tend to close our mind on it. In fact it was said of one Briton that he had an idea in his head and it died there in solitary confinement.

I am convinced that our society, our permissive society, is a decadent society. And if you do not want Australia to sink into the same pit of permissiveness, but to be the first country with affluence and yet able to keep its soul, there are certain things you might think about.

First of all you should take an active part in the fight in Australia against the permissive society. In Britain, as

you know, we have had measures in parliament on homosexuality, easy divorce, easy abortion. These have been passed and the trouble is that when Parliament says these things are legally right, then many people, without thinking very much, begin to think they are morally right.

I am quite sure the next objectives of the humanists in Britain are to include laws on euthanasia, on the abolition of censorship and also on the abolition of religious education in schools.

If people accept the idea of a show like *Oh Calcutta!* this will be one step further down in this permissiveness I am talking about, particularly on sex attitudes. It will bring about a further demand for education on sex matters, contraceptives, possibly in schools, and for relaxation in the law on abortion, which already has happened in the state of South Australia.

Best contraceptive—'no'

Every modern school girl knows about the pill, as the modern oral contraceptive, but she is very rarely informed from official sources at any rate that the most effective oral contraceptive is the word 'no'.

A second thing you can do is to make as sure as you can that you get Christian men and women elected to your Parliament. To my mind, now, party politics are less important than dynamic Christian conviction. It would

be a marvellous thing to have a Parliament composed of Christians. Besides opposing the work of those who are out to destroy Christian values in the nation, we need also to establish Christian values in a language that people will understand and by methods which are attractive, alive and interesting.

That is one reason why I am so interested in the plays and films of Moral Re-Armament, in the meetings and in the conferences, in a place like Panchgani [world conference centre] in India. I hope some of you will visit it one day, where you will get a whole new concept of what Moral Re-Armament can do for a country.

'Jannock'

In Yorkshire, we have a word 'JANNOCK'. I don't know whether you know it, but 'JANNOCK' means absolutely genuine, pure gold, no humbug—that is Yorkshire! Now this is what we have to be: it is no good us trying to attack the permissive society if we ourselves are humbogs.

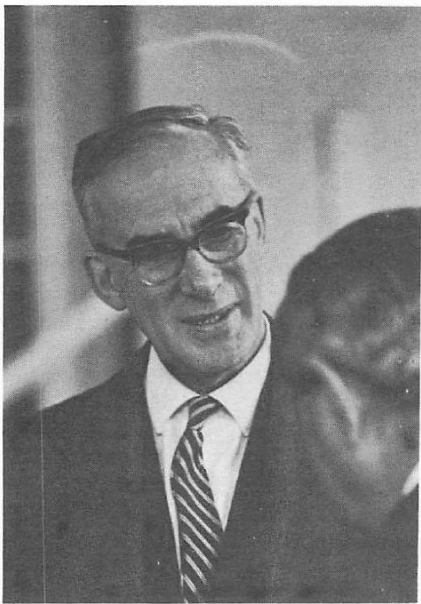
Some humanists believe that man is an animal, full stop. They put almighty man at the centre of the picture. Now the truth is that every baby is a little humanist. We all start off as humanists. We put ourselves in the centre of the picture but we have to grow out of that, grow beyond it. Christians believe, on the other hand, that every man is an immortal spirit, a tiny fragment of God, temporarily contained in an animal framework, but destined to evolve here and beyond into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

One of my heroes is Dr Maurice Nichol. He died some years ago, but he was a great man, a great doctor, and a great man in thinking on spiritual matters. And Maurice Nichol likened man to an acorn, each of them so insignificant, millions of them kicking around all over the place, yet locked away in each individual acorn is the potentiality of a great oak tree.

And if you overlook the possibility, the potentiality of a great oak tree in an acorn, then you may miss the one important thing about an acorn. If an acorn had a psychology, you could see that this great possibility could give meaning to its whole existence. Now an acorn, in order to become an oak tree, has to live in the right environment and so does man.

There was a Yorkshire woman who said, 'Every morning I have two breakfasts, one for my body and one for my mind and spirit.' Moral Re-Armament stresses the importance of an early morning quiet time. Many who are in this room have an early morning quiet

Continued overleaf



Alan Thornhill talks with Henry Cass, director of the productions at the Westminster Theatre, London

Freedom and the Arts

by Alan Thornhill

The following is an extract of a speech by British playwright Alan Thornhill, given at a reception held in Melbourne, Australia.

AS A WRITER and a person who is interested in the art of the theatre, I am very struck at the moment by the way so many writers and artists (and not only that, but so many people who fancy themselves as writers and artists, and are neither by any stretch of the imagination), seem to claim a perfectly extraordinary degree of freedom.

They think they have a kind of divine right, I cannot think how, bestowed on them so that they are allowed, to produce anything, to do anything, to give out anything, to write

anything with no restriction or limit whatsoever, and inflict it on the general public. Now we do not allow that right to any other profession in the world. We do not allow the industrialists that right; we do not allow the labour leader that right; we try not to allow our politicians that right, and we get very annoyed with them if they try to take it for themselves.

We do not allow architects or town planners that right, we do not allow purveyors of food and makers of medicine the right to do what they

Affluence *Continued*

time, we find it one of the richest times in the day. We can, if we are unwise, let it degenerate into being merely a business session with the Managing Director, but it can be a regular and happy meeting place between an earthly child and a loving heavenly Father.

In this quiet time, God gives us insight into ourselves, our friends, our needs, their needs. He gives us insight into His plan for the world and into His plan for our lives. He gives us peace of heart, He gives us joy and He gives us humour, a marvellous thing—what the world would be like without humour! He gives us tranquillity. My word, if all the people who take tranquillisers had tranquillity, things would be different. And here God gives us spiritual depth, because in this quiet time, this human acorn, man begins to evolve. And I am convinced, myself, that the cure for permissiveness in the many, is the spiritual depth in the few.

I am a consulting physician, the

senior consulting physician for two hospitals in Manchester. I have seen a fair amount of human despair. One of the hospitals I work in is perhaps the largest cancer hospital in the British Isles. We see a lot of patients in desperation, and we see the futility of the masks that we all wear.

I have reached the conviction that a sincere Christian faith is a very great achievement, and that it is a far greater achievement than becoming a millionaire or getting a knighthood. With all of us humans, it never does to put anybody on a pedestal. We are all the same underneath. We are human, we make mistakes, and every one of us is a sinner before God. But here in what Moral Re-Armament is doing, what Christianity is creating for people, there is hope.

Here is the pearl of great price: let us never underestimate what we have got and what we are doing. This conviction in me has been strengthened by my visit to Australia.

please when they please. Why should we allow, not only artists and writers, but anybody under the sun who likes to get up and say, 'I am a writer, I am an artist,' to say, 'I have a divine right to do whatever I darn well please.' It would be a very good thing if we were to explode the idea and it is just possible Melbourne may be going to lead the way in doing it to some degree, and I wish you luck.

Freedom

I am very struck by two great statements about freedom, which I believe are worth pondering. They are ancient and I believe they are important. One is something that you have all read, 'The truth shall make you free.' When I see people, as we all do, who are quite obviously not free—they are tied by fear, or by self-consciousness, or by bitterness—when I see people who are not free usually I come to the conclusion that I am seeing people who are not honest. Because I believe the first step to freedom is being honest, probably about myself.

Many people say today, 'Who has got the right to tell me what I can do, and what I cannot do.' A great statesman once said, 'Men must choose to be governed by God or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants.'

I believe that the secret of freedom, real freedom, is to give up every right to myself, to give up every limit to what God might ask me to do or be, to give up all the ceilings in my life, all the things that I feel I could never do or could never be asked to be.

At the heart of every life is a great I. We were born with it and I guess we have lived with it all our days. A great I is somewhere at the very heart of our being, but the marvellous thing is the I can be crossed out by the will and the grace of God Himself. And when that I is crossed out and when we let the I be crossed out, then there is a Cross; then we live at the Cross and then we find real freedom.

World brotherhood

The future belongs to the people who give everything. I believe this is the most important fact in the world today. I believe in this worldwide force of Moral Re-Armament you do find a mighty, mighty world brotherhood of very ordinary men and women, young and old, of every race and every background, who have decided at the Cross to let that I be crossed out every day and to try with everything they know to give everything.

That is why I believe the future of the world may depend on what those men and women, and all the others who enlist with them, are shown by God to do.

French Minister of Transport speaks at industrial conference

A MEMBER of President Pompidou's Cabinet, Minister of Transport Raymond Mondon, welcomed delegates to an MRA European Assembly in the industrial city of Metz last weekend.

Mondon, who is also Mayor of Metz, addressed management representatives and trade union officials from the coal, steel and engineering industries and the railways. He said, 'This city has been a crossroad for wars. More than anyone else we feel the need for nations to meet not on a battleground, but on a common ground of understanding and agreement, to try to find in man what is most universal, human and what is best. I hope that MRA will expand even more the work it has firmly rooted in an area like ours.'

Two trade unionists from the transport industries replied to the Minister's welcome. Jim Worthington, a member of Britain's National Maritime Board, said, 'MRA has not changed my militancy. It helped me to channel my militancy in a better way.' Otto Cadegg, an official from the Swiss Railway Workers' Union, also replied to the Minister.

Le Républicain Lorrain, the area's largest daily, produced a summary of the opening meeting of the assembly, which took place in the Metz city hall.

It quoted Irène Laure, former Socialist Member of Parliament, as saying, 'You in Lorraine have a special role to play for European unity. From this platform MRA could be launched into the

world, even beyond the Iron Curtain.'

In the opening meeting of the Assembly, delegates from Lorraine gave a picture of the region which faces growing unemployment and the possible transplanting of the steel industry to other areas.

Mr Drillon, an engineer in the steel industry, said: 'To accomplish these changes we need men who are conscious of their responsibilities towards the area that is their bread and life. We need men who are honest, unselfish and who try to solve problems by love and not hatred. We find this in MRA and that is why we are extremely grateful to all those who will tell us what they have done in their countries and how they have solved their problems.'

The delegates were present at the première of the new industrial play, *On Jouera Sans Rideau*.

Building a new world takes guts

by Peter Everington

IN ONE OF HIS PLAYS Bernard Shaw harped back to the days when England had a mind instead of a circulation of newspapers. What would he say of the way we allow a selection of TV channels to think for us?

It was another Irishman who taught me that the English like any others can get direct information from the mind of God. This man was a teacher at a school where I worked for three months in a remote corner of County Down. He spoke about the effect of Moral Re-Armament in his life and in the world, and he lived what he spoke about.

One evening he dared to suggest that each of us might listen to God and write down the thoughts we got. That experiment, and the further experiment of measuring my life against absolute moral standards, opened up a new world.

I discovered that hate and lust could be cured in me and others. Guidance from God led me to change my studies at Cambridge to Arabic, and to serve for eight years as a teacher in Sudan. Whenever men in that country—brown, black or white—accepted a challenge to listen to God, it worked for them too. One university student who visited my home decided to clean up his life. As a result, his sister several months later prevented a strike at her nursing college through applying Moral Re-Armament.

I realise that a new world is possible on this basis, and that teachers have a big part. But it depends on whether I, like my Irish colleague, have the guts to give the full challenge to the person next to me.

In my view

I met a new kind of Englishman

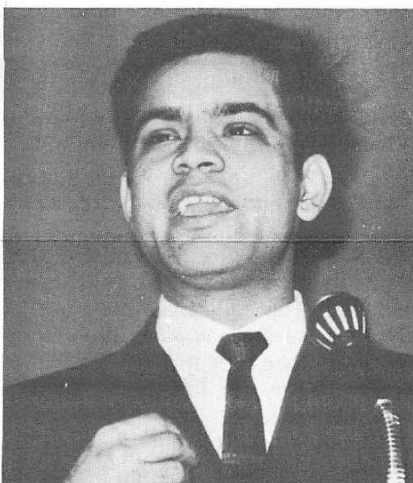
by Salim Kanji, hotel management student from Uganda studying in London

BEFORE I MET MRA my major profession was to demonstrate with people like Tariq Ali and student leaders, go around Trafalgar Square on to 10 Downing Street and demonstrate on whatever subject that came up. Often we demonstrated on Vietnam.

I met MRA at a platform on Earl's Court underground station. I was waiting for a train when a young man asked me, 'Do you come from India?' I thought, 'Oh, this is funny, an Englishman talking to a foreign student,' for I had never experienced an Englishman coming round to talk to a foreign student. That had made me bitter.

But then after a minute I thought 'Well, I have always wanted to make friends. Here is my opportunity.' And I started talking to him. He talked of listening to the inner voice, and I said, 'Oh, nonsense.' One of those Christian fellows coming to talk to me again. But when I got home that night, these things stuck in my mind and I could not go to sleep. These thoughts kept on coming. So I said, 'Well, I might as well try.' And so I was silent. I had the thought that every time I do something I want people to think highly of me.

Later this new friend gave me Peter Howard's *Africa's Hour* and in the



Salim Kanji

photo Hartnell

introduction Rajmohan Gandhi describes the attitude of Asians in Africa. I had not realised the way we treated our African brothers in East Africa. This is going to be one of the jobs I am going to take on when I go home in September.

Last week I wrote letters to some of my former bosses that I have worked for, amongst whom are a few hotel managers. I have worked in hotels where it seems to have become normal practice to pick up a few things. I had picked up a few packets of cereals and last week I sent these letters off, enclosing some money, apologising for what I had done.

I am a Muslim by religion but I read the Bible some five years ago. There is a verse which says, 'Take the plank out of your own eye before you try to take a mote out your friend's eye.' This is the basis of Moral Re-Armament, begin with yourself.

People, politics and the power to change

People are looking forward with anticipation to Henry Cass' new productions of 'The Dictator's Slippers' and 'The Ladder', with Philip Friend in 'The Dictator's Slippers' as the Prisoner, Philip Newman as Saturn, David Steuart as Hippocrat, Geoffrey Colvile as Polyglot, Surya Kumari as Destani and Mark Heath as Irasca. William Cameron Johnson is creating original and effectively simple stage sets which will emphasise the strength of both plays. David Steuart plays the Man with the Bag in 'The Ladder'.

These two new productions of Peter Howard's plays open at the Westminster Theatre in London on 7 April.

PETER HOWARD in writing *The Ladder* and *The Dictator's Slippers* revealed God's power to change human nature, to cause men to act unselfishly.

One of the 20th Century's dreams is that the transference of political power is a solution. The 'outs' go in and the 'ins' go out, either by gun or ballot box. But sometimes the dream has been a nightmare and often an illusion.

The Dictator's Slippers was first staged in 1954 at the MRA world assembly at Caux in Switzerland. At the other end of Lake Geneva, in Geneva, near the coffee house where Lenin laid his plans for revolution and next to the Cathedral where Calvin preached, stands the Theatre de la Cour St Pierre. Here in 1954 *The Dictator's Slippers* was staged on the request of delegates to an Asian conference and the ILO.

Simultaneous translations of the play into Chinese, Russian, French, German, Italian and Spanish made it possible for this international audience to follow every line.

The Ethiopian delegate to the Asian conference, who had invited the play to Geneva after seeing it at the MRA World Assembly at Caux 60 miles away, said, introducing the play, 'It carried the conviction of truth. It spoke to us individually, and it united our opinions. It puts truth so clearly it leaves no confusion.'

A few years ago a young woman saw

ERROR

We apologise for stating two weeks ago that the Kumasi *Pioneer* is published in Nigeria. It is, of course, published in Ghana.



Surya Kumari as Destani and Mark Heath as Irasca in *The Dictator's Slippers*, produced at Caux, Switzerland in 1967

The Ladder. She says, 'I was absolutely shocked to my roots. I faced realistically what Christianity meant. And also that I had to do something about it in my own life. The play made me want to change from the way I had been living but more than that it made me realise I was responsible for the world and what happened.'

Eighteen months ago a group of Czechs saw *The Ladder* at the MRA world conference centre of Caux in Switzerland. It so gripped them that one of their number took on to produce it. Another said, 'When these ideas dominate nations, we shall have peace in the world.'

Could God's power to change human nature be brought to bear in the dealings of Cabinet, Industry, Trade Unions, Press and Television and in the homes of this country? Recently 50 Members of Parliament in New Delhi saw plays of Moral Re-Armament, among them *The Ladder*. They came to look into the possibility of a change in human nature. Put into practice this change will enable men to carry through Frank Buchman's idea of remaking the world through the power of God—'world-changing through life-changing'.

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A
Double
Bill
by
Peter
Howard

THE
DICTATOR'S
SLIPPERS
and
THE
LADDER

DIRECTED BY
HENRY CASS

with Philip Friend, Philip Newman,
David Steuart, Geoffrey Colvile,
Joan Croydon, Mark Heath, Surya
Kumari, Donald Simpson, Lisa Rayne,
Chris Channer.

EVENINGS: 7.45 pm
MATINEES: Wed. Sat. 2.30 pm
STALLS: 25s 20s 15s 10s 6d
CIRCLE: 20s 15s 10s 6d 7s 6d

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