MRA Information Service



OPENING OF CAUX CONFERENCE



... 'URGENT AND IMPORTANT' SAYS I.L.O. PRESIDENT

THE PRESIDENT of the ILO Conference in Geneva, M V Manickavasagam, said at Caux last weekend, 'I would like to see the work of Moral Re-Armament expanding, not only here, but in Asia and elsewhere.'

Manickavasagam, who is Malaysia's Labour Minister, was addressing the opening session of the 1970 World Assembly at the MRA centre in Switzerland.

The seven members of the Malaysian International Labour Organisation (ILO) delegation, representing Government, employers and trade unions, accompanied Manickavasagam to Caux.

The ILO President (elected by the 121-nation body last week) said his visit to Caux had become 'urgent and important' since he had seen MRA's effective work in Malaysia.

Referring to the 'group of dedicated, sincere and very enthusiastic people from all over Europe and some parts of Asia', who recently visited Kuala Lumpur with the MRA musical *Anything to Declare?*, he stated, 'The play was a great success, attracting thousands from all walks of life and from all races. It had a message for politicians like me, for employers, for trade union leaders.'

Also present at the opening sessions were ILO delegates from the UAR, Kenya, Uganda, and Mauritius, and the Secretary General of ORIT, the inter-American trade union organisation with 14 million members.

'As a Minister of Labour I have learnt much in Caux,' E N Mwendwa, from Kenya, told the conference. He spoke of the 'magic' of Caux which he had not found elsewhere, and which was so effective in bringing people together and enabling honest discussions between opposing sides to take place.

The Mauritius delegate, who ordered a copy of the Rio dockers' film *Men of Brazil* for his country, said, 'It presents an answer for the world as it stands today.'

Caux sets out to 'achieve the impossible'

ACROSS EUROPE, the Middle East and South East Asia, West and East Africa and North and South America men are now planning to bring delegations from crisis areas to the sessions of the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly in Caux, Switzerland.

The keynote of the conference is 'attempting and achieving the impossible.'

From Britain alone there will be a series of six charter flights by BAC 1-11 Jets to Switzerland and back to ferry delegates from the strife centres of British industry, the multi-racial cities of the Midlands, the boroughs of London, from the universities and from the Protestant and Catholic communities of Northern Ireland.

Writes Dr Karl Mitterdorfer, Member of the Italian Parliament for the Germanspeaking people of South Tyrol, 'The great merit of Caux seems to me to reside in the fact that it is possible there, in a relaxed atmosphere unique in its own way, to analyse the centres of





Malaysian ILO delegates at Caux: M V Manickavasagam, Minister of Labour and President of ILO Conference; S J H Zaidi, Honorary General Secretary of the TUC, and Mr Narayanan, General Secretary of the Plantation Workers

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The Mayor of Eastbourne, Alderman C F Baker (left), was among 330 civic heads from throughout England and Wales who saw performances of 'Blindsight' at the Westminster Theatre in the last two weeks. They were in London to attend the Royal Garden Parties at the invitation of HM The Queen. Sir Nicholas Garrow, who was 15 years Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, Alderman D T Campbell, former Mayor of Lambeth and a committee invited the civic leaders to the London Headquarters of MRA, 45 Berkeley Square, where they were entertained before going to the theatre. Over 2,000 civic leaders have been to the Westminster Theatre and the receptions beforehand, since 1964.

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tension in the world and to help adversaries to speak to each other in complete freedom.'

Based on what was accomplished through the Caux conferences last year and before, men throughout the world are looking to Caux in 1970 to architect the rebuilding of nations and communities.

In 1969 both German- and Italianspeaking leaders came to Caux from South Tyrol, storm-centre of Northern Italy. A change in the relationship between rival political leaders at Caux, both German- and Italian-speaking, paved the way for the December agreement between the Austrian and Italian Governments on South Tyrol and the rights of the German-speaking majority in this Italian-controlled province. The era of violence has ended. Leaders from South Tyrol later visited Northern Ireland and gave the behind the scenes story of the settlement to Catholics and Protestants, Cabinet Ministers and men who had manned the barricades. They told them, 'Sometimes in our situation we hit first and talk afterwards, but a new relationship has begun.'

From Eritrea, scene of conflict in northern Ethiopia, came Dedj. Ghebreyohannes Tesfamariam, a member of the Eritrean Provincial Council. He

CONFERENCES AND WORKING SESSIONS	
Caux will be continuously in session from 6 June to 14 September.	
	In addition to the conferences listed below, each weekend throughout June and July special programmes are planned for delegates attending international meetings in Geneva.
4-5 July	Agricultural Conference.
12-22 July	Sessions for clergy and laymen from all denominations.
24-31 July	Conference for the Arts and Theatre.
July and August	Students, trainees and young workers are invited to sessions enabling them to meet with representatives of industry and the professions from Europe and overseas.
1-10 August	Education Conference for professors and students, teachers and pupils.
15 August – 14 Sept.	Special sessions for statesmen, industrialists, trade unionists and business and professional leaders.

said, 'I have found hope that a solution can be found to the conflict that we have in our country. I have found the courage to say what is right without the fear of any man.'

Hans Duby, President of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), addressing a transport conference at Caux attended by representatives of management and unions from Asia, North and South America and Europe, said, 'Our task is not limited to social problems, national or international. We must also serve the cause of world peace in eliminating everywhere the confusion which exists, particularly concerning questions of race and religion.'

In the fifties and sixties the Caux conferences were intertwined in history's web—in the reconciliation of France with Germany after the two world wars, of British with Cypriots and of Japan with her former enemies in the Pacific and South East Asia.

Unique

This year, as before, the Caux conference centre is available to all who are seeking solutions to current world problems. The Caux Foundation state in their conference invitation, 'It is a unique meeting place which has enabled men and groups of widely differing backgrounds and conceptions to find a basis for agreement.'

Caux views the world as Frank Buchman viewed it when he said, 'Man must either solve his problems or be destroyed by them. Politicians in every country are beginning to discover that the human mind, however able and sincere, cannot solve the problems created by the human passions of hate and greed and fear. It needs an electronic intervention, an experience of the Spirit. It needs the new dimension that can usher in a new age.'

The conference will be in continuous session until 14 September.

'YOU BRING UNITY BASED ON ALLEGIANCE TO A HIGHER POWER'

Lord Mayor of Perth, Australia welcomes 'Anything to Declare?'

EVERY MORNING a different song from the MRA revue Anything to Declare? is played over ABC radio in Western Australia. Every evening two free advertisements for the show are broadcast by a television station. Anything to Declare? opened in Western Australia, Australia's booming mineral state, on 11 June.

The Lord Mayor of Perth, the state capital, and the Mayor of Fremantle, the port, last week held receptions for the international force with *Anything to Declare*?. In the Perth Council House, overlooking the Swan River, Lord Mayor T E Wardle, said to the cast, 'You bridge differences of culture, race and nationalism through a unity based on allegiance to a higher power. Wherever you have been relations have improved between peoples and nations.'

The Mayor of Fremantle, Sir Frederick Samson, and the Mayoress, received the MRA force in the City Hall last weekend. Joint hosts for the occasion were Kim Beazley, Federal Member of Parliament for Fremantle, and H W Dettman, Director General of Education in Western Australia and their wives. Sir Frederick, a descendant of a settler who came on the first ship to reach Fremantle from England, welcomed the force to Australia's Western Gateway.

A Garage Owner's Story by Alec Cuthbert, Melbourne, Australia YOU ASK "WHY DID YOU CHANGE?"

I WILL TELL YOU.

I owe my new life to my dentist. For more than twenty years he has done perfect work on my teeth, but he also has been a staunch and faithful friend. During most of this period I drank like a fish, and every two weeks I had to order another four or five hundred cigarettes.

The fillings which my dentist friend put in my teeth have never fallen out. But the last time he put one in, my friend asked me if I would go with him to Adelaide at the New Year to attend the Moral Re-Armament conference entitled, 'A Wholly New Way of Doing Things.' I told him I could not go.

A few days later, this last filling fell out, so I had to go back to my dentist again. He put the filling back, and once more he asked me to go with him to the conference. Once more, I declined.

A few days later, the filling fell out again. Again I had to go to my friend. Again, he attended to my tooth, and once more asked me to go with him to Adelaide. This time, I just had to say 'Yes'. And this time the filling staved.

The night before our departure, I was at a New Year's Eve Party, and went to bed about 2 am, very bright and happy. We were to leave at 6 am and I was not awake and ready, but was soon smartened up. With a true morning after head, we set off for Adelaide. All the way there I needed 'The hair of the dog', but, as no one else in the car indulged in alcohol our only stops were for food and other drinks.

In Adelaide the conference was held at Adelaide University. We were rooming at Aquinas College and the Conference Centre was in Lincoln College. Half-way between these two is the Australia Hotel.

The obvious route for me at this stage was from one college to another, via the very decorative Viking Bar of the Hotel. For four days this was the pattern of my involvement in Adelaide.

On the fifth day a member of the MRA team asked me why I did not keep a dinner appointment that had been arranged for the previous evening. I hedged that I had gone off on my own to think things out for myself. This was only partly true, as I did the thinking in the Viking Bar.

At this point of time I made up my mind to change my life and give myself to God.

The basis of Moral Re-Armament is

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Perth, Western Australia

Beazley said, 'I have seen MRA produce an end to violence, greed, cruelty and hate in various situations around the world. This is the kind of significant development I believe will follow this force wherever they go.'

Dettman gave permission for all the schools in his charge to see *Anything to Declare*? in schooltime.

Twenty minutes of a popular current affairs television programme featured the revue. Garry Meadows, the programme's compère, said, 'I have met these people and they have tremendous stories to tell of how they found a new outlook on life through MRA. This show is not to be missed.'

to live to the four standards spoken by Christ in the Sermon of the Mount— Absolute Honesty, Absolute Purity, Absolute Unselfishness, Absolute Love and try to live to these standards and under God's guidance.

Change is the keynote of true practical Christianity.

Effective change for me meant:

No alcohol, no nicotine, less temper, money pressure eased, baptized, people changed, friendships renewed, friendships deepened, mentality improved, memory better, Bible read.

I certainly needed help to quit worrying, drinking and smoking alone immediately and effectively.

Above the ordinary

The secret is to be honest about everything. This gives an ordinary man power above the ordinary.

Other ways have been tried to change the world, but what has been the result? Vast changes in systems, economics, government, but what about people?

Materialism in any form remains the same. It is said that people won't change. It is said, 'You cannot change human nature.' If this is so, why did I change? You can say I am only one, and anyway what can I do?

I will tell you. The man I went to Adelaide with had faith that I would change, for over 20 years he never gave up. There are many thousands of us today who believe that when men change, nations change.



The Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, his wife and members of his family at the Westminster Theatre

Way forward in India

Bengali leader speaks in London

THE SPEAKER of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, B K Banerjee, said in London this week that the future of India depended on the application of Moral Re-Armament.

West Bengal (population 40,000,000) is under Presidential rule from New Delhi because of the crippling division between the Communists and their opponents, the Bangla Congressmen, in the State Government.

'If India needs anything today it is

Moral Re-Armament, not only the propaganda, but the practice of Moral Re-Armament to save India from disorder and violence,' said Banerjee.

'If we cannot build up our morality there is no future for our country. Moral Re-Armament is not one man's job, but all of us together.'

Speaking at an MRA assembly in the Westminster Theatre he said he was glad to hear that a similar theatre was being constructed in India at Panchgani.



at a glance

A DELEGATION of 15, headed by Olympic Gold Medallist Padmashree* Charanjit Singh, who captained the Indian Hockey Team at the Tokyo and Rome Olympics, recently attended a MRA Assembly at Panchgani, India.

The group came from the Haryana Agricultural University, where the Vice-Chancellor postponed their exams to enable them to come.

'I want to create an MRA cell in the university which would be a nucleus for Haryana State. Haryana is virgin soil and new ideas can penetrate. If we hatch these ideas we will stick to them,' Charanjit Singh told the conference. He said he had been run by vanity because he was awarded with the title Padmashree and had captained the Indian team. He had decided to live differently. * Padmashree is an Indian Government

honour.

Power Politics-let's All do things differently

Frank Abbott, London Airport Shop Steward, writes:

THE FORGOTTEN FACTOR concerning the General Election is that we shall get the kind of Government we deserve by what we ourselves stand for. It is because of silent majorities that some countries are no longer free, and others are losing the freedom they now have. It is immature to use Government

NIGERIA

THE PREVENTIVE Commandant, Customs and Excise Headquarters, Lagos, recently asked Moral Re-Armament if students of the Customs Preventive Training School could visit the MRA centre.

Accordingly 42 students and their instructors came to hear about MRA and to see the film *Freedom*.

Next day the senior instructor said he wanted to make it a regular feature of the courses.

CYPRUS

A GROUP OF 60 people which included Nicos Dimitriou, Minister of Commerce and Industry; the Commander-in-Chief of the UN Forces, Major-General Chaud; and other government officials, businessmen, trade unionists and educators came to a preview of *Happy Deathday*. failings as a scapegoat for doing nothing ourselves. Moral apathy could be the real culprit for today's insane world.

We live in an age of participation, and be we politician or postman we all have equal responsibility for the dictates of our own conscience. And for those who scream about dictatorship, this and the decision to live differently, is the price of keeping democracy alive. Civilisation shapes through such men and women. The real wealth of this country lies in national character. A Government who mines for this will create the atmosphere of humanity the Communist and non-Communist world desperately need. The other alternative is power politics, and the jungle of terrifying divisions that face us on the national and global front.

Governments who fail to heed the real issue may gain the whole world but lose their soul in the process. Labour boasts it has a soul, surely this is the moment to use it to stir national conscience. A great statesman once said, 'Man's extremity is God's opportunity.' We are now at the extreme point where we can unite to create a world beyond our wildest dreams, or divide and create hell on earth.

Britain governed by men governed by God brought democracy to birth and led the world against moral injustice. This is the forgotten factor. The choice lies in the hearts and minds of all parties and all peoples.

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