

# The new kind of battle

by Roland Wilson

*Roland Wilson has worked with Moral Re-Armament for 40 years throughout the world. This article is part of a talk he gave this month at the MRA World Assembly in Caux, Switzerland.*

IT IS TRUE TO SAY that every revolution has had a text book. The text book of our revolution is the book of Frank Buchman's speeches, called *Re-making the World*. If you want to follow my talk in that book, you can look at page 202 (English edition), page 188, page 163, particularly important, page 139 and indeed that whole speech called 'The War of Ideas'. And you can search elsewhere in the book.

It is obvious from the news that there are a very large number of people in the world who want to fight somebody or something. The aim of Moral Re-Armament is not to destroy the fighting spirit in the world, but to strengthen it. Only it has got to be a fight for what is right for all.

The test of my own fight is whether it lifts everybody around me. MRA sets out to raise up a fighting force of men and women in every country and every community, dedicated to fight for what is right whatever the cost to themselves. The destiny of this age is not just to wrestle with the material needs, but to carry the whole human race permanently beyond its ancient hates and lusts and defeats.

We have set ourselves the difficult task of creating a new quality of character right across the earth. We are called to fertilise the spirit of mankind—create what is called renaissance. If we are going to do that, it is clear that we must end the wastage of destructive conflict in the world, and teach people who want to fight how to fight.

Everyone knows that hate and bitterness are being increasingly used as weapons. The answer to hate and bitter-

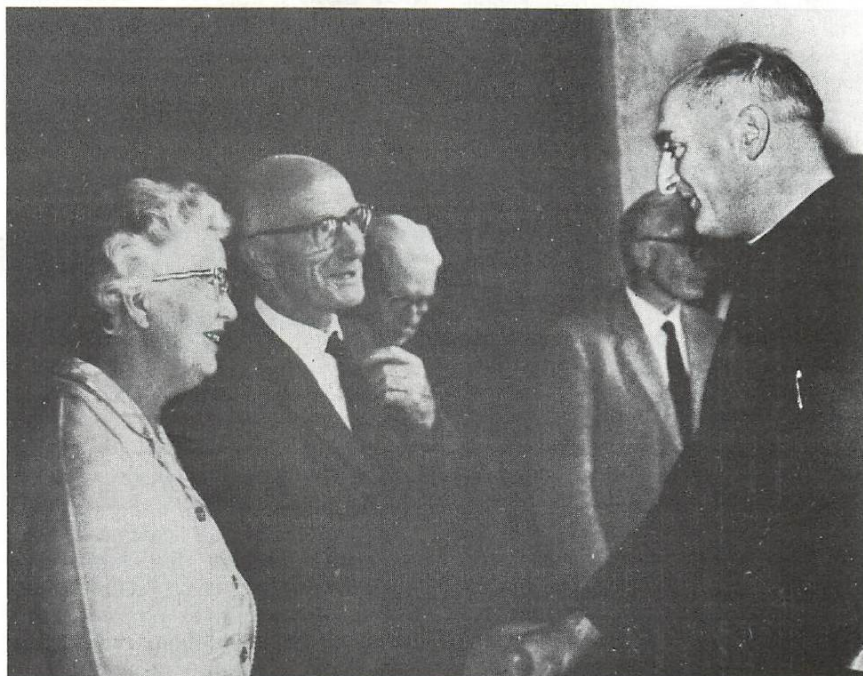
ness is a far more powerful weapon in the modern world. I understand with my whole heart what people who resort to violence today feel like. There is a cynicism that feels that people will never change and that therefore we must get what we want by force. But I know that the violence of a miracle in the human heart is stronger than physical violence.

A theory of revolution which fails to allow for a basic change in human motive and human nature is totally out-dated, old fashioned, and quite unsuited to the

nuclear age. When I met Frank Buchman in 1929, there were three million unemployed in my country. I was disturbed and concerned about this. The first word Buchman ever said to me was, 'Your job is to go and change the most difficult man in your college.' He believed that worry about unemployment was not much use if I did not care enough to bring change to the needy man next to me.

I want to put this to you, that evil is

*Continued on page 2*



**IRISH AT CAUX** Ernest MacDermott shakes hands with the Rev D Mullan from the Diocese of Derry. Mrs MacDermott's father was former Mayor of Londonderry and part of the Protestant leadership of the city.

Thirty Irish people from different churches, from the professions, industry, schools and local government were at the MRA World Assembly in Caux, Switzerland last week.

Against the background of burnings, bombing and deaths in the streets, they spoke of hope replacing hopelessness, changes in their own attitudes replacing blame of others, and of a united determination to bring a cure to their country.

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indivisible. I was passionate about poverty, but pacifist about my own impurity, and about the selfishness which, multiplied, caused the unemployment. I found a miracle. God washed me clean. And I made a very simple decision to influence my college more than my college influenced me.

Then a little later Frank Buchman said a further thing to me. He asked me if I would like to work with him, eighteen hours a day and no salary, anywhere in the world until death us do part, with a master passion to set humanity on a God-directed course. I began to realise that any unemployed man could have a part in that programme.

Incidentally, it was the only job I was offered. But it was the kind of offer that stuck in my mind. If he had asked me to work with him every Wednesday for one hour, I should have turned it down.

### Fresh ideas daily

But I did learn from that day that the secret of a battle to cure evil in the world is steadfastness in the battle to cure evil in my own life, and that I can have a daily gift from God of a pure heart and a passion for people.

Every day evil attacks you. Every day God washes you clean, if you let Him. Every day as you listen to God you are fed with fresh ideas. Every day He gives you fresh touches with fresh people. And every day He gives you fresh ideas for your nation.

Now in my country at the moment we have an organised group of men who are seeking to impose dirt, cynicism, faithlessness on the people of the country. Pornography is called education. I have learned in my own life that I cannot cure it if I think my education is incomplete unless I take a look at dirty books.

One of the most painful things I can remember in recent years in airports in Africa and Asia is seeing bookstalls placarded with filthy pornographic books printed in Britain, and young Africans and young Asians and older Africans and Asians grabbing at them.

In Britain homosexuality, we are now told, is a physical sickness, like influenza. Abortion, they say, is the mark of humanity and social progress. Many nurses in England have now revolted and will not do the operation. People are shaken when they read that a foetus was being taken to the incinerator and started to cry. This is the result of what we call sophistication.

A recent cabinet minister described the permissive society as the civilised society.

Could we think out at this conference

whether there is any connection between lust of this kind and violence, and whether the people who propagate lust have any connection with the forces that want to destroy the manhood and grace of nations? Peter Howard wrote this:

'The root of freedom is the choice to do what is right. For the choice to do what is wrong does not issue in freedom but in exploitation and finally in enslavement. I believe that compromise with moral standards is the mortal enemy of freedom.'

This new type of battle is going to mean for all of us a relentless battle with all forms of evil, personal and social. It is going to mean a permanent purpose to establish what God wants, because that is the right destiny for all mankind and the way of unity for all mankind.

It may be our task to give the world a fresh philosophy of freedom. Real freedom is freedom from the things that bind me, including the false worship of men; it is freedom to do the biggest task there is, and for the men and women of Moral Re-Armament it is not just that we fight that battle ourselves, but we give the whole earth the chance to fight it with us. We can be the spearhead for millions waiting to fight this battle with us, if we undertake it.

The highest philosophy of man is that he is here on earth to fight the battle between good and evil under the master control and with the master strategy of God. We must work out how that battle can be fought, and some of you may want to weigh whether, in this dangerous time, we are called to reshape our whole lives so that we can unitedly undertake that task.

## Education for tomorrow's world

### UNESCO delegates receive new book

BRAZILIAN Education Minister, J G Passarinho, quoted Peter Howard on the need for moral absolutes at the UNESCO international conference on education in Geneva last week.

He took Howard's statement from the book *Education for Tomorrow's World*,\* a copy of which was presented to every delegate by Scandinavian and British teachers. The book, written by Scandinavian educators to point a new direction for education, is based on classroom experiences of teachers trained in Moral Re-Armament.

Passarinho, who is vice-president of the education conference, said: 'In a conference such as this it will be unforgivable not to give a word of warning against the danger of moral collapse

## Unionist leader apologises to Catholics

FRANK WATSON, Unionist Member of Belfast City Council, apologised for the arrogance of the Unionists towards the Catholics and other parties in Northern Ireland.

Watson, who is Vice-Chairman of the Unionist Association of Northern Ireland, said, 'I belong to the party that has held power for the last fifty years and with that power we have had an arrogance and for that I want to ask forgiveness from the other side. To those from Londonderry and Belfast, I want to say how sorry I am.'

The Protestant Councillor was speaking this week at the MRA international conference at Caux, Switzerland, with others from Northern Ireland, both Catholic and Protestant, people from Belfast and Derry.

A factory superintendent from Belfast, Gerry O'Neill, said, 'We do not agree politically but we all seek a country where people care and love rather than hate. We will work together so that there is an end to hate and violence in our country on the basis of not who is right but what is right. Only a radical change in people can break the cycle of riots in Northern Ireland which we have every thirty years.'

specially in industrialized societies. It is not a matter of a puritanism that is not always sincere. What is really involved is the defence of the family and the dignity of the human being.

'Moral absolutes are needed as a guide in life. As Peter Howard reminds us: "They are like the North Star. It is a fixed point in the sky. It is yet to be recorded that any ship has reached the North Star, but it is true that in every ocean mariners discern from that star where their position is and where they need to sail."'

\* *Education for Tomorrow's World*, by J Henden, E Forland and S Fraenki; Grosvenor Books, 96-page paperback, 6s.

Available from: MRA Books, 4 Hays Mews, London W1X 7RS; postage 10d.



## 'Anything to Declare?' in Australia

# State Premier's welcome to Adelaide

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S Labor Premier, Don Dunstan, welcomed the MRA international musical *Anything to Declare?* to the State last weekend.

Speaking at a reception at Adelaide station, the Premier said, 'It's great to see you here. We've looked forward to your coming, and I'm sure all of us in South Australia will enjoy your visit. I wish you very well in your stay and great success in your efforts.'

The Premier's remarks were supported by Norman Makin, veteran parliamentarian who was the first

Chairman of the UN Security Council. He said, 'These are very challenging days. They require a tremendous effort in creating better relationships between people.' He referred to MRA as 'this stimulating force that will bring us to brighter and better days.'

Ralph Jacobi, Federal Labor MP, said, 'There is a big need in the world today for drastic change. I wish you the utmost success possible.'

James Hore-Ruthven, nephew of Lord Gowrie, a former Governor-General of Australia and Governor of South Australia, replying on behalf of the 21-nation force said, 'We believe Australia will be the nation to show the world how to live.'

On their 1,600-mile journey east from Perth, Western Australia, the cast of *Anything to Declare?* broke their journey to give presentations in the gold-mining town of Kalgoorlie and the new nickel town of Kambalda.

Press and radio carried news of the cast's arrival in South Australia. They are giving performances in Adelaide before going to Canberra, the Federal capital, next month.

# 'Leadership without smudge'

## Caribbean warning from Conrad Hunte

'THERE IS an ideological vacuum in the Caribbean. If we do not bring a positive answer to this vacuum, violent revolution will take place.'

This was the warning given by Conrad Hunte, former vice-captain of the West Indian cricket team, to a meeting of young men and women at Caux last week.

'The British brought democracy to the Caribbean,' Hunte said. 'Now, as seen by recent demonstrations in Trinidad, democracy is on trial there. I do not think it is because democracy has failed, but rather because, by the way it is now practised by our leaders and led, it lacks the moral fibre and authority without which it will collapse.'

'There is a vacuum of inspired leadership. Before too long we must restore the kind of leadership whereby a public servant's private life is not his own, is without smudge and is open to all the nation to see.'

Hunte challenged the youth to 'think for continents', and said a team of people with MRA films was urgently needed in the Caribbean.

# Indian girl writes for world's children

by Pauline Mathews

ATBADI is a typical village in Western India. Homes there are made of bricks and stones with flat roofs of wood and mud. The shady banyan and mango trees help screen the hot sun from the houses. Women in bright saris fill their shining water pots from the well or wash their clothes in the stream while their children play in the sand nearby.

Twenty-one-year-old Anasuya Pait-hankar (pictured, right, with Indian children) comes from Atbadi. Her father is a schoolmaster in the village.

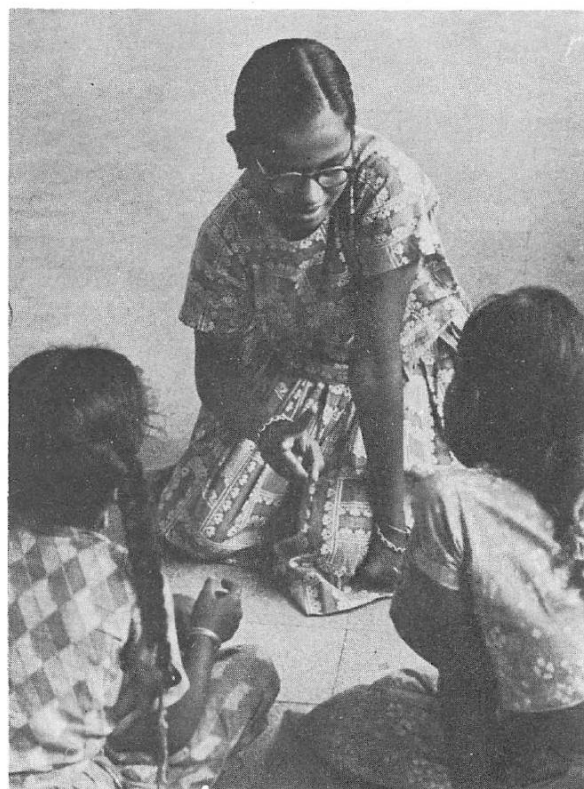
A few years ago two of Anasuya's brothers died within 15 days of each other. One was seven and the other was nine. Anasuya for some time felt very bitter. One day she saw an advertisement in a newspaper for an MRA camp at Panhala, a hill station in Maharashtra, Western India, which she decided to attend.

This was a turning point in her life when she began to think and care much more for the needs of the world as well as for her own family and village. She later travelled with *India Arise*, the MRA show which toured Europe and the Middle East.

'One night', she says, 'I thought of my brothers and couldn't sleep. I wanted to cry but had the thought, "Why do you want to cry? There are so many children like your brothers in this world. Why don't you do something for them." I did not know what to do. Another thought came, "Write stories." I began to think. One after the other the thoughts came. In the morning I wrote them down. It was my first story, *Vibha and the Tiger*.'

Not long afterwards Anasuya wrote *The Talking Mango*. Many of her friends wanted her stories to reach a wider public and urged her to publish them. She did not have sufficient funds but soon people from countries in Europe, Asia and Australia contributed money needed to cover costs for these and two more stories.

*The Talking Mango* and *Vibha and the Tiger* will be published in India in early August. Attractively illustrated in colour they will be of wide interest and educational value to children all over the world. The stories are all set in the Indian village and have a unique character and message.







Rankine, the union leader (Philip Newman), and his wife (Mary Jones), in 'The Forgotten Factor'

## 'The Forgotten Factor' in London

### 'Thoroughly believable'

—THE STAGE

LAST WEEK'S *The Stage and Television Today*, newspaper of the theatrical profession, says in its review of Alan Thornhill's play *The Forgotten Factor*: 'The characters are well-drawn, strongly three-dimensional and thoroughly believable.'

'Joyce Heron scores a personal success as the kindly, scatterbrained middle-class mother, and Philip Friend as Richard Wilson well depicts the obstinate managing director faced with industrial unrest. As his union-leader opponent, the fight-loving Jim Rankine, Philip Newman is remarkably convincing. . . .

'The stage-struck schoolgirl daughters of the industrial opponents are delightfully characterised by Sharon Duce and Carolyn Courage.'

*The Forgotten Factor* is running at the Westminster Theatre alternate weeks with *Blindsight* by Anne Wolrige Gordon. Both plays are attracting overseas visitors as well as the general public. Last week 'Full House' notices went up during a performance of *The Forgotten Factor* when 250 US students, 70 French youth, a coachload of American teachers, senior Nigerian agricultural officials and others, filled every seat.

## In my view

### 'I found hope for America'

by Lt-Col John E. Batterson,  
US Army Rtd

I CAME TO CAUX with a deep sense of hopelessness about my country and the world. I, like so many, have had a feeling of helplessness. What could one ordinary person do to change the way our nation is going? It is such a big country; our problems seem to get worse and more complex every day.

America is becoming a deeply divided nation. We are sharply divided over the issue of whether we should be involved in the war to preserve freedom in South East Asia. There is a strong movement to influence our government to reduce or withdraw its support of and involvement with other nations.

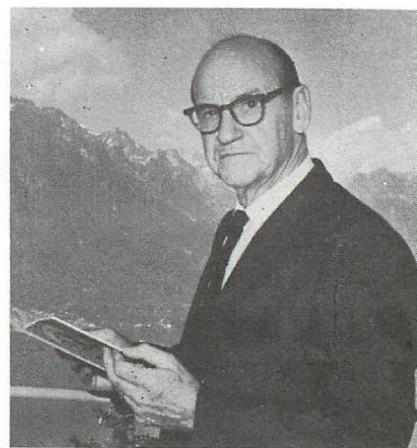
American families are seriously divided. Some figures say that one marriage out of three ends in divorce. American industry is critically hampered by conflict between management and workers. Illegal and unreasonable strikes are numerous.

American people are seriously divided. Our mental hospitals have more patients than ever. The use of drugs and alcohol for inner escape has increased. Crimes of violence have escalated sharply. Riots, bloodshed, looting, are more widespread than ever.

For the first time, here at Caux, I have found hope for myself, for my family, for America and for the world. Here I have seen overwhelming conclusive evidence of how hopeless division has been turned into unexpected, solid unity.

In many nations I have seen that whenever an ordinary person decides to change; when he faces his personal life against absolute moral standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love; when he begins to put right what is wrong and when he is willing to be guided by the inner Voice of God in his heart, then miracles of change begin to take place in his own life and in the lives of others around him. Unity replaces division. Hope replaces despair. God becomes a practical reality.

I have decided to do just this. I have



begun to be absolutely honest with my wife and others. I have begun to put other things right. I have begun to let the whole of my life and my responsibilities be directed by God. God's power is beginning to change me and to work through me.

I am beginning to be free to build a new family and together we have a new purpose. Now we look forward to the future with hope and with a completely new motive for living—re-making the world, by the power of God.

## at a glance

### Panchgani, Western India

ON A RECENT VISIT to the MRA conference centre here, Malaysian Plantation Workers' General Secretary P. P. Narayanan was accompanied by Bombay managing director Shashi Patel, whose company processes two-thirds of India's colour film.

Commenting on the revolutionary change in Patel since meeting MRA Narayanan said, 'Capitalists and workers are like the positive and negative of an electric current: when both get together there is light.'

Referring to last year's communal disturbances in his country, he stated, 'The coming of MRA brought healing to Malaysia.'

### Asmara, Ethiopia

A *Charter for Schools*, setting out MRA's aims and the way to unity and effectiveness in a school, has been posted up in all classrooms and the staff room of Prince Makonnen School, Asmara's largest Government secondary school with 2,400 students, and in other schools. The school's Director signed each copy and had it stamped with the school crest.