MRA Information Service

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National leaders need God's direction says UN Ambassador

No diplomatic agreement workable on basis of self-interest

'HUMANITY can no longer survive on the moral standards which it practised before it had the power to destroy itself,' Zenon Rossides, Cyprus Ambassador to the American Continents and Permanent Representative at the United Nations, told 700 people at the Moral Re-Armament conference centre at Caux, Switzerland this week.

Present standards were leading, Rossides said, to the destruction of the world through nuclear war or the slower, sure poisoning of the environment through pollution. Higher moral standards had become indispensable for solutions, and for the survivival of mankind.

'I can think of no diplomatic problem

which can be solved if it is approached solely from the interest of one side or of the other,' he added. 'No agreement can be reached that way. And no solution which is good for one side at the expense of the other can be a solution at all, for it cannot last.

'But there is no problem which cannot be solved if we put aside selfishness. Solutions should be based on the principle of conciliation and unity, so that they can be enduring.

'That is why Moral Re-Armament is so important. It goes to the root of the problem. The leaders of the nations must find out from the guidance of God what is right and wrong. Only then will they serve the interests of their countries.'



Zenon Rossides



Papua-New Guinea Parliamentarians visit London

Members of the House of Assembly (MHAs) from Papua-New Guinea were guests for lunch last weekend in 45 Berkeley Square, London home of the man who initiated Moral Re-Armament, Dr Frank Buchman. They were members of a Select Committee for Constitutional Development who have been visiting African countries to study government in developing nations.

Pictured above, at 45 Berkeley Square, are (from left to right) Tai Abai, Ministerial Member for Agriculture; A G Hutchison, Glasgow businessman; Matiabe Yuwi, MHA; Philip Allchin, mill superintendent at a Melbourne paper factory, and Walter Lussick, Deputy Speaker of the Papua-New Guinea House of Assembly

While in London, the MHAs also attended a performance of 'The Forgotten Factor' at the Westminster Theatre.

700 at Caux conference

CULTURAL SESSIONS:

'Intolerable for bigoted snobs'

—German actor on Howard's plays

TAXPAYERS' MONEY should not be used to stage pointless plays of fashion—'stylistic exercises'—a German Shakespearean actor Kurt Müller-Graf told arts and theatre personalities at the MRA World Assembly in Caux, Switzerland.

'They do not grapple with genuine problems. They should be put on in studios for minority groups,' said 57-year old Müller-Graf, who is Chairman of Personnel of 500 Baden State Theatre employees, and also an actor in the plays of Goethe and Ibsen.

'The most constructive and controversial discussions I have had with young and old theatre-goers were about the plays of Peter Howard, one of the most fascinating personalities of the English-speaking world,' said Müller-Graf.

'Howard trod the road to a new committed theatre. This is equally uncomfortable for conventional actors and audiences. His plays with their modern forms and polished trends, have been described by noted critics as highly artistic, provocative and disturbing—and above all, intolerable for bigoted snobs. His plays and films have met with worldwide response.'

EDUCATION SESSIONS:

Teach students the meaning of life

'GREAT MASSES of knowledge are funnelled into the brains of students. But there is a vacuum of world perspective and of teaching of the meaning of life,' said Czech-born author and playwright Peter Lotar.

Young people are plunged into an 'ethical desert' by modern education he told educators from four continents meeting at Caux.

'Youth learn mathematics, but not to make possible the just distribution of goods for the harmony of the world. Our sons and daughters are turned into living computers, programmed for a completely different aim—earning money.

'They learn chemistry and physics, sciences which release mighty forces. But do the teachers tell their pupils that these powers can work for good as well as evil and that they should never serve the enemies of mankind? Could they be employed as unthinking instruments in industries which for the sake of profits pollute and poison the water, the air and fruits. Without ethics in science man is heading for collective suicide.

'We have put our children into an ethical desert in which they have to grow up and find their way,' he said.

'Young people will have to be told that the sense of life can only be found by the eternal truths of unselfishness, honesty, purity and love.'

680 at London conference

From the floor participation

FROM THE FLOOR participation keynoted a conference of 680 in London over four days last weekend. In session after session scores of people spoke giving their views and plans on how the problems of the country could be answered—Industry, Northern Ireland, Education and Britain's lack of world purpose.

On watching these sessions a Swiss visitor commented, 'MRA will win the ordinary man.' Miss Marie Richardson from Berkeley, California, U.S.A., said, 'I have found a new hope today.'

Another woman delegate commented, 'I never believed a Communist could change.' She had heard Les Dennison, Chairman of the Building Trades Operatives in Coventry and Jim Crooks, former Chairman of the 10,000 miners of the Ashington Area, Northumberland, speak on what was needed in

'From coffee table into real life'

SOUTHALL edition of *Middlesex* County Times last week recommended the 'thought-provoking plays and films' at the Westminster Theatre to students who feel society needs 'a revolution'. 'The movement for moral re-armament,' said the West London weekly, 'exists to take the "coffee table philosophy" into real life.'

Britain and the world. The two men had been Communists for a combined total of over 40 years.

From Yorkshire Philip Grunsell, sales manager of a foundry in a large engineering company, announced that he and others were planning to bring a train from Sheffield on 31 October of between 300 and 450 people to London to see *The Forgotten Factor* at the Westminster Theatre. He termed the play 'a key link in the redirection of British industry'.

'I started with myself'

Miss Eleni Damianou from Cyprus is seen here (right) as a secretary. When she came to Britain two years ago to work with MRA she knew little English and learnt it and shorthand and typing.

Before she left Britain she said:

'ENGLAND was the last country I wanted to come to because my father was a prisoner of the British for four years. I grew up with hate towards the British people.

'But I realised if I wanted to see the world different I needed to start with myself. I apologised to the British people and I decided to come here. I have grown to love this country as my own.'



A new kind of conservation

'Sweep away pollutions of hate and greed'

by Mary St. J. Fancourt*

CONSERVATION YEAR has awakened thousands to the extent to which our environment is being polluted. People are shocked to realise that natural resources vital to human life on this planet are being endangered by man's carelessness and selfish treatment of them.

Beautiful rivers which should be carrying pure water to thousands have been turned into slimy channels of sludge, too contaminated even for fish to survive in. Fertile lands in many parts of the world have become arid dust bowls through the thoughtless getrich-quick ways in which they have been used.

The general public which had accepted these developments and many others of the same sort blindly, or blandly, has suddenly become aware of the danger they present and of the necessity for action. How has this come about?

A few decades ago those who had the prescience to foresee the menace of such usages were derided and unheeded. But they cared enough for the future welfare of coming generations to keep on with their warnings and constructive suggestions. They collated their evidence, wrote pamphlets and articles, addressed meetings and challenged the opposition of those whose vested interests or lazy inertia put up formidable resistance against change. Gradually they built bridgeheads of converts in a number of countries. After many years came the breakthrough. Now a climate of opinion has been created where it is possible for brains and money to be mobilised for large scale action.

Streams of life

But as many are realising today, this is not the only sphere in which the streams of life on this planet are being poisoned.

Conservation in the material world aims to stem the flow of pollution and to preserve and increase purity and beauty in man's environment. Moral Re-Armament aims to do this for man himself. It awakens people to the insidiousness of pollution in the realms of the human spirit and shows how to develop and channel the qualities of character

* Miss Fancourt is author of *The People's Earl*, a life of Lord Shaftesbury, Longman's, 13s; and *They Dared to be Doctors*, about the first women doctors, Longman's, 15s.

on which all great forward movements of mankind have rested.

Bridgeheads are being built across the world, but the prophet voices, such as those whose words go out from the Westminster Theatre, are still in too many places met with mockery or indifference.

Such opposition is in line with history wherever vested interests and prejudice have been challenged. To take but one example, from the field of medicine: when Lister first applied antiseptics in surgery he was for years cold-shouldered and ridiculed, in spite of the evidence he produced showing that his patients did not suffer the dreadful death toll of post-operative blood poisoning common at that time.

Thousands suffered

The men who tried to muzzle him were motivated by jealous fears for their own reputations at the top of the tree or by sheer lethargy and obstinacy in face of a challenge to get out of old ruts and embark on something new. Lister won through. His evidence told over the years. But in the meantime thousands had suffered and died unnecessarily.

The mounting volume of human deprivation and suffering in any situation that needs righting depends directly on the time-lag between the production of evidence of a curative course and the adoption of wide-scale action to apply it. And this in turn depends on the amount of inspired initiative and determination shown by those who know that they have something which the world needs.

Today the modern media of publicity can take ideas all over the world in the twinkling of an eye. But where their use is denied to people whose line is distasteful to cliques in control of these media, the innovators are back in much the same position as pioneers of older times before the days of television, radio and the popular press.

The early Christians, for example, had none of these aids. They worked by personal contact and the handwritten word. The letters which their leaders sent to distant cells, some of which are preserved for us in the New Testament, dealt with the deepest issues which man could face. They were read and profoundly studied by the recipients and

were copied out and circulated on the widest scale possible at that time.

One wonders what the world would have been like in the ensuing centuries if those for whom they were written had merely read them and then put them away on their shelves, or wherever one stacked away papyrus rolls. But instead, their fighting determination to pass on the good news opened the way for a transfusion of new life into the blood-stream of history.

To people today who are concerned to preserve the core of human life from degenerating into nihilism, the pamphlets which come to us from the Westminster Theatre conferences call for the same kind of resolute initiative if they are to reach out into the world.

They carry the thoughts and experience of men and women with a life-giving message for our times, and the evidence of how this is being worked out concretely in many lands. They show how to conserve what is best in a nation's heritage and how to connect with the great stream of God's pure, new life—a stream which sweeps away the pollutions of hate, greed and fear that poison relationships between men and nations.

Militant

These words can only achieve full effectiveness if each person who acquiesces in their truth is as militant in circulating them as were the ordinary men of the past who heeded the prophet voices of their time.

It is an excellent thing that the world is now alerted and people prepared to involve themselves in the fight against pollution in our physical environment. But however much we improve our surroundings, there remains the problem of recalcitrant human nature. The next step in man's advance must be in the realm of the spirit. And that is a fight which we must win or we shall destroy ourselves and each other.

To receive future pamphlets subscribe to the MRA PAMPHLET SERVICE Send £1 (For overseas airmail £2) to: MRA Pamphlet Service, 4 Hays Mews, London W1X 7RS (Cheques made payable to Moral Re-Armament)

Subscribers will be sent each new pamphlet as it is published until the value of their subscription expires followed by two free pamphlets as a special bonus.

'The Forgotten Factor' revived in Hindi

A NEW PRODUCTION of Alan Thornhill's play *The Forgotten Factor* in Hindi, had its first performance in Bombay last weekend.

Initiator of the performance was Shashi Patel, managing director of a company that processes two-thirds of the colour film for the Indian film industry.

Four film producers were in the audience, along with workers and departmental heads from Patel's own company, and other trade unionists and managing directors.

The cast, drawn from many sections of Indian life, included workers from the Zenith Tin Works in Bombay. Further showings are planned in the city.

Two years ago another Hindi production of *The Forgotten Factor* toured industrial cities of India.



Shashi Patel (right) greets P P Narayanan, General Secretary of the Malaysian Plantation Workers' Union, when he visited India last month

In my view

YOU CAN WALK THE PATH OF DESTINY TODAY

by MARY JOAN HOLME physiotherapist from Croydon

WHAT BRINGS SATISFACTION? Perfect work, a good meal, friendship. All these give temporary satisfaction. What brings permanent satisfaction to a person's spirit? The only way to find lasting peace of heart and a meaning to life is to put one's feet on the path of destiny. I put my feet on this road seven months ago when I gave God total control of my life.

I am now at a world conference for MRA at Caux in Switzerland looking after two small boys. Whether or not people realise it there is a battle raging in the world between good and evil forces. To engage in this fight means for myself that I have to change every day and that I help the people I meet to change too.

Recently the eldest child that I am responsible for was given a drastic punishment for doing what he knew to

be wrong. Radical and permanent change of character is needed. God can change our natures if we want Him to. One child said he hated his brother. He asked Jesus to take away the hate and it started to go.

This is one step on the road of destiny—change. The next step is to see the bigger plan for a country, for the world. Some decide not to find and follow their fullest destiny. That leaves a gap in God's plan. It betrays the best in that person. The cost cannot be measured.

So my challenge is that anyone can decide today to be the person they were destined by God to be.



A CONFERENCE STARTS this weekend at the MRA North-of-England conference centre, Tirley Garth, overlooking the Cheshire plain (See photo left). The conference lasts from 7 to 31 August.

The programme, says the invitation, will include daily training sessions in how to apply MRA; films, music and drama; sport and outdoor work on the estate; visits to homes and industries in the North West, and opportunities to see the current plays at the Westminster Theatre.

Further information can be obtained from The Conference Secretary, Tirley Garth, Tarporley, Cheshire.

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