



Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed Surur from Ethiopia (above left) presents his pamphlet *Moral Re-Armament and the Modern World* to the Sultan of Sokoto, His Highness Sir Abubakar. It was on the occasion of the Sheikh's visit to Northern Nigeria to accompany the tour of the all-African film *Freedom*. For a full report see next week's issue of *New World News*.

# NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

## 900 at Delhi première

*'The chain of hate will be broken'—says MP*

'IT IS REMARKABLE that in two and a half hours we have witnessed an Asia with her joy, happiness, suffering, sorrow and hope, an Asia whose destiny is unfolding,' said Tianethone Chantharasy, Ambassador of Laos.

He was speaking at the end of the première of *Song of Asia* in the Indian capital, New Delhi.

A distinguished audience had witnessed the MRA Asian revue in the beautifully carpeted and chandeliered Ashoka Hotel Convention Hall. Diplomats from 45 countries representing different philosophies, the Chief Justice and other Justices of the Supreme Court,

the Chief of the Army Staff, Ministers of the Government and civil servants, the Archbishops of Delhi and Agra and the Protestant Bishop of North India, judges of the Delhi High Court, editors from four of the capital's newspapers and leading industrialists were some of the over 900 people present. The audience lived into all the scenes of the show as it moved from Papua New Guinea to Turkey and Russia and at the end joined the cast in a time of quiet.

'In that moment of silence,' said the wife of a businessman, 'I realised that I have taken God's name as a duty and now I must take time to listen to Him

Appeal by Welsh miner  
SEE INSIDE

and write down the thoughts.' Many of those present stayed long after the show to meet and talk with members of the cast. One judge remarked, 'You have portrayed the truth of Asia for the first time. The seed you have sown will grow and its roots will spread like a banyan tree.' An External Affairs Ministry official said that the evening had shown 'Asia in a capsule'. A Member of Parliament commented that through seeing the show fifty per cent of his hate had gone and 'I feel,' he said, 'that before I reach home tonight the chain of hate will be broken completely.'

PREMIÈRE

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The première audience for *Song of Asia* in Delhi's Ashoka Hotel Convention Hall

Photo: Patel

# PONTYPRIDD

## Operation Neighbourhood

### A Welsh initiative with *The Black and White Book* that could be followed by other communities



Rev and Mrs Burden outside their home

WHAT CAN AN ordinary man or woman do in time of crisis?

The Rev John Burden, Methodist Minister in Pontypridd, the town from which the Rhondda, Aberdare and Merthyr mining valleys open like the fingers from a hand, got thinking about this. 'We all live in a neighbourhood,' he thought. 'If we care for people, we all have friends or potential friends just around the corner or along the street. How to do the best thing for them?'

The best expression of an answer to

the crisis which Mr Burden knew was *The Black and White Book*. So he and his wife decided to take it to the 150 homes nearest their house.

They wrote a letter (below) to prepare the way. Then set off to visit each home. 'The results surprised us completely - "O ye of little faith"', reports the Welsh minister.

'It wasn't done without a struggle in our minds,' John Burden writes. 'What will our neighbours think of us; will they be annoyed; will their dogs attack us;

will they think of us as cranks? You really burn your boats when you do this. You put at risk those friendly, cosy links you have made. There is always a good reason to put off a visit.

'Actually, we had a most friendly, positive response. This was due to three reasons

- (1) God told us to do it
- (2) We had no idea how many friends we had already made in the area
- (3) There was a hunger for an answer to the crisis

'Quite a number of people wanted to talk. We found old people who were living on their own; young mothers who were worried about the future for their children; thoughtful people who felt responsible and were concerned for the state of the country. A minister crossed the road to buy his copy. The principal of a technical college called and bought two copies, for which he paid a pound.

Wesley Manse  
The Avenue  
Pontypridd

January 1974

Dear Neighbours,

The energy crisis affects us all. If there was a power cut, each of us in this neighbourhood would be plunged into darkness. As William Whitelaw said the other day, 'We're all in it together.'

All of us try to be careful to save power and petrol. What else can we do? Is it enough to hope that all concerned with the crisis will change their minds?

A change of mind and heart would work wonders. It can and it does happen. *The Black and White Book* gives examples of how stubborn, bitter people have changed. Changed men are what we need in homes, in our town of Pontypridd, as well as in the nation.

*The Black and White Book* offers an age-old solution in a new form. We think these stories are priceless, (though this little book, in Welsh or English, sells at 20p). We would like to see a copy read in every home.

In a few days we'll call with copies of this pocket-book. Would you like one?

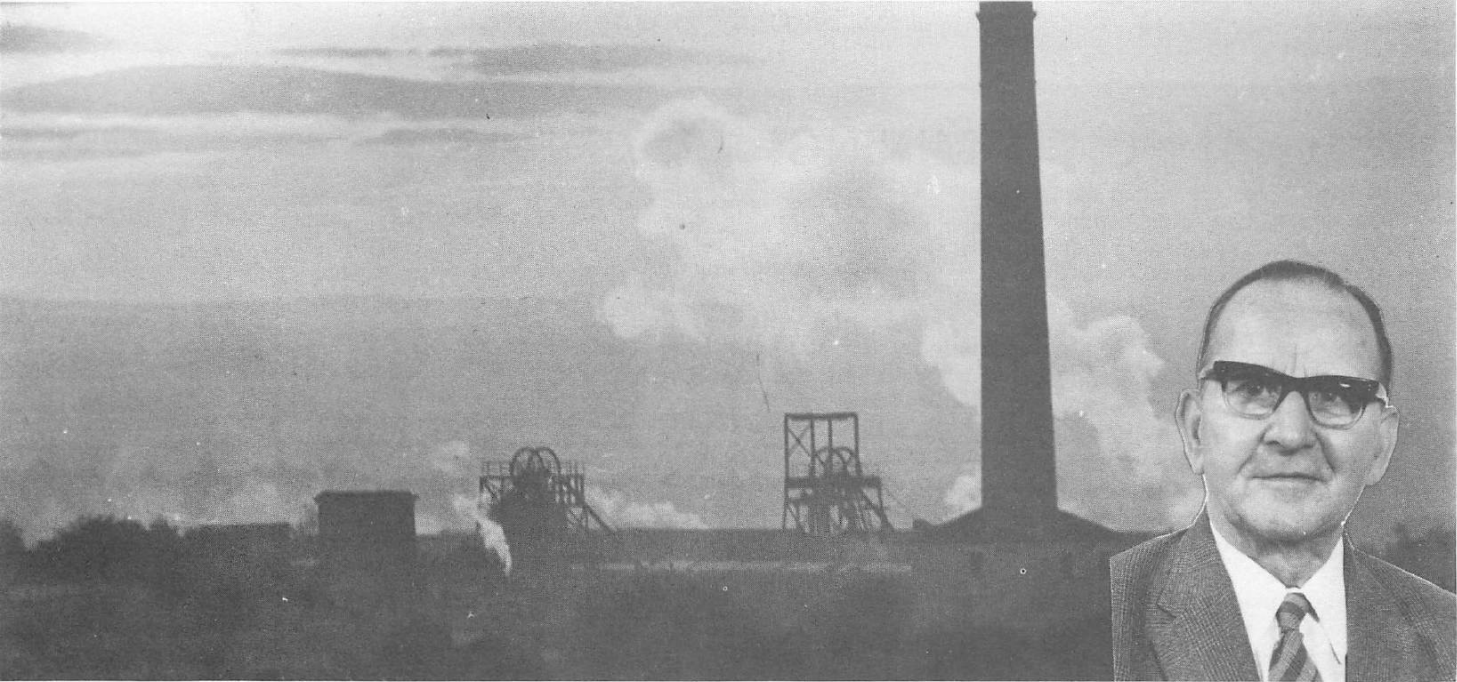
A happy and Hope-Full New Year to you,

Yours sincerely,

John and Meinir Burden



A neighbour, Mrs Gollege, gets her copy




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|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| HOMES VISITED | 150   |
| BUGHT BOOK    | 71    |
| ALREADY HAD   | 7     |
| NOT IN        | 45    |
| DID NOT BUY   | 27    |
|               | <hr/> |
|               | 150   |

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*'We have all been taking out far more than we put in'*

## Towards a new day for the mining industry

by William McTiffin

The deputy head of a Welsh junior school bought copies—in Welsh and English.

'The people who said "No" seemed fixed in their views and spoke of having enough to read and being satisfied with what they had. Only one or two were really opposed—I heard one man in the background say to his wife, "It's all trash", but she came back with her 20p for a copy.

'Providing people do this out of genuine conviction nothing but good will come of it. Most people realised the operation was sincere and therefore responded positively. Although it is not essential we told the police beforehand what we were doing.

'We must follow this up. Perhaps we can invite people to our home one evening or morning. Our nearest neighbour has a very large room and is willing to put on a film for us and the neighbours. But most important we must find out those who are trying to apply the ideas already.

'Two ladies in another area of the town are doing the same thing soon.'

### **PQ—the Story of Philip Vundla of South Africa**

Copies have arrived of the second printing of this dramatic life story of a man who was organising secretary of the mineworkers and on the executive of the African National Congress.

50p plus 9p post and packing from MRA Books, 54 Lyford Road, London SW18 3JJ.

I AM A RETIRED miner from the Rhondda Valley, in Glamorgan, South Wales. I have been associated with the mining industry for over 52 years.

My father worked all his life in a colliery at Llwynpia and died with 100 per cent pneumoconiosis.

I was a lad of 13 when I started work as a lamp-boy on the surface. On reaching 14 I was transferred to underground work as a lamp-light carrier. Later, I worked with my father learning to hew coal, a job I continued for 26 years. The remaining 26 years I spent in and about mines on First-Aid work, retiring in 1966 with 30 per cent dust disease. When the mines were nationalised, I was placed in charge of the First-Aid arrangements for 38 pits, and ancillary works and offices—a post I held for 20 years.

Looking back over the last sixty years, incidents come flooding back—incidents such as the bitter 12 month Cambrian combine strike for a minimum wage. The miners' leaders of those days consisted largely of 'God-fearing' men who dedicated themselves to improving the standards of living of their mining comrades. Many went to prison in their efforts to this end.

The miners of today can thank those leaders for their vision, which led to the building of Institutes containing well-stocked libraries where miners could read, study and educate themselves.

Gradually the lot of those employed in the mines improved, and nationalised

coal became a fact. Vast changes took place within the industry, and a great deal was done to improve working conditions such as dust suppression, installation of labour-saving machinery, medical treatment centres on the surface, improved wages and pit-head conciliation machinery. For a number of years, peace came to the mines.

This was accompanied by improvements in government policy and civic matters. National Health services took on larger responsibilities, and many basic principles of socialism became an established fact in our lives. But I am afraid some union leaders did not change with changing trends in the country and in the world. They still preached the ideologies of the past and became outdated in their thinking.

Gradually we older miners who had believed that nationalisation of the mines would bring industrial peace and prosperity to the country became disillusioned. Grave mistakes have been made on all sides—Coal Board, Management and men. We have all been taking out far more from the industry than we put in. I can see disaster overtaking this once great industry if things go on as they are.

Three years ago I was depressed with a feeling of hopelessness and despair—not only at the trends prevailing in the Coal Industry, but also in the country and the world at large. I could see no antidote to the greed, bitterness and dis-

**MINING**

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## PREMIÈRE *continued from page 1*

Earlier Rajmohan Gandhi, host of the evening, said, 'These are rushed days we live in and perspective is something we need every now and then. From the point of view of the Almighty a thousand years are like an evening gone. Before this evening goes we will have spanned several centuries and several thousand miles. The perspective of *Song of Asia* may be imperfect. But it is an honest attempt to look at Asia's past, present and future.'

The occasion also launched the newly published *Handbook of Hope*. In 70 concise pages it gives the ideas and evidence of MRA, relating 28 specific instances where individuals have applied these ideas and 'broken the chain of wrong'. Copies were eagerly bought at the end.



The Laotian Ambassador speaks after the performance of *Song of Asia* Photo: Patel

## Message to Delhi première

IT IS A SURPRISE for the world to hear a new sound rising from Asia, it is the *Song of Asia*, which once again informs the world about God and what God wants us to do in order to achieve the happiness of this world. I am happy because my Papua New Guinean people are also in this force performing the show *Song of Asia*.

Before the Self-Government Day for Papua New Guinea, nearly the whole world was watching and waiting to see what would happen on that day to Papua New Guinea. When the Self-Government Day arrived there was nothing took place in our country on that day. And maybe again people in other parts of the world are waiting to see what will take place at the Independence Day for Papua New Guinea. I still believe the Independence Day for Papua New Guinea will be also peaceful day for our country. But peace in Papua New Guinea cannot be expected all the time. And therefore I believe the work of MRA can create new feelings and faith in the hearts of the people and true peace and happiness of this world can be achieved.

**PAUL LAPUN**  
Minister of Mines and Energy

## MINING

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honesty that seemed to flourish in every corner of society.

One day my wife and I decided to join a party travelling from Cardiff to the Westminster Theatre, London, to see a play *The Forgotten Factor*. It revealed to us a new approach to the problems facing us. Since then we have visited Caux, the World Assembly Centre in Switzerland for Moral Re-Armament, twice. There we met and talked with people of all colours and creeds from all over the world. We met people drawn from all grades of society who were giving volunteer service without asking for any reward.

We saw clearly that if enough people could be 'changed', and if enough of us began to listen to the voice within us—and obey, the problems besetting the world could also be changed. We decided to do this and play our part in helping others to experience the joy gained by caring for their fellow human beings.

I, a retired miner with no university training, dare to say to the men who are concerned with industry: **'Pause, reflect and search your conscience. Then ask yourself if you have been entirely honest at work, at your offices, and in your dealings, however high or humble, in your own section of the organisation.'**

I say to those in management: **'If you are actively engaged in your particular business or industry you deserve rewards for that work. But ask yourselves, are you taking money out of industry to build large houses, or for other things to satisfy your vanity or ambitions? I could say more, but I am sure everyone will know what I am pleading for. You must take the initiative to restore confidence among your workers.'**

### The boss works too

And I say to the union leaders and the workers: **'I know that a change of attitude at the top must exist before you will completely feel justified in giving your all to any industry or business. But you must have a 'go' at establishing this desirable end. We must realise that the boss also works and has his worries too.'**

The old concepts are changing and leaders and workers must also change if this world is to enjoy peace and harmony.

This can be brought about if both resolve to be absolutely honest at work, absolutely unselfish in practice, with sincere regard for their fellow beings. If we can work together to bring this about, the countries of the world can really be 'Lands of Hope and Glory'.

## Money

### A degree of faith

WHICH COMES FIRST: the money or the project? Most would say, 'First get the money.' But the Christian, if he takes his Bible seriously, would embark on what he knows to be right and let the money take second place.

As a young man who worshipped money—at least, what money could procure—I had a well-paid job. My boss was a family friend. One day I had the thought that God wanted me to give up this cushy job and devote my life propagating His world answer. He told me to go up to Oxford as a preparation. I had no savings. It would mean going up not knowing where the money would come from.

On giving notice my boss asked how I would pay my Oxford costs. I told him that 'where God guides, He provides' and that if He said 'Oxford' then all I could do was to obey regardless. He was sceptical. However on the very day I took leave of him I received a solicitor's letter, totally unexpected, saying a relative had bequeathed me enough to cover at least my first term at Oxford. I told my boss. He was impressed with this 'coincidence' and asked me to report to him later whether 'coincidences' had continued. I did!

The next step in obedience was to approach the Oxford authorities. I boldly proposed to them that they should join me in this act of faith, and allow me entrance on faith. Surprisingly (to me, now) they accepted me on my terms. Perhaps I was the first student to take a Degree totally on 'faith and prayer'. I was the one undergraduate who never failed to pay his bills on the day presented. I remember one of those days: the 'kitty' was empty; sadly I wrote the authorities saying that for once I could not pay 'on the day'. Going to post the letter I met a friend who knew how I lived, but had no idea of my present predicament. He said he had been looking for me all day. He gave me a cheque—it turned out to be the exact amount needed! Coincidence?

Entirely with such 'coincidences' I got my degree at Oxford. **CKP**

*Have you stories about money? Do send them to us. This comes from a reader in Rhodesia.*