

18-05-027

THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK

SYDNEY COOK
GARTH LEAN

THE TIMES **Sun**
 YORKSHIRE POST
 DAILY EXPRESS
 Weather: Very warm; sunny Price 3p
 THE SCOTSMAN
 THE GUARDIAN

Daily Mirror
 BRITAIN'S BIGGEST DAILY SALE

Monday March 20 1972

BRITISH PRESS:

THE TIMES

Youth handbook for 'Christian revolutionaries'

By Philip Howard

Another "revolutionary" book for schoolchildren is published today. *The Black and White Book* is described by its authors, who are members of Moral Re-Armament, as a handbook of Christian revolution, and contains advice to schoolchildren and young people about "the world we live in and how to change it."

Mr Garth Lean, one of the authors, said yesterday: "We consider that things need to be altered in Britain and every country. The book is intended to show that a younger generation, whose targets for change include their own shortcomings, will be able to change an entrenched establishment."

On the subject of sex appeal, which is, as usual in such books, dealt with comprehensively, the manual asserts that the best contraceptive is the word "No".

It says that sex is a natural part of life, but only a part: "It is not meant to run us or preoccupy us, and need not do so. . . . We are free to choose what we live for: to be in the grip of masturbation, porn and the endless pursuit of sex in any and every form; or to give our energy, talents and imagination to creating the new society."

The book quotes Eva, a Swedish girl: "Purity gives you a sparkle and a gaiety that do not have to be put on. It satisfies you deep down and I believe it is the normal way to live. Permissiveness, instead of satisfying, just makes you grab for more and more."

It also quotes Che Guevara, Khrushchev and Solzhenitsyn on the impossibility of changing society without a revolution in human nature. It recommends that true revolutionaries should listen for the voice of God: "Like guerrilla fighters picking up instructions by radio, we can tune in daily to the Commander-in-Chief."

The Black and White Book, by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford Press, 20p).

DAILY EXPRESS

When No is the safest way...

TEENAGERS are told today of the "best contraceptive"—the word No.

The advice comes from the authors of a new book attacking the Permissive Society.

They say: "It is absolutely safe and has no side effects except to make it easier to say 'No' next time."

It is called "The Black and White Book" and is written by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean.

Their book, they say, is like the controversial "Little Red School Book" because it is a "handbook of revolution"—but a Christian one.

* Published by Blandford Press. 20p.

THE SUNDAY EXPRESS

QUOTE

... from the Moral Re-Armament booklet **THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK**, by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford, 20p), describing West Indian Test cricketer Conrad Hunte's moment of religious truth:—

Walking down a London street . . . he had the clear thought, "Look up." High on the pub beside him, he saw the sign "Take Courage!" He went straight into a church opposite and told God he would obey.

Speak truth, but say 'No'

THE GUARDIAN

By our own Reporter

AFTER THE Thoughts of Chairman Mao and the Little Red School Book comes the Black and White Book, A Handbook of Revolution. The BWB, published today, has a number of things in common with its two forerunners—its size (2½ inches by 3 inches) and its declared reason for being . . . revolution. There are, however, two important differences. It has been accepted by W. H. Smith's, and it was produced by Moral Re-Armament.

The BWB chapters on communism, sex, and schools take, therefore, a somewhat new line. For example:

● "We want to see a world where Communist and non-Communist nations face what they have done wrong and take on together the shaping of a new society."

● "The best contraceptive is the word 'No.' It is absolutely safe and has no side effects . . . We are free to choose what we live for. To be in the grip of masturbation, porn and the endless pursuit of sex in any and every form . . . or to give our talents, energy and imagination to creating the new society."

● "People are trying to turn schools into battlegrounds. But we have found that school can be a place where teachers and pupils learn together the art of changing human nature."

Moral Re-Armament put the book together from the "Experience and ideas of scores of people of varying ages, nationalities and backgrounds."



"Mummy, I have a terrible confession to make—Augustus and I have been secretly married for years."

DAILY EXPRESS

Evening News

London Monday May 8, 1972

PAPERBACKS

WELL WORTH

READING



SINCE the Thoughts of Mao, revolutionary hand-books are plentiful and, mostly, highly incendiary.

But one, just published, does not subscribe to the destructive gospel of Us and Them: it returns, simply and with a minimum of Bible-thumping, to the basic of Good and Bad.

It is **The Black and White Book** by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford, 20p) and it says what a few million honest souls have been waiting to hear for years: that there is hope for the poor old world yet; that there is, in fact, already a Resistance movement to the tide of anarchy and violence; that people can be changed, and are changing for the better all the time, in spite of the spate of evidence to the contrary.

Coverage of The Black and White Book on Britain's television and radio media included:

- * A seven minute interview with spokesmen for the book on BBC TV's evening news programme, Nationwide
- * News items or interviews on Granada, Harlech and Border TV
- * Two news items on BBC Radio National News bulletins; twelve other radio reports or interviews

Copies of the book and further information available from:

The Black and White Book
12 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JF

NEW ZEALAND Tablet

New Zealand's National Catholic Weekly

Vol. XCIX. No. 24.

June 14, 1972.

Another 'schoolbook'

At last a true challenge to that over-exposed, over-publicized LRSB—from 'The Black and White Book', prepared and published by the Moral Re-Armament movement.

I personally have always had some reservations about this group of people, but I have none about this short, pithy and blunt book.

There's nothing pie-in-the-sky, nothing wishy-washy, two-faced or side-stepping in its 70-odd pages. It claims it offers a revolutionary angle on the sex, drugs and family life problems of our times—and it does.

With practically the barest minimum of words possible, it attractively but plainly spells out that the real revolution required to get us out of the mess we are in is for each to turn to God, listen to him, and carry out the revolutionary—in terms of the miserable, self-centred, exploitative society we have—things he directs us to do.

While being blunt, *The Black and White Book* is also warm and encouraging. It is hopeful in human terms. That perhaps is its greatest strength.

I bought this book in the course of duty. Once I opened it I could not stop reading. Although I have no connection with the movement which gave it birth, its ideals answered so much in me that was inculcated by the Church and my experiences of life.

While many may see it around their bookshops and say 'Oh no, not another one!', I suggest that the *BWB* follows

naturally as a follow-up to the *LRSB*.

I should imagine that the *BWB* will be found attractive and persuasive by many readers. Certainly until the complete home-grown, authoritative written answer to the *LRSB* comes off the Tablet presses later this year, it's the best we have.

—Merle Nowland.

Church of England Newspaper

POPULAR BOOKS

Radical programme for eradicating evil

THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford, 71 pages, 20p).

AFTER THE red and white, the black and white. There have even been rumours of a little rainbow school book (a Pauline concept surely: "the many-coloured glory of Christ"). A perfect presentation of the gospel for school kids is presumably as remote as the fabled crock of gold.

This one certainly manages

to present Christianity as a radical and even revolutionary programme for eradicating evil and building an unselfish society, though it ignores the possibility that legislation might be an important factor.

It is written attractively in current English and is not patronising. It's the best buy so far.

PETER COUSINS

THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK, by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford Press, 20p, p. and p. 4p). Considerable controversy has been caused through the distribution in Britain of the Danish Little Red School Book, with its views widely at variance with the generally accepted standards of Christian morality and behaviour. It was condemned as a handbook of revolution.

In "The Black and White Book," Sydney Cook and Garth Lean have produced another handbook of revolution, although this time it is basically Christian.

After describing the ideal world after which all should strive, the authors show that human nature can be changed through the example and power of Christ's risen life. There is a sensible and practical chapter on sex, from a new and revolutionary angle.

THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK

by Sydney Cook, Garth Lean (Blandford Press, 20p)

Another "revolutionary handbook" but with a difference—this one is described by its authors as "a handbook of Christian revolution". It quotes Che Guevara and Solzhenitsyn on the impossibility of changing society without a revolution in human nature, and points to the Christian dynamic which makes that change possible.

It aims to show that a younger generation whose targets for change include their own shortcomings will be able to change an entrenched establishment.

Drugs, sex, money and family life are all looked at from the angle of the revolutionary personality. Perhaps this little book's greatest contribution lies in its relating morality to a satisfying purpose for life. The typical examples it gives of actual changes in people and circumstances serve to emphasize, in the authors' words, "not a theory but the experience of thousands".

W.L.

LIFE and WORK

THE RECORD OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

THE REVOLUTION WITHIN

THE BLACK AND WHITE BOOK, by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean, 72 pages, Blandford Press 1972, 20p

THE sub-title of this pocket-size book is "A Handbook of Revolution." We are all familiar, in some way, with the booklet containing the thoughts of Chairman Mao, which inspired the Chinese 'Cultural Revolution' a few years ago. We may have heard of the Little Red Schoolbook. But this is a book and a revolution with a difference: like the Gospel, which proclaims the most radical revolution of them all, this collection of sayings and doings does preach a revolution, a world-wide revolution, beginning from the inside — your inside. Unlike those who want to change everybody but themselves, the authors insist that if we want a better world, and surely we are all agreed at least that this world could do with a bit of bettering — we must begin with ourselves, our innermost selves. And, what's more, the idea works — a very important point!

WORLD IN A MESS

This book has been compiled "from the experience and ideas of scores of people of varying ages, nationalities and backgrounds". The world is in a mess. Is there nothing we can do about it? They want a world where everyone has work, food, and a home; where a man's character matters more than his colour; where industry aims at answering the needs of humanity; where schools and universities have freedom without chaos; where no man or woman is exploited — or worshipped; where rich nations help and respect developing ones; where Communists and non-Communists face up to what they have done wrong. An idle dream? Not if we decide to make it come true.

Of course, some people are just not interested in having a revolution: they're all right, Jack, thank you. On the other hand, a revolu-

tionary very often becomes just a reactionary — which brings us back to square one — across a sea of blood.

People can be changed, if we stop blaming the others, and start listening, beginning with Christ's standards of absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness, love, checked by His life and church teaching.

The authors give cases that have actually happened, including one of student-power — new style. And for these people, black is black and white is white, and they are not referring to the colour of one's skin, but to things like money, power, drink, drugs, and hate.

All those who had the opportunity to see the show "Anything to Declare", and more, to meet any member of the cast, will have recognised that this book comes from the same source: Moral Re-Armament.

Moral Re-Armament is not to be confused (as it has been) with certain evangelical but not very ecumenical propagandists in our midst. It cannot be stressed enough that MRA is not a new religion, or a substitute for religion. But it does help you take your religion seriously, and this has happened in Malta too.

As the Rev. Prof. Karl Adam, who needs no com-

mendation, wrote once: "MRA is ... in the deepest sense a Christian movement. But it is not in any way a confession or a church community. Its aim is to bring back to the consciousness of men the principles and bases upon which each confession must then build with its own methods".

RADIO-ACTIVE

In the 1960s, Cardinal Rossi, then of Brazil, now head of *Propaganda Fide*, the late Cardinal Cushing of Boston, and several other Catholic bishops, in Brazil, Italy, and elsewhere, all welcomed MRA.

As Gabriel Marcel, the French Catholic philosopher, put it some years before: "MRA is not a sect; it is a leaven or seed. Those in whom the seed has been sown are changed from within ... They become radiant, and even in a certain sense radio-active".

In conclusion, this booklet is easy to read, has had a good press, created controversy, been printed in over 100,000 copies, and is selling like hot cakes especially among the young.

In the words of its last section: "Over to You".

J. Bernard, S. J.

No shades of grey in the philosophy of *The Black and White Book* by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean (Blandford Press, 20p net) — the latest counterblast to "The Little Red School Book" and the first British contribution to the international debate it started. It has the same pocket-size style binding as "The Little White Book," which was rather more "evangelical" in tone and which concentrated more on pornography and sexual permissiveness. The notorious publication which sparked all this off, however, dealt in the main with social revolution, and it is this element the writers have concentrated on and sought to answer.

They do so, rarely readably, mainly through modern case-histories compiled from the experience and ideas of scores of people of varying ages, nationalities and backgrounds. Their insistence on the absolute standards of Moral Re-Armament's founder, Dr Frank Buchman, to whom this little handbook owes its inspiration, may be seen as the modern counterpart of Wesley's preaching of Christian perfection. It has the same refreshing candour as its immediate predecessor to which it is complementary; and parents, pupils, teachers and students have contributed to it. Its strength is that it is based on experience and not unsubstantiated theory. — DJC

"CATHOLIC NEWS"

Black and White Book can lead many back to orthodoxy

DOUG (Ap) that "a young lus? Fr call the in 1

BROWN'S kindly, if faintly patronising, review of our *Black and White Book* to put the cart before the horse. Of course, Mr. Cook and I agree from "studying the Catechism." But is such a child — or to such a young person?

religion. She asked these girls what religious experience they had. The pupils were and I was ashamed —

The Advocate

MELBOURNE

Registered for posting as a newspaper — Category "A"

Answer to 'Little Red Schoolbook'

The safest contraceptive is the word 'no', says the 'Black and White Book'

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