

# NEW WAY FOR BRITAIN

## offered in North East's shipyards, docks and mines

One City Hall caretaker and a thousand shipyard workers expressed last week what the North East feels about MRA's musical, *It's our country, Jack!* They showed that, however chilling the freeze and the squeeze, the ordinary man can still be fired for a great idea.

The caretaker was in charge of the City Hall, Newcastle, when the musical revue was performed before a thousand people on 5 November; and at midnight as he stood waiting while the stage properties were packed away, he refused to take any gratuity for services rendered. 'No, no, I don't want anything,' he said, 'whatever you were going to hand to me, put it towards taking this marvellous play around the country. I want this idea to spread everywhere.'

A thousand men of the shipyards met the cast and listened to their songs and their stories at the lunch hour in the canteens of three famous Tyneside firms—Swan Hunter's; Hawthorne, Leslie's; and Smith's Docks.

### Brought the house down

The words of 'launch that ship on time', one of the songs from the revue, brought the house down in the Wallsend canteen of Swan Hunter's the firm that has just completed a 90,000-ton tanker two months ahead of delivery date. The yard manager, the Works Council Chairman and union office holders were in the canteen to welcome the cast and introduce them to the men.

Over lunch an official in another firm said, 'I had a private bet that you would be given the bird, and I am astonished at the enthusiastic reception you got!' Then, after talking about the problems of labour relations

and how to create the spirit needed throughout industry today, he added, 'This is it. The way you tackle it is the right way.'

In three days members of the cast visited over a hundred schools, sang and spoke in dockyards and shipyards, were officially received by the chairman and officials at Northumberland's County Hall and gave *It's our country, Jack!* to the dockers of Middlesbrough, the shipyard workers at South Shields and the miners of Ashington.

The cast were guests in homes all over the North East. Mrs Charlton, mother of England's footballers, Bobby and Jackie Charlton, gave them tea in her home in the mining town of Ashington and came to see the revue in the Miners' Welfare Hall.

### Breath of fresh air

At the Port Transport Club, Middlesbrough, 350 dockers filled every space. 'I have never seen so many people in an evening,' said one docker. 'It has been like a breath of fresh air,' said Chairman Jimmy Hart afterwards. He called on officials to pass round trays and £10 was collected for the cast. 'You must come back. You must open our new extension,' said a committee member. A docks foreman said, 'My job is to put men to work but I have been a bitter man. I have learned tonight that a little tolerance goes a long way. I will try it tomorrow.'

'This show should be seen by the whole Mineworkers' Federation,' said Robert Mead, Chairman of the Lynemouth branch of the National Union of Mineworkers, after last week's performance at Ashington. The Chair-

man of the Urban District Council, Councillor Tom Harkness, said from the stage, 'I came along tonight in a cynical and suspicious frame of mind. Forgive me. Thank you for coming. I wish you every success.'

He said he had begun to understand what caused the complete change he had noticed in some of the people of his district. He referred to miners' leader Jim Crooks from Linton Colliery, who was in the audience along with his pit manager.

Linton was listed for closure four years ago and has been kept open, Crooks said, through applying the spirit of MRA.

### Alarmed at the prospect

The change in Jim Crooks was underlined by the manager of Linton receiving the cast at lunch. 'Jim Crooks was known as a rebel in the area. If there was a stoppage he was behind it,' said the manager, Mr Murphy, who added that he had been alarmed at the prospect of being posted to Linton. But his experience of management-labour relations there was the best he had ever known. 'If MRA can change a man like Jim Crooks, it wants spreading a great deal further. It is not who is right but what is right that is needed. Then we could overcome 90% of our problems.'

Jim Crooks added, 'The manager had a right to his fears, but MRA has given me a more total revolution than the class struggle. It works.'

The Secretary of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions for the Tyne and Blyth district, Don Edwards, addressed the cast. The North East, he said, had a wonderful history of men who produced ideas. The area could now

# Seamen's leader: 'heartening impact on industry'

JIM WORTHINGTON, national executive member of the National Union of Seamen, welcomed the cast of *It's our country, Jack!* to Liverpool and Merseyside this week.

'We have watched your progress,' he told them. 'It is heartening to us to realise what an impact you are having on industry as you go round the coast. Industry today needs an aim, something to look forward to. We in MRA have that aim.'

Labour and Conservative councillors from Liverpool, men from the waterfront and their families were in the audience in Bootle Town Hall. The Deputy Mayor said the crowd was the largest he had seen there.

Alderman Griff Williams, last year's Mayor of Bootle, underlined what the musical could do for the nation if shown on TV. 'It is the answer to

our problems,' he told the audience. 'It is the spirit I am going to take into the Council Chamber and into my work which is associated with the dock. I go all the way with you.'

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IN AN EDITORIAL, 'Let's Make it Happen!', in his parish magazine this month, Canon H Hartley of Solihull, Birmingham, says there is a 'deep longing to do something' to improve things in Britain.

He says he is prepared to 'collaborate with any whom the Spirit of the Lord has touched' to do something so that 'the whole Church may be inspired to establish the reign of God in the hearts of men everywhere.' As the first step he suggests staging the show *It's our country, Jack!* in the Civic Hall, Solihull, and he publishes a picture of the cast on his magazine cover.

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establish something that would never date. Future industrial prospects depended on men's attitudes. 'The important battle in industry is getting people to count,' said Edwards, who is also Chairman of the Newcastle Trades Council. 'I hope the work you are doing will be successful.'

North East youth rose to *It's our country, Jack!* One Catholic school sent two large parties. The grammar school at Wallbottle entertained the company at lunch.

## 'Whole country swinging'

One hundred students from Durham University saw the show and students from the rival university at Newcastle put in a demand for a return visit. 'The show must come back, it will be a great hit with the students.' The editor of the students' paper added, 'This show has made me take all my ideas out of their pigeon holes and look at them again.'

At the special gala performance in the Newcastle City Hall on Guy Fawkes night, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman J F Burton, sat with his lady between Alderman Sir Nicholas Garrow, Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, and Councillor S C Docking, Chairman of Durham County Council. Coming to the stage at the end of the show, the Lord Mayor expressed what thousands of ordinary people and their leaders, and press opinion have felt: 'These ideas and the manner in which they are presented are an example for everyone on Tyneside and in the country. They must go throughout the world. As Chief Citizen, I thank you for your splendid performance.'

And two men from a shipyard—the shop steward convenor and one of the directors—vividly described the show's impact with the words: 'There have been walls of suspicion and mistrust. Your show has certainly knocked out some rivets.' Said the director, 'Continue for six months and you will have the whole country swinging behind you.'

**Geoffrey Gain**

## at a glance

### PANAMA

*Up With People*, the American musical produced by MRA, arrived in Panama last week from Puerto Rico where it has been playing for the last three weeks. The cast will present performances in the Canal Zone for the US military and also give showings in the three major cities of Panama.

During their three weeks in Puerto Rico the cast gave thirteen performances in San Juan, Ponce and Arecibo. The Catholic nuns of Arecibo have purchased 300 copies of the *Up With People* record and book and plan to visit every village in the interior to train the youth in the show's songs and ideas of Moral Re-Armament.

### Casals' gift

Twelve hundred Puerto Rican youth are now participating in three local Sing-Outs. Pablo Casals who had seen one of the first showings of *Up With People* saw the cast just prior to their leaving Puerto Rico. He spoke again of the inspiration and delicacy of the show and offered one of his own Spanish songs in appreciation for what they were doing for the world.

### FRANCE

'LE MONDE', 2 November, published an article on the recent industrial conference at Caux. Their Special Correspondent, Jean Couvreur, wrote in part: 'Coming from lands of affluence and lands of poverty, from Switzerland, Great Britain, France and elsewhere, several hundred men and women gathered once more in the little mountain resort above Montreux. Once more they compared their experiences, evaluated and criticized their achievements, tried to discover together the unknown roads leading to a world at peace.'

'Heads of firms, militant trade unionists, employers and workers from the textile and building industries, dockers, miners—men and women of faith convinced that our institutions can be perfected not by the shock of revolution but by a sharp awakening of the human conscience.'

*Presse Ocean*, daily paper published in Nantes on the Atlantic seaboard, wrote on the Caux industrial conference: 'The value of this work is enhanced by the way Moral Re-Armament seems able to provide a framework of action in which every man—

whether his position is a humble one or whether he takes the highest post—rises to a level of responsibility which enables him to be effective and to take part in an extraordinary task.'

# ***From Atlantic to Urals— and beyond***

by Philippe Mottu\*

I HAVE BEEN ASKED to take us beyond the boundaries of Europe and to speak about how East and West can meet the needs of the whole human family.

At the beginning of this century the white man was king on every continent. In one generation everything has changed. Europe's preeminence has disappeared in the upheavals which have mercilessly shaken our continent over the last fifty years.

After two world wars which Europe started, the world's centre of gravity has shifted from the Atlantic towards the Pacific.

The last war left Europe divided into two hostile blocs.

How can this continent find the objectives which would take it beyond its limitations and divisions into a world-spanning action?

Perhaps the key is in this common task of meeting the needs of the whole world. This task is far beyond the scope of each actor in the European drama. But in taking it on we can leave behind us our dogmatic positions in ideology, our national rivalries, our attempts at political or economic domination, so as to tackle together the basic problems which must be solved for the human family.

The experts estimate that the world population will reach twenty-five to thirty thousand millions in three or four generations.

## **Food**

Can we meet the needs of this growing world family? The answer is yes. Specialists in agriculture and nutrition believe that at least thirty-five or forty thousand million people could be fed, provided that men's behaviour and our economic structures are profoundly changed.

At the Conference for Economic Development in Geneva in 1964 a new alignment emerged for the first time. It was an alignment not of the

\* *Extracts from a speech at Caux by Mr Mottu, Swiss author and former diplomat.*

Communist states on one side and the Capitalist states on the other, but of the wealthy industrialised states, whatever their political or economic regime, and the developing states, which we call proletarian.

The main feature of East-West relations is competition between great industrial states—European countries, USA, USSR, Japan and now China.

With the great majority of mankind living in the tropical zone, their urgent need for economic development will oblige the industrialized nations of the temperate zones to take on the whole of mankind.

Last year I was received at Dakar by President Senghor of Senegal. During our conversation the President said to me, 'Most of the objectives of the Bandung Conference have been reached; but the main outstanding question is of the relations between the industrialized countries and those which are developing economically.'

## **Capital**

European workers had to organise themselves so as to get a fair return for their labour. In just the same way the developing nations are obliged to organise themselves so as to get a fair return for the raw materials which they export to the industrialised nations.

The industrialised nations can effectively help the developing nations, first by sending men and secondly by making capital available to them.

In 1965 the western countries made available to the developing countries slightly more than ten thousand million dollars. This sum represents about 1 per cent of our countries' national income. If the aid given is to be effective this figure needs to be trebled. It should as soon as possible be raised to thirty thousand million dollars, that is about 3 per cent of the industrialised nations' national income.

Europe is in an uncomfortable position, sandwiched between today's super-powers.

But we should never forget that

there are also European peoples behind the Iron Curtain. Now the Russians, and even more the Poles, Czechs, Hungarians, Rumanians, Bulgarians and Yugoslavs find themselves facing problems very like our own.

I talked to a Soviet representative about the problems of Western youth. I asked him how they had solved this problem in his country. 'We have exactly the same problems,' he answered. 'During the war we had very clear objectives and each person freely accepted a discipline. Today, when we no longer have these objectives, the youth do not know where to turn, and there is moral collapse.'

A few weeks ago a Soviet newspaperman talked to us about the play *Through the Garden Wall*, which he had seen played by a Parisian cast in the Comédie Theatre in Geneva. He sent a report on this play to Moscow, and he told us that he emphasised, first, that mutual respect is possible even if you do not have the same ideology; secondly, that through change it is possible to find unity.

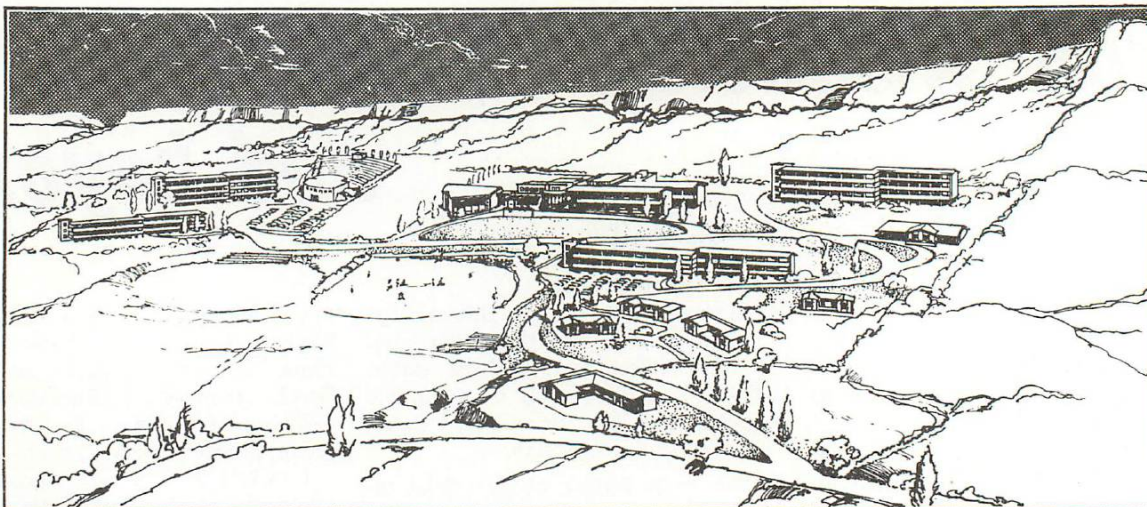
In Europe we have been the inventors of industry, and also of Communism and Fascism. Why should we not today initiate a new human society which brings a valid answer both to totalitarian methods and to capitalist materialism?

## **New society**

Our strength in the past has been a profound sense of the universal. Past mistakes must not lead Europe to turn in selfishly on herself, as some people propose we should do.

A simple, honest European, ready to face his own and his country's faults, who goes right ahead on a constructive task, is irresistible in the developing countries.

The new society will not be born of a bloody revolution, in which the men today in power are liquidated. It will be born of the choice which a man's conscience makes within him, of the personal decisions which each of us can make to pay the price of a new social order.



Architect's impression of the Panchgani centre, overlooking the Krishna Valley and the Western Ghats

## Construction begins on MRA centre in India

CONSTRUCTION WORK is under way on an MRA training centre in India at Panchgani, 160 miles South East of Bombay in the state of Maharashtra. During the past two weeks seventy students from colleges and schools in West India have on a voluntary basis begun the initial construction work. They have dug foundations and have done other preliminary work. The main construction programme is scheduled to begin in December.

The purpose of the centre is to provide facilities to train a sufficient number of people in Moral Re-Armament and in the skills needed to give food, work, unity and purpose to the Asian continent.

Of India's five hundred million people, three hundred million are under the age of 25. Sixty-eight million go to school and 1.5 million attend university. This educated minority are restless and rebellious because the dreams and promises of

their parents have not been realised.

From an estimated hundred and two million tonnes (metric tons) the harvest last year crumpled to seventy-nine million tonnes. To meet this critical shortage, fifteen million tonnes of grain are being imported. Three grain ships a day put in to unload at India's ports.

During the next five years India has budgeted £11,300 million to spend on development. Yet if the targets of this fourth Five-Year Plan are achieved, and few economists believe it possible, India will have been barely able to maintain present-day living standards.

Since 1963 Rajmohan Gandhi has trained 4,000 young Indians in character and leadership at MRA camps. But he believes to answer the immense problems India faces 100,000 full-time revolutionaries are needed. The Panchgani centre, when constructed, will be one way of enlisting and training such an army.

The outlay for the first three years for the building programme for the centre will be £71,000.

The Australian architectural firm of Brown and Davies Ltd of Adelaide in association with the Bombay firm of Messrs Sushil M Bilaney & Co Ltd have offered their services free of charge to prepare, design and supervise the construction.

### *Douglas-Home on China*

SIR ALEC DOUGLAS-HOME, former Prime Minister, in the second anniversary number of the Indian news magazine *Himmat* this week enlarges on his plan to counter China's aims. He originally outlined this plan at the Conservative Party's Blackpool conference this year. (The Chief Editor of *Himmat* is Rajmohan Gandhi).

He gives what he describes as 'a blueprint for Asian security'. 'India has so far preserved a policy of non-alignment. In the face of Chinese pressure on her neighbours and Chinese presence on her frontiers it is probable that in future she will be compelled to revise her policy,' he adds.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama also

writes in the *Himmat* anniversary issue on 'The Future of my people'.

### *Comment on divorce*

On the BBC-1 programme 'Twenty-Four Hours' this week Mr and Mrs John Faber represented MRA in a panel of speakers on the Law Commission's proposals on divorce.

Faber told the interviewer, Cliff Michelmore, 'I was married in church. I am a Christian. I work with Moral Re-Armament. I believe that there are the seeds of divorce in most people's lives, man or woman, but if things go wrong you need to go back to the basis of your faith—to those original vows that you took—"till death us do part", and find from one's Christian faith a cure.'