

Let the community lead

by Malcolm Mackay

IT IS a strange quirk of democracy that so many people look longingly for some great figure to emerge to lead ordinary people to their goals of security and opportunity. The way in which person after person has come and gone from power in the modern world should make us ask whether the answer really lies in finding such an individual, or in some other direction. It would certainly appear that the media have sharpened their tongues to the point that few mere mortals, if any at all, could long withstand a campaign of denigration.

There is another possibility – perhaps one which is nearer to the heart of democracy, which could be the only alternative to dictatorships, of right or left – and that is leadership by an inspired community.

In Australia the great bulk of the population clusters around the capital cities and a small number of other cities, mainly on the coast. Such is the tempo and turmoil of big-city life today that pressure groups and the media are able to form opinions in those areas with comparative ease. Many people are frankly shocked by the way in which a very short time has been needed to see the permissive society, the breakdown of the rule of law and the assault on the institutions of marriage and the home (to name only a few phenomena) usually dominate national life.

This is not to say that the majority of city people subscribe to these developments, but in city life today it is very hard indeed to do anything effective to counteract trends which appear to have power, plan and philosophy behind them.

The answer may well lie in the smaller cities and country towns where community life is still healthy and strong, where neighbourliness is still alive, and where moral and spiritual values are still very much in evidence.

It was with this conviction in mind that my wife and family and I came to live in one of the most lovely places in Australia – Katoomba, 3,500 feet up in the Blue Mountains – some 60 miles from Sydney. The population is around 9,000, and the area is mainly known for its holiday and tourist activity.

Over the last weekend in February more than 60 mountain people met with

An Emir and a Bishop host a royal visit to Nigeria

SEE INSIDE

Photos by I U Amata and C R Carpenter

In the courtyard of his palace the Emir of Kano, his councillors and his chiefs walk in a procession of welcome for King Michael and Queen Anne of Roumania.



my own family and our friends in Moral Re-Armament to hear evidence of situations and societies changing because of individuals' accepting the challenge to change and live teamwork. The highlight of the two evenings when we met was the screening of the documentary film *Belfast Report*. Together with many stories of hope emerging because of personal change, the evidence of an answer to hatred and bigotry brought a new light into many people's eyes.

The people who came were an amazing cross-section. Each one was invited because we had come to feel that there was evidence that God was at work in their lives calling them to a greater role than any had yet seen in shaping an answer to chaos and confusion. My wife

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NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

summed up the weekend by saying, 'God has opened a wonderful new door to the future in these days.' Dr John Wright and his Australian wife Dorothy, who have worked for many years to train people in MRA, latterly at Tirley Garth in Cheshire, and who gave an inspiring introduction to the Irish film, said that they felt the Holy Spirit had really gripped a large proportion of those who came, so that dozens of lives will be different as a result.

One of the major groupings present were the teachers. The head master of a grammar school, with his wife, was seen going away with a pile of books under his arm, and the vice-principal of a high school who, with his history

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BLACK AND WHITE BELT

500 students at a high school in Jackson, Miss, USA are studying *The Black and White Book* in a series of ten lessons. This study is being conducted with the help of the All South Karate Team who are all 'A' students.

Outlining the content of the book, Dan Smith, Southern Champion, Black Belt, said that its basic theme was doing right in place of wrong, with concentrated disciplined thinking to go along with Karate training. With *The Black and White Book*, as with Karate, you needed to mean business!

PERSIAN ANTIDOTE

The Scottish-made film *What Are You Living For?*, designed originally for use in Iran, has just had its first showing in Persian translation. It was part of a two-hour training session in Moral Re-Armament for eighty police.

The Deputy Minister of Education responsible for North-East Iran was among an audience who watched the first showing in Persian of *A Cyprus Story*.

Both translations were done by a teacher, Mohammad Shamel. A banker, a headmaster, a secretary, a publicity director of Iran's Literacy Corps and his wife, and a Swedish technician also gave their time for the recordings. Mohammad Shamel says, 'There are many films to-day which are poisoning the new generation. My nation needs the films of Moral Re-Armament because they teach people honesty and purity. That is why I consider it my duty to do this translation work.'

Dr Jamshid Amouzegar, Iran's Minister of Interior and OPEC representative, received a six-man delegation who reported on these and other projects. He urged them to intensify the work of MRA in Iran and promised his Ministry's support.

DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE

The Laotian Ambassador to London, Inpeng Suryadhay, last week showed *The Smile of the Apsara* at a diplomatic dinner at the Royal Lao Embassy.

The occasion was attended by the Ambassadors of Burma, Thailand, Cambodia, and the Republic of Vietnam; also Members of Parliament and others from the Foreign Office, the British Council, the BBC and the press. Introducing the evening the Lao Ambassador said that he was particularly glad that representatives of Moral Re-Armament were his special guests.

The film was screened following Lao dancing by Embassy children and was warmly received. One ambassador immediately asked his Lao colleague if he could have the film to show at his embassy. An English businessman said, 'It was so real.' He had made notes during the film, he said, because there was so much to learn from it about creating the right relationships between people.

NIGERIA

King introduces Lagos performance of 'The Choice'

KING MICHAEL and Queen Anne of Roumania visited Nigeria on their way to southern Africa as guests of the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Ado Bayero, and the former Bishop of Lagos, Rt Rev Seth I Kale. They were accompanied by Mr and Mrs Michael Barrett from Britain and Mr Robert Lancaster from Australia.

THE EMIR gave them a royal welcome at Kano, their first port of call. Gaily-decorated horsemen, trumpeters and drummers lined the sides of the courtyard of the palace as the Emir with his councillors and chiefs, resplendent in their magnificent robes and head gear, walked in a welcoming procession.

The Nigerian première of the new film *The Smile of the Apsara* took place at a banquet given by the Emir in honour of the visitors. The documentary about Dr William Nkomo of South Africa *A Man for All People* was also shown.

The Emir introduced his guests to the Military Governor of Kano State, Police Commissioner Audu Bako, and to the Emirs of Katsina and Daura.

In Lagos, Bishop and Mrs Kale gave a dinner party for King Michael and Queen Anne to meet some of the leadership of Lagos and its environs. At the end of the dinner a Nigerian cast read their Majesties' play, *The Choice*, to the guests. It was introduced by King Michael, who described it as 'a true rendering of our experiences both before and after meeting Dr Frank Buchman'.

The Bishop took the royal party to meet the Oba of Lagos, Adeyinka Oyekan II, and the Alake of Abeokuta, Onipede II. The King and Queen were invited to lunch at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria's premier university, to meet staff and students.

**BUILDING A HATE-FREE, FEAR-FREE, GREED-FREE SOCIETY
Lagos Conference
28-30 March**



Welcomed to his palace by the Alake of Abeokuta Oba Onipede II.



With Bishop and Mrs Kale in front of the MRA Centre in Lagos.

SOUTH AFRICA

Speech to Lebowa parliament

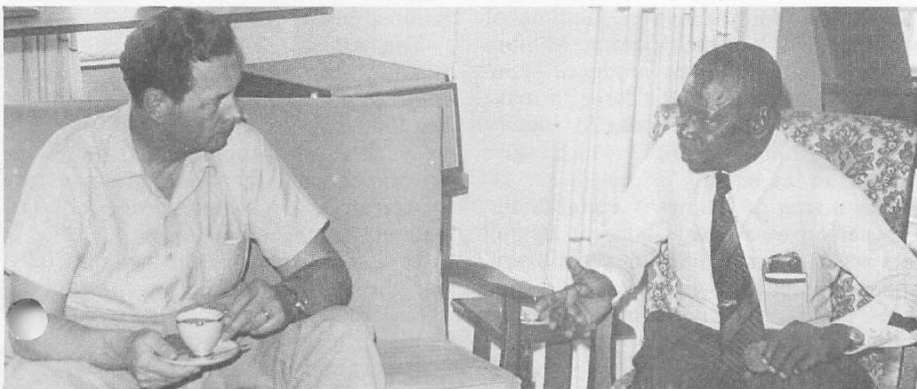
'This journey, with your help, can be a mighty river of understanding between races, creeds and colours'

King Michael and Queen Anne

KING MICHAEL OF ROUMANIA was presented with a Zulu oxhide shield and spears by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, head of the KwaZulu government when he and his party were luncheon guests of the Chief in Nongoma.

The Royal party were also entertained by the Chief Minister of Gazankulu, Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi, and his cabinet in Giyani, and were asked to speak.

At the request of Chief Minister Phatudi, King Michael addressed the opening session of the Lebowa parliament. Forty-five minutes of this opening session were devoted to the welcome of the King and Queen and their party, and to the King's speech which we reproduce below.



King Michael talks with O Zudonu, Secretary-General of the Nigerian Maritime Workers' Union.



Queen Anne (right) and Mrs Barrett (left) meet Miss Thompson, former Secretary of the Lagos Market Women.



King Michael and Queen Anne with the cast who read their play 'The Choice'.

It is a great pleasure for us to be in Lebowa. When we met your Chief Minister Dr Phatudi at the world conference for Moral Re-Armament at Caux in Switzerland and he suggested that my wife and I visit Lebowa, we hardly dreamed it would be possible, but here we are.

I became king of my country, Roumania, at the age of eighteen. It was just before the second world war. A pro-Nazi fascist dictator had seized the reins of government. For three years I struggled to find a way to save the freedom of my people and finally we managed to get rid of him and freedom seemed to be within our grasp. But then the Russians came in and supported the Communists and once more we were up against a totalitarian regime. For three more years I fought to save our freedom but finally the palace was surrounded by tanks and I was forced to leave my country.

My struggles brought home to me that Communism is not the answer to Fascism and Fascism is not the answer to Communism. Both are materialistic ideologies. We need something new. We need a new leadership—men who base their lives on absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness and love; men who seek above all the guidance of Almighty God for their lives.

Through lack of planning by some and thorough planning by others, my country was lost behind the iron curtain. You can perhaps imagine what hatred and bitterness was building up inside me.

If I can stand here before you and tell you these things with peace in heart and mind, it is thanks to Frank Buchman, the initiator of MRA.

Having lived through these experiences I think I can understand what frustration means and what being hurt is like, especially when this turns into hate and bitterness towards ourselves and the world.

Now, however, thanks to God and our friends in MRA we again feel part of this world and have found a stronger determination not to quit but to fight stronger than ever for God's truth and for what is right. I believe that God has a plan for everyone of us, no matter what situation one may be in. I hope with all my heart, that you all will join us in this battle for a new world.

MAN'S MIND and nervous system are goal-orientated, purpose-programmed. When what we want to do or to be is a clear picture in the mind, then all the resources of body, mind and spirit are mobilized automatically.

To turn the pages of a book, to lift a spoon to our lips, to balance ourselves on a bicycle, takes no thought on our part. The nerves move our muscles and coordinate their action without conscious effort. Indeed, if we try to direct the detailed muscular movements involved in turning a page or riding a bicycle we become inhibited, slow and clumsy.

To rouse the inner powers in a person, powers of skill, effort and recuperation, a goal must be clearly defined and the more detailed the picture, the more effective it will be. A medical saying is: don't pursue recovery, let it catch you. In other words, keep in your mind the end result but give no thought as to the processes of recovery. Conscious thought has the function of fixing our goal concepts with clarity. It is the job of our unconscious mental and nervous processes to coordinate the rich resources

A national dream

by Paul Campbell

within us in the service of our goal.

What is true for the individual is, of course, true for the nation. In time of war the goal is clear. Victory. Millions of ideas, initiatives, are produced spontaneously in the people at large to make the goal achievable. The need for victory arouses strong feelings which give strength to the intent.

This matter of feelings is a vital factor. The person who always concentrates on the difficulties and worries about them, who is inhibited by past mistakes and fears failure, has unwittingly told his automatic nervous system that failure

and mistakes are his goal and all his inner powers will work to achieve failure. For the aim which is surrounded by the strongest feelings, whether of faith and confidence on the one hand or anxiety or fear on the other, is the goal which the nervous system believes you have chosen. That is why we so often do the thing we fear the most.

Many a person and many a nation is living below the physical, moral and recuperative line because there is no clearly defined picture in their minds of the kind of person they would like to be, nor is there creative vision for the national life.

The national aim cannot be wholly political for such an aim is power-centred, nor can it be wholly economic, for that is greed-centred. The aim needs to be service-to-people-centred. For such an aim touches the deep springs of resourcefulness in us and brings out the best in thought and action.

In a democracy we cannot hopefully put the burden for the vision and responsibility for its realisation on any political leader or party, however intelligent and experienced or however magnetic the charisma.

Within range

To build a British society that is honest in depth, that is pure in its motive of service to one another and to other nations, that is unselfish in its dealings between classes and races, which exercises enough love for people at home and abroad so that all may have the health, education, food and security they need, all this and much more is possible.

Too much to expect? The alternative is too sad to contemplate, too avoidable to tolerate. A dream? Man only advances with a dream in his heart.

Whatever the problems before us personally, the key to solution is in having a clearly defined aim of what we are meant to be and do.

Whatever measures governments enact, spend our money upon, a national dream is without question a most practical and essential factor and often the most neglected in modern statesmanship.

The task of creating nationwide discipline and initiative may be beyond any one leader or political party, but it is surely within the range of the British in their millions.

There is enough in the British character and history to give us confidence that if we lift our eyes to the horizon we will see the peacetime equivalent of war and respond accordingly. This is not only the ordinary man's opportunity to make the nation and the world a better place. He is the only one who can do it.

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master and their wives, were obviously very moved by the evening, invited us to take the film to their school next day. At 9 am we arrived at the school to find that it was arranged for us to screen the film to the entire senior form (matriculation level), and several other teachers came in to see for themselves. They in turn asked for the film for the fourth and fifth forms, so we left the film for the day—at the end of which it had been screened seven times!

Miss Martine Kuipers, a Dutch girl who recently came to Katoomba to teach handicapped children, told the gathering on each night how, although she had had a Christian upbringing, the concept of daily guidance by God was a new experience for her. For three days running she had found that the headmistress had initiated new moves for the school without her having to say a word—but on each occasion she had had detailed thoughts about those moves in her early morning time of quiet. One of these instances was so detailed and the coincidence so strong, that one had to remember the words of Archbishop Temple—'When I pray, coincidences happen—when I don't, they don't!'

Most exciting night

Rudy and Jenny Weiss, with their teenage daughter, could hardly contain their delight at the story unfolded by the presentation. They had lived under Hitler's regime in Germany, and later under the Communists, and had come to Australia seeking a new life with free-

dom. They had watched changes taking place in the nation, which had filled them with apprehension, but now they said they had found a force which not only gave them hope, but which claimed their own commitment.

Many people went away to put into practice what some said had been the most exciting night in their lives. All agreed that human wisdom has failed. After nine years in the Australian Parliament, the last two of which I served as a Minister of State, I feel not only sure of man's failure, but inspired with hope because I believe that God has a plan, adequate, powerful enough and ready to save us from chaos, famine and war, and usher in a new age.

The secret is very simple indeed. I have found beyond any doubt that when I listen and ask for directions, there is a voice in my mind and heart which shows me a next step. When I take that step, and the next and the next, then before long I can look back with awe and wonder as I see a pattern, a hand at work which has not just been my own.

This is not pie-in-the-sky, but basic practical procedure for a world that works. A mechanic philosopher friend of mine once quipped: 'When everything else fails—read the instructions!' It is time that we humbled ourselves and turned back to the Maker's instructions before it is too late. Perhaps a community such as ours is small enough to enable us to forge new answers together and find God's inspired leadership for the nation.