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Shop Stewards challenge Lord Stokes

'With an open mind we will jointly find the answer for the car industry and the nation'

THREE SENIOR British motor industry shop stewards appealed to Lord Stokes or any other top management representatives to work with them in a totally new way—Moral Re-Armament—to solve the chaos in the industry.

Earlier last week Lord Stokes, Chairman of British Leyland, had strongly attacked the wave of strikes in the motor industry. (See article lower down on page.)

Coming from Rolls-Royce, BMC and Vauxhall's and with many years of experience in the motor industry, the shop stewards said that the four standards of MRA, absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness and love, put into practice by both sides, as they were themselves beginning to do, could end the strife in the motor industry.

'I have got a message for Lord Stokes,' said H W 'Jock' Gilmour, deputy convenor at Vauxhall's, Luton, addressing an MRA meeting with his colleagues in the Westminster Theatre, London, last Sunday. 'We have got the answer for the car industry. The answer lies in this room. Come and meet and talk with us. With an open mind we will jointly find the answer for the car industry and the nation.'

Barriers could be broken down, the shop stewards said, drawing on their own experience, and men from both sides could find 'something truly great' to play their part in.

The state of Britain's prime export industry—the motor car industry—came under fierce attack from Lord Stokes, Chairman of British Leyland, Britain's biggest motor group which sells 40 out of every 100 cars bought in the United Kingdom. Lord Stokes said, at a shareholders' meeting, the recent wave of strikes and stoppages was putting an unbearable strain on factory management. But he added, 'I cannot believe this state of anarchy is what the majority of our workers really want.'



Inset, top left: 'Jock' Gilmour (Vauxhall's): 'Jointly find the answer'

Top right: Bill Taylor (Rolls-Royce): 'Both sides are to blame'

Bottom: Bill Taylor (Austin): 'Bring MRA's four standards to the shop floor'

What the Shop Stewards say

'It's more than just money'

William Taylor
Former Works Convenor at Rolls Royce, Crewe

AT THE MOMENT in the motor industry I partly agree with Lord Stokes when he says that industrial relations are chaotic. But saying that, we have honestly got to say that both sides of industry are to blame. This is where MRA can do a lot in industrial relations in the motor industry.

Most of the disputes in the motor

industry are over some form of payments or wages. MRA can get home to people that there is more in this world than just money. What the workers and the management have got to do is to get down together, be honest together.

I am hoping that MRA can do something as far as industrial relations is concerned in this industry.

What the Shop Stewards say

'Everybody must consider the needs of the country'

William Taylor

Shop Steward and Chairman of the Central Committee at Austins, Longbridge

FIRST OF ALL I would like to say that I have been a shop steward for thirty years. I have held all sorts of positions. I have come up against very many problems and have had to find the answers.

As Lord Stokes has been mentioned, I would like to say that the first time I

ever contacted him was in this way.

I was working in my usual manner when all of a sudden there was a man standing there. 'Excuse me, chum,' I said, 'you might get out of my way. You are holding up production.' The foreman then said, 'Do you know who you were talking to? That was Mr Stokes.'

Next week, as you have probably heard, Lord Stokes has agreed to meet shop stewards from BMC. I hope to be included in the party.

Further to that I would like to say this. I have found that the way to find the answers is to go along with the four standards of Moral Re-Armament.

I have a big family of seven. I am endeavouring to bring these four standards to my family. From this I am also endeavouring to bring the four standards to the shop-floor because if this is to be a better world, every living person must consider the needs of this country. If everybody played their part, we might have the answers to some of these problems.

'Jointly find the answer'

H. W. 'Jock' Gilmour, Deputy Convenor at Vauxhall's, Luton

FIRST AND FOREMOST I am a shop steward representing about twenty seven thousand people and also secretary of the joint works committee which covers all the unions in the plant. I am also secretary of the AEF shop stewards' committee itself and on the executive of the South Bedfordshire constituency Labour Party. So you can see I have a pretty full life.

I have been on the other side of the fence too. I have been on management so I can instantly see both sides of the picture quite clearly. All my life I have lived according to the principles that I find now in MRA. I have lived up to these principles alone and personally. I have never found a group of people to go along with. About three weeks ago I went to Aston Bury to an MRA conference. I found that whereas I already knew that I had a destiny in life, God had a part for me to play. I am now playing this part in a much larger organisation.

I went to Tirley Garth, the MRA centre in North East England, and I found that the small picture that I had had at Aston Bury instantly became a masterpiece. This is what my wife and I carry forward. Here was something truly great to play our part in. Even though I argued, I can and will accept the work of Moral Re-Armament. In the last few weeks I have established a new relationship with my wife.

We have a troublesome little boy, one

of five boys out of eight children. I am pleased to say that during the last few weeks, through a different approach, he is beginning to change. I expect that he will change. I believe he will go on and be better than he has been.

Relationships in Vauxhalls have deteriorated, but with honesty and a purpose it can again become the car company that it was ten or twelve years ago.

The other thing I would like to say, is that Mr Taylor (BMC shop steward and Chairman of the Central Committee at Austins) was a shop steward for thirty years and did not know his own boss. If it is true for Austins it is true for all car industries. The boss has not got time.

I have got a message for Lord Stokes. We have got the answer for the car industry. The answer lies in this room. We challenge Lord Stokes or anyone in the car industry to come and meet and talk with us. With an open mind we will jointly find the answer for the car industry and the nation.

12 page pamphlet

An Indian worker looks at European Industry

by **Satya Bannerji**
Trade Union leader from Calcutta

1s each, 6 for 5s, 20 for 16s
from MRA Books, 4 Hays Mews,
London, W1X 7RS. Postage extra

'It works ...'

TO BREAK THROUGH an apparent barrier a shop steward in a motor car factory phoned the labour relations manager last week. The following conversation took place:

SHOP STEWARD: 'What have I done in the past or what have I said that has caused a barrier between us?'

MANAGER: 'I do not know of any barrier.'

SHOP STEWARD: 'Well, I am sorry for thinking there was a barrier.'

MANAGER: 'Well, could you give me any instances of this barrier?'

SHOP STEWARD: 'No, it has been built up over a period. It is just something where I cannot lay my finger on any special place.'

MANAGER: 'Well, there are one or two instances.' (Then he started to tell them. The reason for the barrier, he said, was that he had been scanty in his respect for the shop steward.) 'You had nothing to apologise to me for, I should have been apologising to you. On this basis, we will go forward and try to put right the things that are wrong.'

SHOP STEWARD: 'Thank you very much indeed.'

The shop steward turned to his wife and said, 'It works!'

at a glance

IN KHORASSAN, north-east Iran, 750 Literacy Corps cadets saw *The Crowning Experience* during a two-week programme of MRA films and meetings for all sections of society arranged by the Governor General, H E Pirnia. 'Only if based on a moral revolution in individuals will Iran's "Bloodless Revolution" succeed,' he said.

Many Literacy Corps members, who teach villagers instead of military service, have seen the Persian version of *The Crowning Experience* as part of their training. After seeing the film, the story of a Negro teacher who from humble beginnings builds a great college, many said, 'We badger the Government for equipment. This teacher started with nothing but love for her people. We will copy her.'

The Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Army of Iran, General Mokhaté Rafilé, arranged for 750 cadets of the Literacy Corps to see *The Crowning Experience*. Introducing the film the general said that Iran's internal and external defence needed the moral clean-up of individual lives as the indispensable first line of defence.

Chandigarh— Governors of disputing states see 'Anything to Declare?'

THE GOVERNOR of Punjab, Dr D C Pavate and the Governor of Haryana, B N Chakravarty sat side by side at a performance this week of the MRA revue *Anything to Declare?* at Tagore Theatre in Chandigarh.

Chandigarh, India's most beautiful modern city designed by the architect Le Corbusier, hit world headlines in February, when rioting broke out on the

issue of ownership of the city. Built as the capital of Punjab, it became Union Territory in 1966 when the state of Punjab was divided to form two states, Punjab and Haryana. Bitter feelings, between the Punjabis and the Jats of Haryana, sprang to life when Chandigarh was granted to Punjab, the ownership becoming effective in another five years time. Both *The Punjab Mail* and

The Haryana Mail carried full page features on the visit of *Anything to Declare?*

Speaking at the end of the show, Rajmohan Gandhi, Chief Editor of the Indian newsweekly *Himmat*, said, 'We in India feel frustrated and even hopeless. Tonight we have seen there is something we can do to bring a solution whoever we may be. We can all learn the secret of how to become life-changers. The response to tonight's show has shown that the citizens of this world-famous city long to do something for this country and for the world. We can begin to answer the spirit of revenge which is abroad in the world today.'

The Chief Commissioner who administers the Union Territory of Chandigarh for the Central Government, attended the first performance on Saturday.

Dear Prime Minister . . .

Twelve year-old schoolgirl writes to Indian Prime Minister

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

I am writing to you about a rather serious problem now prominent in our country. India has been making advancements in many fields. She boasts being almost self-sufficient in food. Her manufactured goods are being recognised in the world market. She also has a nuclear power station recently set up. But are the common people really satisfied in all this. I am sorry to say no.

What are the reasons for their disappointment? There are many. India of today is at war with herself in the sense that her states are fighting among themselves and so are people of different communities fighting with each other. India is not united. I mean to say that if the Government of India does not take a serious look at the problems of the states and people, I think no longer will there be a nation called India. Each state will separate and form small nations of their own. History repeats itself runs a saying. It is true. Like before, some great power like Russia or even America will take advantage of our disputes and conquer our country which Mahatma Gandhi nursed for a long time and gave up his whole life for its freedom. Alas the dreams that he visualised will be shattered.

How can we, the younger generation, help to build a strong, clean and united India? This is a question asked by many a person. I think the young students play an important role in the future of India. Look at the student riots. If they were not there I think India would be in a much more peaceful state. I have a few suggestions to help these people who ask questions about their role in the

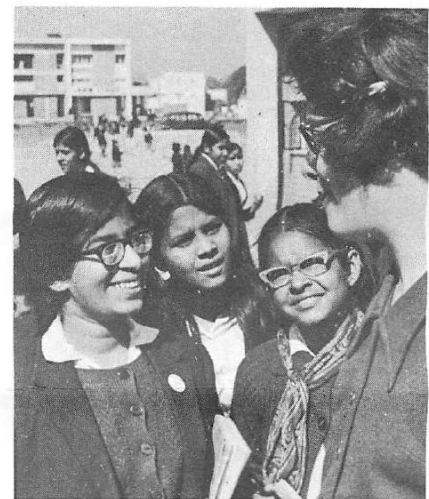
future. These are the rules I would follow to build India up.

I am just a twelve year old who cannot afford to rally huge meetings and processions. The trouble is everybody wants to do this. Each thinks he is the greatest. First of all I must learn to respect the rights of others. I should give others also a chance instead of myself stealing the show every time. Secondly, I should realise that all men are equal. There is no difference between a Sikh, a Hindu, a Jew, a Christian or a Muslim. We still have bitter memories of the Indo-Pak war. Many of us lost our brothers or fathers or uncles or a close friend who died fighting for our country. With this unpleasant memory, I know many of us have built up a wall of hostility towards the Pakistanis and even Muslims who are Indians.

All men are equal

I know this very well, because during the war time a Muslim girl had come newly to our class. Everyone of us deserted her as though she was something dangerous. I feel like laughing at it now when I remember how we used to cook nice sizzling stories of how her father was a spy, etc.

Still now this feeling of hatred between Hindus and Muslims is relevant in India. Young people should cast aside this feeling. Even people belonging to different castes and creeds should put aside these feelings of superiority and mix with everyone else. After all, what is the difference between a man of a high caste and that of a low one? Nothing. Everyone has got two ears, two eyes and a mouth. The people of



THE WRITER of the letter (left) and her classmates exchange ideas on how they could change their school and society with Monica von Orelli from the revue *Anything to Declare?*

high caste do not have something special.

I have formed a club with four or five friends of mine and we see to it that we mix freely with everyone. Only when we all realise that this feeling of hatred should go will India ever make progress.

India can make progress in fields concerning food, textiles, metals, etc., but is it really making progress in the hearts of people? Has the Government of yours won the hearts of the people? No. Unless we stand united we shall all fail in our duty to fulfil the dreams of the men, who achieved freedom for us. I hope that a day will come when every citizen of India shall be proud of his country and can hold his head high saying, 'I belong to India'.

Signed

A CITIZEN OF INDIA



Emily Vanderbilt Hammond

Right at the heart of every battle

EMILY VANDERBILT HAMMOND, who died on 22 February at 95 years of age, was a grand-daughter of Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, one of the founders of the New York Central Railroad, and a great industrial and financial figure of 19th century America. John Henry Hammond, her husband, was a prominent New York Attorney.

An excellent pianist and a patron of the arts, Mrs Hammond made her beautiful home in New York City a meeting place for leaders of the business and cultural worlds.

In 1949, after her husband died, she gave her country estate, Dellwood, in Westchester County, New York, with its gracious home, gardens and farm, to the work of Moral Re-Armament.

She worked throughout the world with MRA and in 1955 travelled at 80 years of age with an international force which visited 16 countries across Asia, the Middle East and in Africa in less than three months. In 1960 in the great film *The Crowning Experience*, based on the life of the American educator Mary McLeod Bethune, she played the part of the President of the Ladies Literary Club.

PEOPLE FROM 12 nations met together in London last week and honoured the memory of Emily Hammond. She was spoken of as a great American lady, a lady of privilege who could have turned a deaf ear to the needs of the world. Instead, on meeting Frank Buchman and Moral Re-Armament, she decided to take up the battle to be a remaker of the world.

'From the beginning,' said Roland Wilson, 'she was right at the heart of every battle she could lay her hands on. Her fighting spirit was ever present. She never turned back but marched forward into the fight. She is one of the historic figures in the United States around whom this mighty world advance has been built.'

Frances Bingham from Miami, Florida, remembered when, at a Moral Re-Armament world conference at Caux, Switzerland, Mrs Hammond made her gift of Dellwood, her country estate, to Frank Buchman for the work of MRA. It was the summer Communist miners from the Ruhr came to

Caux where they said they found a 'classless society.'

At one time Mrs Hammond was the president of seven women's organizations. One by one she gave them up so that she could put her whole heart into the battle Moral Re-Armament was waging.

She kept thinking for her family and how to move them to a deeper experience of God.

'We owed everything to her,' said Phyllis Konstam, the actress. 'She was like a grandmother to all our children. She had a tremendous heart. She was over eighty when she travelled with Frank Buchman. She sat on the floor cross-legged in Gandhi's ashram. I can see her in the textile mill there with Frank in India.'

Bruce Bingham quoted the Bible verse about a camel going through the eye of a needle. Mrs Hammond went through the needle's eye. She was glad to have her home used as a centre for MRA.

'She represented the true American heritage, based on belief in God,' he said. 'She honoured and respected Frank Buchman and left no doubt as to where she stood. There are other Americans who feel as she did about Frank Buchman and who are willing to live and die for what he stood for and to make his vision of a world remade come true.'

'Annie'—Launching of French translation in Paris

THE FRENCH translation of *Annie*, the story of Annie Jaeger by her daughter-in-law, Mrs William Jaeger, was launched in Paris last month. Entitled *Annie of the 200 Homes* in the French edition, the book was launched at a meeting held in the Salle de Cinéma near the Paris Bourse. Mr and Mrs William Jaeger addressed the audience of diplomats, trade union leaders, students and employers.

Mrs Jaeger was introduced by the book's translator, Miss Marielle Thiébaud of Switzerland. In her introduction Miss Thiébaud disclosed she was so moved by the story that she sold her car to pay for the French publication.

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From April 7 to May 23 1970