

# Egypt's hand of friendship

A DELEGATION of 15 of Egypt's most outstanding students is visiting Britain this week on a bridge-building operation between Egypt and Britain.

They are officially representing the Egyptian Ministry of Youth and Ein Shams, Cairo's second university, and have been attending the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly in Caux, Switzerland.

The party includes the Vice President of the 300,000 strong General Students Union, the head students of the Egyptian Academy of Theatrical Arts and of the faculty of languages at Ein Shams University, the head women students of the American University and of Mansura University, and the captain of Cairo University football team.

This initiative follows visits to Egypt of British students, some of whom are accompanying the Egyptians on the tour which is taking them to London, Oxford, Liverpool, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Introducing the delegation at Caux William Conner, an Englishman who has spent many years in the Middle East, said, 'What will the new relationship between the West and the Middle East be based on? Is it going to be based on our fears of Communism, quick commercial deals backed by bribery, the sales of sophisticated weapons and nuclear plants? If it is based on these things alone we are going to have troubles of catastrophic proportions.' Completely new aims and motives were needed in the West, he said. 'This delegation represents a hand reached out to us in the West for the building of this new relationship that is so desperately needed.'

## For all governments

The Egyptian students sang and spoke their thanks to the 720 delegates from 33 countries present at Caux.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation Miss Nohair Khalifa, the top student of the Institute of Dramatic Art said,

EGYPT *continued on page 2*

**Now on cassette!**

The 13 songs from the LP

### WATER FOR A THIRSTY LAND

Overseas £2.25 including postage

Inland £2.36 including VAT and postage

Available from MRA Books

Volume 22 No 44 LONDON 24 AUGUST 1974 5p

# NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT



The 'Oratorio for our Times', an 80 minute work by Félix Lisiecki and Françoise Caubel from France. The Oratorio was given three times during the French-speaking session at the Caux Assembly. Swiss, Belgian, American and British musicians and singers joined the 50 French taking part.



'Humanity is trying to take some positive steps towards a secure path and enlightenment, towards vanquishing vice, towards a better global community based on peace and love.'

She concluded, 'We Egyptians would like this conference to call on all the world, all nations and governments, to unite, to re-arm morally and spiritually, to co-exist in peace and hate materialistic trends.'

While at the Assembly the Egyptians presented a pageant of their country's greatness, sufferings and hopes. 'The voice of the Arab World echoes in East and West as we dedicate our lives to bring love, peace and happiness on earth', they sang in the finale, alongside Americans, Irish and a South African who had helped them in some scenes.

The one hour show *The Voice of Egypt* in song, dance and sketches portrayed an answer to corruption, pollution, inflation, racial hatred and religious intolerance.

### As old as humanity

Shaban El Shafei, Vice President of the General Students Union, introduced the evening. He stressed the importance of Islamic principles of man's relationship to God, and man's relationships with his fellow men.

He continued, 'The standards that MRA calls for—honesty, purity, unselfishness and love—are not new to us. These principles are as old as religion, as old as humanity. They go back to man's realisation that he is not merely a material being, that inside him there is a spirit and feeling, which is fed by principles and raised up by morals. The root of the problem goes back to the materialistic currents that creep all over the world. The only way to confront such currents is through a strengthening of morals and principles. Let us link hands in this struggle'.

These truths are readily perceived and speedily acceptable to the far flung Muslim world which can be a girder of unity for all civilization. My ancestor, the scholar Bibliander, was the first man to make the riches of the Koran available for Europe when he translated it into German 413 years ago.

**Frank Buchman**

In his world broadcast *The Electronics of the Spirit*, May 1955.

# When theory and practice become one

by Andrew Stallybrass

TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY students and young working people from 24 countries attended two consecutive Study Courses and Creative Workshops at the Moral Re-Armament centre in Caux, Switzerland. They included two official student delegations from Egypt, two groups from the Pro Deo University in Rome; school children, students in music, theology, graphic arts, medicine, political science; technicians, teachers and nurses.

Different in so many ways, we were drawn to Caux and united by the challenge of the invitation: 'Our generation stands at an historic cross-road. A society with different structures and aims, at the selfless service of all, will demand a radical change in our own living. It is

futile to discuss the problems in general terms, while refusing as individuals to pay the necessary price of building a new world... we shall be searching together how to create the dynamic force, the sense of responsibility, and to find the inspiration that will lead our generation to the transformation of man and society.'

We came to meet people from other countries, to understand the problems of the world, to find out more about MRA, to learn to deepen and pass on a faith and the knowledge of how to change oneself and others. Some explained their reasons on their inscription forms—'to live a sane community life', wrote a Swiss student, 'I'm also interested in the dynamic of silence'; 'I want to be part of building a team of students in Europe who want to do the will of God,' said a Norwegian medical student; 'I would like to be trained in this new life, and do my share in making a new world,' wrote a third, a school girl.

Each day we met in small groups before breakfast, to discuss, ask questions to know one another, invite in speakers, go deeper into the themes raised in the courses and the meetings. Then the same group worked together preparing the dining rooms and serving the meals, or as part of a cooking shift in the kitchen. So theory was at once put into practice. 'The first time I've worked so long without looking at my watch,' said a young anarchist. One party was shown around the Vaud Cantonal parliament by the youngest MP, others were welcomed to the Federal parliament by a Federal MP. An ambassador to the United Nations took a group round the international organisations in Geneva.

### A cog in a wheel?

Those taking the Study Course examined three questions:

1. What are the great issues in the world,



The Egyptian delegation meet at Caux with Garth Lean, co-author of 'The Black and White Book'.



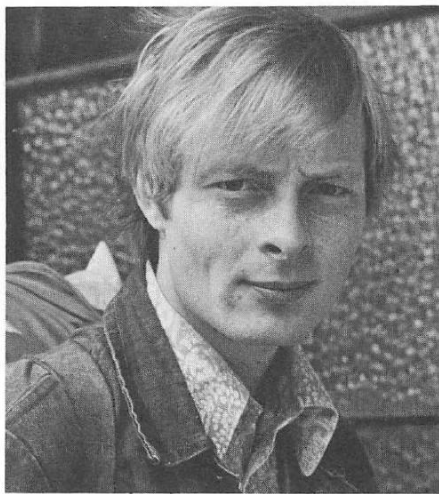
- and what lies behind them?
2. What can the individual do about these issues, or is he just a cog in a wheel?
  3. What can we do together?

We lived with the daily headlines of war and disaster in the forefront of our minds. We heard of massive needs, the crises in fuel, food and finance. A senior United Nations delegate, now working on international economic affairs in Geneva, who addressed us, concluded: 'You can make all the economic, technical and scientific plans you want, but in the last resort without a change in human nature you will not re-direct the course of history. It is one thing to call a conference to discuss a problem; but it is another thing altogether to produce the will power in nations to accept the consequences of the problem and the willingness to change. This is precisely where MRA fits into the perspective I have been describing, because MRA is world revolution, operating in every dimension - economic, social, political - and aiming at change in all these dimensions, but based on personal change.'

### Reaching people's hearts

Others of us spent our afternoons in and around the theatre - an experiment in teamwork and creation itself, rather than lessons in theory. With the help of trained actors, musicians, technicians and a mime artist, we put on for the conference an evening of sketches, mime, song, dance, poetry and instrumental music conceived and produced in the eight or nine days effective working time we had on each course.

Together we want to reach people's hearts as well as their heads with the ideas that will build an unselfish society. So we did not create just to express ourselves or to have fun. Men and women came to Caux from some of the most troubled corners of the world, so what we created needed to have relevance for



### Inflation in stereo

**I have decided to let God run my money and I think that is a solution to our excessive consumption and inflation. It meant that I have not bought some of the things which I have very much wanted to buy, and which I could have afforded to buy like a big motorbike and a good stereo. I know by experience that it does not bring me any good to buy things when I know it is wrong. I have decided to give 50 Kronen each month to MRA. I have also decided to give the money that I spent drinking on Saturdays to Panchgani. It also means to use my money to travel to conferences - Berlin, or here at Caux - to help to build a force of young people who are really committed in their own lives to change things in the world.**

ØYVIN HASTING,  
medical student, Norway

them and their situations. A main session of the conference on the class war inspired 'Class war through the ages', a wordless series of scenes showing exploitation from the stone age era through the French revolution to our times, and ending with the hope of an answer as we serve each other. The struggle for power and domination in the family and in the international arena evoked humorous episodes, and the rich-poor gap, and freedom, anarchy and dictatorship also inspired 'creations'.

### Relatively wrong!

What can we do, and what can we do together? Well, facing up to absolute moral standards - honesty, purity, unselfishness and love - gave us a beginning. For many of us it started with the family - things to put right at home, difficult letters to write, honest apologies to be made for 'things that were definitely wrong even measured by relative moral standards', as one said. 'You can't help others when you don't know

how to solve your own problems,' said a medical student, who had written to his father. 'This letter has made me free,' he said. His advice was not to waste time before doing what you know is right.

Belgian National Day was marked by Flemish and Walloon speaking together of their new determination to work for unity. This note was echoed by a Maltese girl and an expatriate, who together presented a Maltese flag to the conference.

To aid continued action and keep in touch across national frontiers, students decided to circulate a regular newsletter. Students of political science and economics decided to hold an 'MRA day' in their university in Rome. Some of us are freeing ourselves to take part in a mobile 'European action group' - and we are already invited to Berlin, where an international MRA youth conference was held last Easter.

### Logic and hypocrisy

We are enthusiastic, yes. But it is not just fizz - flat in five minutes. We are serious about the need for change, and we are willing to stake everything on it - to shape our own future in the light of the needs of our times. 'Somehow people don't find it sensational that millions of people should go hungry every day, or suffer oppression,' said one student. 'But what would happen if there was a war? I would have to go out anyway then, and people would never know if I'd come back! It should be absolutely logical to go out into action during peace time, so that war never comes.'

An Oxford University student, Dennis Nowlan, defined the kind of revolution we are out for: 'A few years ago I thought I was a revolutionary. I was very committed to the sort of revolution that takes the stick from the man who's beating you and starts to beat him. I took a revolutionary standpoint towards every established institution, except myself! I thought that it was the capitalists, the politicians who were responsible for the evils in the world and I thought that they could not change. Therefore they would have to be destroyed. The logic is simple. I hated the greed of the big industrialists but I stole from my teacher and I hated the dishonesty of politicians but I cheated in exams. Above all I hated hypocrisy!

'One day the uncomfortable truth did flash upon me, and I recognised that I was responsible for the evils in the world and that I would have to change and that I could change. And now I come to Caux to develop my commitment, my understanding of revolution that can change men's hearts throughout the world and build a new world, where we do not beat each other, and where we do not blame each other, but where we learn to love each other.'



# Ministers take drop in salary

A BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN leader warned at the Caux Assembly of the dangers of leaving the leadership of nations to moral dwarfs. 'We have too few men of integrity, men who are there to serve the people, who are accessible to the ordinary man, who work for the real needs of their people,' he said.

Lennox Sebe, Chief Minister of the Ciskei Homeland, referred to the 'epidemic rush for power and riches in many of the so-called great powers'. He himself had accepted a £300 drop in salary from his previous job to become Chief Minister, and the other homeland leaders had made similar sacrifices, he said. 'If the people call you to lead them, and you do not answer the clarion call, then history will sentence you, and there is no court of appeal from the sentence of history.'

He said, 'The Western countries were the first to be civilized, to know the intricacies of government, freedom and equality. Now when some are falling by the wayside, new hope may come from the developing nations.'

Other Homeland leaders who have been attending the Caux Assembly include Chief Lucas Mangope, Chief



South African Homeland leaders are welcomed on arrival at Caux

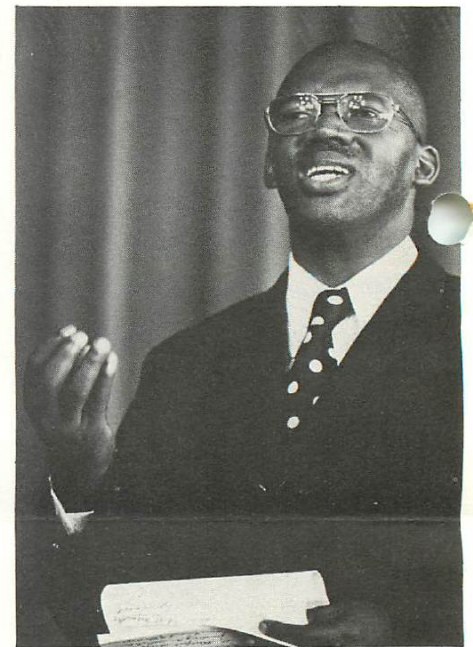
Minister of Bophuthatswana; Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi, Chief Minister of Gazankulu; Dr Cedric Phatudi, Chief Minister of Lebowa; Chief Makapan, Bophuthatswana Minister of Justice; and C K Mageza, Gazankulu Minister of the Interior.

## Hungry Homelands

Introducing his fellow Chief Ministers, Lennox Sebe told the Assembly, 'The Homelands are hungry for bread, for peace, and for a new world order and that will come through human dignity. This is what we have to fight for - a new social and economic order for this and all future generations. In lands where everyone cares enough and everyone shares enough, all would have enough.'

He concluded, 'These leaders from the Homelands will give a new message to this conference and can offer a new leadership and integrity to the great powers of Europe. I believe the Homelands will be ablaze for Christ.'

Chief Minister Sebe



# Customers asked to buy less

A SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESSMAN believes that the root of inflation is simply fear and greed and that the answer to it must start with himself. Jacques Shaltiel, Managing Director of Jaqmar Motor Spares Ltd, Pretoria, in his Autumn newsletter to his customers writes, 'Our present day challenge is: are we going to stay in our armchairs, listen to the news and say "shame" while we are sipping our whisky or analyzing our sales figures, or are we going to try and have the same quality of life that we expect from our leaders in our families and in our businesses?'

He maintains that the motor trade can show the way to the nation in being thoroughly honest and in placing the interest of the public above its own. He says that his company is determined to reduce its profits if necessary and delay as much as possible any increase in prices. In what he calls 'a challenge for us and an expensive decision' he is even urging his customers to buy less according to their real requirements. 'A change in our way of thinking, a victory over our fear and greed in every aspect of our life will bring inflation to its knees.'

To his competitors he writes, 'Nobody seems to know the price of anything today. But we know in our heart when the price is right or wrong. We cannot feel happy if we take advantage of the economic chaos in the world and the galloping inflation, when we are accomplices of that inflation and know that we can beat it. We invite our competitors to follow Jaqmar's example and to fight

inflation with us. We invite our customers to be honest and to give to the customers the benefit of low prices.'

The South African businessman says that he developed his new attitudes when he attended the Moral Re-Armament International Assembly in Pretoria last Easter. He told that Assembly, 'While I was following the progress of the conference I was leading a double life. Every single moment I could spare I was working on a stock sheet of the shop. Suddenly I realised that I was over-stocking in many cases. Overstocking and inflation are caused by greed, because we only order more than we need because we want more profit, no matter what happens to the world; and by fear, because we fear goods may be scarce, and so we must have them no matter what happens to other people. Changed businessmen can fight inflation and save the world. I was keeping myself to myself. From now on I am giving myself to a greater ideology, to God.'