



MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

EASTER ASSEMBLY
*'History's Highroad for Britain' is the theme
of an Assembly to be held in London from
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AMERICANS: UGLY, LOVELY OR CHANGED?

ESCORTED by the top-hatted, mace-bearing, Sergeant-at-Arms, the Lieutenant-Governor and the President of the Senate, he made his way to the rostrum. For the first time in the history of the Chamber the paraphernalia of television was admitted. Three hundred senators, members of the House of Representatives and guests were present. Peter Howard was to address the Massachusetts Senate.

Since 1 January he and an international party of fifteen have covered 14,000 miles within the United States. Jean Campbell wrote in the *Evening Standard* last week of the visit of certain British leaders to the United States: 'The one thing the Americans are yearning for in the English at this moment is certainty.' They met it in the convictions of Howard.

'Crossless Christians'

'There is no compulsion for anyone to enter public life,' he said to election-conscious congressmen, 'but if a man or woman decides to run for public office then their private life becomes the concern of the public.'

'Crossless Christians,' he told churchmen, 'do more to camouflage the reality of Christ's revolution from humanity than any Communist or Fascist.'

To the under-25's, who by 1966 will form half the population, his challenge was 'Take on the most fascinating, difficult, task—a revolution of character rapid and radical enough to outstrip the technological advance of our times.'

To those who asked about the Supreme Court's decision which removed the Lord's Prayer from state schools, he answered, 'No Supreme Court can prevent any heart, any home, any school, any industry, from obeying the guidance that a Supreme Being gives to conscience and to heart. If we curb God in the upbringing of our children as we curb dogs in our streets, we are on the road to tyranny.'

In a round-the-clock timetable of speaking engagements and interviews with leaders of black and white,

of church and state, of education and the unions, he called on them to answer the Ugly American—not with the Lovely American—but with the New American, 'the Changed American with a revolutionary aim far greater than that of any Communist, willing to back his revolutionary aim with the discipline and sacrifice of his own life.'

TV station 'swamped'

From Miami his speech was broadcast to Cuba and the Caribbean. In Los Angeles a CBS-TV station reported being 'swamped' by 'hundreds of calls' after an interview. In Chicago eight hundred at the world's first Rotary club gave a standing ovation. At San Francisco's Commonwealth Club, foremost forum on the Pacific Coast, three-quarters of those who applied for seats had to be refused. At Little Rock University, and on campuses across the country, students flooded down the aisles to talk and apply for invitations to be trained at Mackinac. (See next page.)

'America,' says Peter Howard, 'seems like a colossal Father Christmas moving from country to country with a bulging pack, handing out gifts to all those who need gifts. But the children not only grab the gifts, they try to pick the pockets of Father Christmas, abuse him behind his back, and seem to want to get rid of him as soon as they have stripped him bare. America needs to appeal to the conscience of humanity as well as to the pocket of other nations. She needs an idea in her head and an answer in her heart as well as a bag of gifts on her back, a roll of dollars in one hand and a holocaust of bombs in the other.'

The Hollywood *Citizen News* wrote: 'Every American should have heard Howard's words and given some thought to what he said.' The Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner* told its readers: 'All men, whatever race or religion, should stand up and accept Mr. Howard's special challenge for Los Angeles.'

America needs ideological clear-sightedness. For lack

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of this quality, said the visiting Englishman, some State Department officials were prone to hail revolutionary leaders in Africa as new George Washingtons, whereas many were new Castros or Chou En-lais. 'It would be an irony if the White House with sincerity opened the door of the Black Continent to the lordlings of the Red Square.'

For lack of ideology in America, Cuba—where there were no Russian bases, no Russian roubles, no Russian men in the brothels—was seized by a red hand. He added, 'If the British continue to criticize the Americans for selling wheat to Russia and the Americans to criticize the British for selling buses to Cuba—that's what will suit Castro best.'

For lack of a moral ideology America and Britain had ceaselessly told everybody else how to live and what to do, but continued to live as they pleased. 'Such materialism is the driving force of the philosophy of Karl Marx. It would indeed be an irony if at a time when a great crack appeared in the steel fabric of the Communist world, free men destroy themselves with the very materialism they so hate and fear in their enemies.'

'Giantdom of spirit'

But the world would owe her future liberty to America, proclaimed Howard wherever he went. Her new aim, 'the new maturity the hour demands'; her different races, 'an asset no other country possesses'.

'My faith is that America, with the greatness of her past and the generosity and vigour of her present aims, will grow to a giantdom of the spirit in the coming years which will secure peace and build a new world.'

Introducing the guest speaker to the Massachusetts Senate, its President, Senator John Powers, recounted the success of his play, *Space Is So Startling*, in Boston in September. He described how two of the cast, U.S. Olympic gold medallists John Sayre and Rusty Wailes, 'spoke from this rostrum to us all.'

Two thousand youth to make feature film

TWO THOUSAND high school and college students from North and South America are expected this summer at the Moral Re-Armament Assembly for youth at Mackinac Island, Michigan.

Thomas Wilkes, 28, son of a Wall Street banker, and spokesman for the conference steering committee, outlined the aims of the Assembly:

1. Homes in which families learn to live together;
2. Industries in which management and labour learn to work together;
3. A nation in which all races, colours and classes learn, with other nations, to lead the whole world forward into the next stage of human evolution;
4. To raise a force of young Americans more dis-

'I was encouraged,' Powers continued, 'because I had the privilege later of presenting them to the late President Kennedy and having him publicly thank them for the contribution they are making to world understanding.'

Following a standing ovation at the end of Howard's speech—described by one Senator as the finest he'd ever heard—Powers invited all present to a reception in the adjoining room, the original Senate Chamber. 'After the reception,' he added, 'I am taking Mr. Howard with the Senate Chaplain, Monsignor Griffin, and a police escort to an audience with His Eminence the Cardinal.'

Kennedy understood

The title of Howard's Senate speech, 'Design for Dedication', was taken from the late President Kennedy's speech from the same State House just before his inauguration. 'Your late son belonged to us all,' he told the senators. 'I met and talked with him in Washington about the work of Moral Re-Armament. He understood it. He comprehended the heart of the matter. He knew men must be ready to sacrifice, sweat, strive and stride together forward into a new age of justice, brotherhood and sanity if civilization was not to perish. It would be a mockery of his ideal if after his death we continued merely to praise, mourn or even glorify him but went on living as many of us lived before—selfishly, comfortably, undisturbed. It is time now for us to bestir ourselves to follow the furrow he drew across the earth and beyond the horizon.'

'We live in an age of heroes,' he said. 'No time has ever offered man such perils or such prizes. Man can either provide a full life for humanity, or destroy himself with the problems he has created. The test of this century will prove to be whether man matches the growth of wealth and power with the growth of spirit and character—or whether, like an infant heedlessly playing with terrible toys, he destroys the house he would have inherited.'

ciplined, more revolutionary and more dedicated to building a world that works than any Communist is to Communism or any materialist to his materialistic revolution.

The Mackinac youth conference opens on 25 June with two four-week sessions.

Wilkes said that a central part of the conference will be the creation of a full-length feature film written and acted by youth and produced by them under the direction of film industry professionals.

The Assembly will include lectures by guest speakers and seminars conducted by experts. The sports programme will be under the direction of Olympic champion athletes.

'WHAT COLOUR IS GOD'S SKIN?'

'That was one of the greatest addresses on civil rights ever delivered. It was a blueprint for the world.' In these words Judge Austin T. Walden, a Southern Negro in the forefront of the Civil Rights struggle for half a century, described an address by Mr. Peter Howard in Atlanta, Georgia, on 23 February, from which the following extracts are given:

ONE HUNDRED years ago and more, President Lincoln signed his Proclamation of Emancipation. It was a revolutionary aim. Today our aim is more revolutionary and more far-reaching in fulfilment. It is a revolution for every red-blooded American. And I must remind you that every American's blood is red. It is and ever will be the greatest revolution of all time whereby the Cross of Christ will transform the modern world.

The different races in America are her strength and glory. They can be her supersonic missile of revolution in the world. They are no handicap. They are an asset no other country possesses.

Red to yellow eyeball

Supposing America with her Negro, Latin American, Caucasian and Indian minorities was able to proclaim in honesty to the listening earth, 'Come and see how all men everywhere are meant to live. We need you all in our bid to change world history and change the destiny of our age. In this dangerous and essential task black men, white men, all men, are needed. Here in this land we live like sons and daughters of God, who created all men equal, planting in each human heart the knowledge of right and wrong that makes man different from a beast.'

Africa, emerging into freedom, would leap with joy and clasp hands across the ocean. Asia would turn her eyes to the West. Latin America would forget the flirtation of Fidel Castro and follow the advances of her comrade in the North. Peking and Moscow would cease to glare, yellow to red eyeball, at each other as they realized the days when they planned to take over Mr. and Mrs. U.S.A. were outmoded because Mr. and Mrs. U.S.A. were possessed of a master plan to embrace and change non-Communist and Communist alike and carry all humanity forward in the next step of human evolution.

Pigmentation by legislation

This brings me to a question no man can answer. What colour is God's skin? In fifty years, if things continue as they are, half the population of the earth will be Chinese. The South African government seems to think the Chinese are black. Contrariwise, because South Africa does much trade with Japan, the same government says Japanese are white.

On the day President Kennedy was assassinated I talked with two American Negroes. They agreed that

Congress would probably pass a strong Civil Rights Bill. But one of the Negroes said, 'Whatever laws pass Congress I can never trust a white man because it's in my bones to hate them all.'

I told those American Negroes how I, an ordinary Englishman, made the experiment of listening to the voice of God, the inner voice that speaks to each human heart.

I saw it was the selfishness, arrogance and pride of men like myself that had caused untold misery, suffering and injustice. When I spoke to men and women of Mau Mau detained in the Athi River Camp of Kenya, they covered their faces as I drew near. They did not look at a white man. My first words were, 'I was born white. I could not help it.'

When I had finished speaking they said, 'If we had dreamed white men could speak and think as we heard you speak today there would have been no Mau Mau in Kenya.'

White man in minority

For a long time the white man has been in a minority on the face of the earth. By an accident of history, by design of power, white men have controlled much of the planet. That time is swiftly ending. Communications, education, automation—all will combine to shift the power balance of humanity.

God made men in different colours. A white man's world, in the sense that a man because of the colour of his skin is closer to God than his neighbour, affronts the will of the Almighty and the understanding and conscience of humanity. So does a black man's world. So does a world of yellow or red domination. We need a world where all men walk the earth with the dignity of brotherhood that should be normal to all who accept the Fatherhood of God.

Lust and leaven

The Negro is neither worse nor better than his neighbour. The same is true of the white man. We all have our loftier sides and our more debased. The heart, which could and should be the leaven of society, lies forgotten between pride of intellect and lust of desire.

America will set continents free when she expresses lasting freedom in her own heart—freedom from the immaturity of hate, underdevelopment of selfishness and infanthood of impurity and dirt.

Today the long-awaited tide of history flows toward the non-white races. Those tides will lift the burdens

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Bishop congratulates young writer

THE Bishop of Luxembourg, the Most Reverend Leon Lommel, received an international Moral Re-Armament force last month at his residence. They were in Luxembourg giving a programme of ideological training sponsored by the Prime Minister, Minister of Education and the City.

The Bishop, who is responsible directly to the Pope, compared the work of MRA in different European countries with that of the apostles. 'I have heard much about your work,' he said, 'and believe that we are united, especially on one point—the selfless service of our fellow

men. In this we are also united with our late Pope John XXIII who had a great task and included everybody.'

Turning to Bjoern Ryman, the author of the Scandinavian play, *The Wind is Shifting*, the Bishop said, 'I am particularly glad that a young writer stands up against the decadence of our time.'

The Minister of Education arranged a special showing of the MRA plays for senior classes of all Luxembourg schools. A performance in the main army camp, arranged by the Ministry of Defence, was crowded with 750 officers and men.

Entertaining made easy

THE INSURANCE RECORD' for March, 1964, under the heading "All Languages" says: 'From time to time one may be faced with entertaining in London for a few days an insurance official from abroad whose English may be by no means perfect.

'One way of spending an enjoyable evening is to visit the Westmin-

ster Theatre (where *The Diplomats* is now running). A simultaneous translation in a foreign language can be heard anywhere in the theatre through headphones. German, French, Spanish and Italian are the regular languages provided, although arrangements can be made for others. The play itself leaves one with plenty to think about afterwards.'

'WHAT COLOUR IS GOD'S SKIN?' — *continued*

of centuries and will wipe out bloodstains in the sands of time. Be sure the tide elevates all humanity.

I hope, pray and expect that the Negro people of the United States will have the freedom, understanding and human greatness to avoid mistakes men like myself have made before them.

The black man's chance is surely coming. What will he do with it? I do not say, 'Be patient.' I say, 'Be passionate for something far bigger than colour. Be passionate for an answer big enough to include everybody, powerful enough to change everybody, fundamental enough to satisfy the longings for bread, work and hope of a new world that lies in the heart of the teeming millions of the earth.'

Segregation yesterday. Confronta-

tion today. Transformation tomorrow. Let the hands of the black man stretch out above the heads of governments and nationalities to embrace and welcome all people who are ready with them to remake the modern world.

I believe those who have suffered most will show the greatest passion and compassion for long-suffering humanity. I believe those who have been victims of the worst discrimination will be the first to heal the hates and fears of others because they themselves are free from fear and hate.

Those who have passed through the fires of persecution can hold forth one hand to persecutors and persecuted alike and with the other uplift the flame of freedom to illuminate the earth.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Caux, Switzerland—'Man and the Challenge of the Modern World' is the theme of a conference to be held here from 26 March to 5 April. The responsibility of educators, artists, men in industry and those concerned with aid to newly-developing countries will be dealt with by specialists.

Ottawa—A week's run in the capital climaxed *El Condor's* four months' tour of French Canada. The Latin American play will open shortly, in English, in Toronto.

Paraiba State, Brazil—Dockworkers from Recife are backing a campaign with the film *The Crowning Experience* in this north-eastern State, the scene of recent bloody conflicts between the Peasant Leagues and landowners.

Sapporo, Japan—Governor Machimura of Hokkaido, Japan's northern island, arranged and opened an Assembly on the theme 'Light from the North'. The entire three-hour opening session was covered by three T.V. stations.

London—The Minister of Health for Uganda, the Hon. Dr. E. Lumu, on the day of his arrival in Britain, came with over 100 Uganda students to *The Diplomats*.

'N.Y. Times' Report

'GRANDSON Works for Gandhi Aims—He Heads Movement in India to Root Out Corruption'. This was the headline over a Reuter dispatch in the Sunday edition of the *New York Times* on 1 March.

The dispatch said: 'Rajmohan Gandhi is trying to build a new national movement aimed at rooting out corruption and the caste system. He wants it to be above political interests and strong enough to bring about a "social, economic and political revolution" in India.'

The report quotes Gandhi: 'I believe that the imperialism of materialism, corruption and class war is far more dangerous to Indian tradition and future than British Imperialism ever was.'