

## Caribbean ease

MORAL AND SPIRITUAL IDEALS are coming from the lips of former Barbados and West Indies batsman, Conrad Hunte, with the same ease with which strokes flew from his elegant bat, according to the *Montserrat Mirror*.

The weekly paper, published in Plymouth, capital of Montserrat in the Leeward Islands, carried an interview with the six-member MRA force which has just spent a month visiting five Caribbean islands—Barbados, St Vincent, Grenada, Dominica and Montserrat.

Radio stations on the islands have carried interviews and reports, and the international group drawn from Britain, South Africa, Jamaica and Barbados has spoken to

schools and met leaders in education, sport and government.

The *Montserrat Mirror* quotes Hunte:

'It is not enough to turn the other cheek. But we must have compassion on those who hurt us, then fight even more militantly to dethrone injustice. The justice of our cause must be ennobled by noble means.

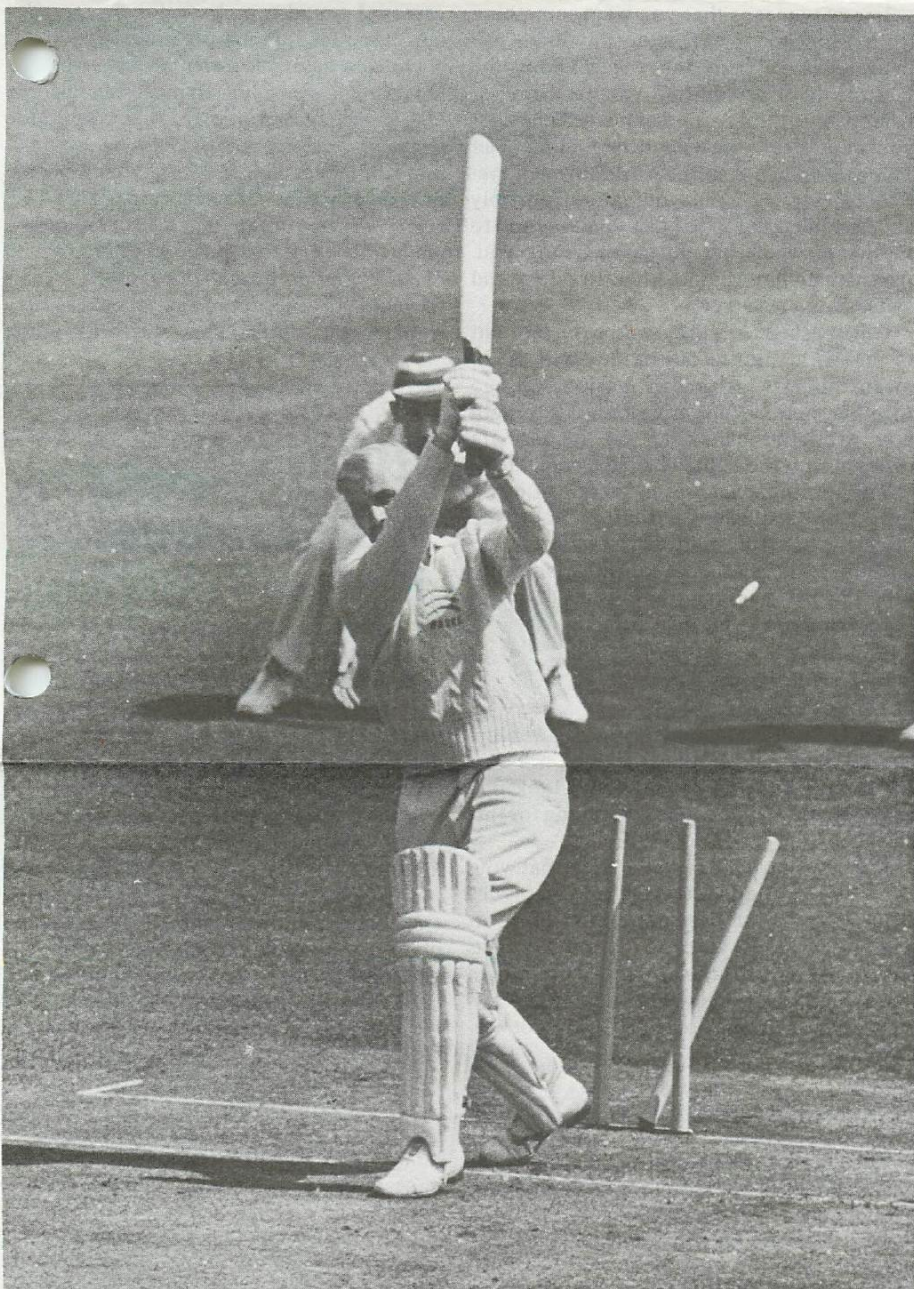
'Englishmen taught us how to play cricket, but we have shown them how to win... we can take the values of democracy... make them walk about on two legs both in private and in public, then give them back to the continents that first developed them.

'Faith without morality is empty and morality without faith is blind and so we need a synthesis of both faith and morality.

'New families can build a new nation and new nations can build a new world. This must be structured on absolute moral standards.

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**NEW  
WORLD  
NEWS**  
FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT



T C Dodds, playing for the MCC at Lords

Photo: Sport and General

## Hit hard and enjoy it (But don't miss!)

THIS STRIKING PHOTOGRAPH (left) does not herald the start of the cricket season or forecast England's performance against the West Indies!

It is the author of the autobiography *Hit Hard and Enjoy It* in action. 'In all the annals of cricket there has been no player with so remarkable and inspiring a story to tell,' wrote Neville Cardus, doyen of cricket writers.

The player is T C 'Dickie' Dodds who represented Essex for 13 years.

Our picture, one must admit, hardly captures the skill of a cricketer, who during his career in first-class cricket scored almost 20,000 runs, with 17 centuries. Thirteen times he passed 1000 runs in a season, with 2147 in one year.

### World XI or madhouse

Perhaps it illustrates better the words of a former Essex captain quoted in the *Daily Telegraph* Peterborough column last week: 'Has there ever been a more surprising cricketer than Dickie Dodds?... his batting is fit for a World XI or the madhouse.'

But it is more than sporting flair that leaps from the pages of this new book which will be published by *The Cricketer* next week.

Neville Cardus wrote in the foreword to the book completed a week before he died, 'In an age when TV and the media need to create more or less glamorous and fictitious personalities, many a genuine character of individuality and skill is overlooked or provides only a ten day's wonder. I hope that before the reader has gone through this book

HIT HARD Contd p4

# Summer thunder

by Brian Boobbyer

THE SUMMER TERM is very attractive. Nature is at her best. And if you study nature at all closely you cannot help believing in God.

But the ways of the world are even more attractive than usual, voices that say 'satisfy yourself, prove yourself'. Yield, and you lose any purity you have. Then you lose your faith. Cynicism replaces it.

St Augustine talked about 'the thought, the picture, the fascination and the fall'. You study a book and your mind is elsewhere. You talk to a person and you're not listening. You look, but you don't see.

To keep up appearances because I still call myself a Christian, I live on duty. Then I push or possess people to draw them to a faith which I'm not living.

## Ironed but not washed

Frank Buchman used to say, 'If you live the life people will beat a path to your door, and tell you things about themselves they've never told anybody else. This is the beginning of real friendship. It is chapter one verse one of changing people.' He also talked about 'Christians who are starched and ironed without being washed: dead from the feet up'.

Paul in his letter to the Galatians lists the fruits of the lower nature: 'temper, envy, bitterness, selfish ambition', and of the spirit: 'love, joy, peace, patience, generosity, flexibility, humility'.

And Paul's own life demonstrated the passion and universality that can only come from a pure heart. Without purity, you use or exclude people. You concentrate on some person, thought or habit, and you cannot possibly have found room for the world inside you. With purity, everyone is your team, no one is beyond change, and you know that you have no monopoly of God's ways and ideas. Moreover, with a pure heart you can listen to God and find a strategy for a nation. Purity and strategy go together.

## Nice or new

C S Lewis in his book *Mere Christianity* has a chapter heading 'Nice people or new men'. In it he says, 'You will never make a good impression on other people until you stop thinking about what sort of impression you are making. Even in literature and art no man who bothers about originality will ever be original. Whereas if you simply try to tell the truth you will, 9 times out of 10, become

original without even having noticed it.'

I have two special passions, sport and nature, both kindled by definite people: sport by the tremendous enthusiasm of my father; nature by a master at school who took us for walks and eagerly pointed out every bird, every sound. Every walk I've taken ever since has been different because of it, through the woods or just in the garden. There is nothing like nature to slow you down and renew your spirit.

## Blasphemy of pessimism

I caught my faith in the same way, from the wholeheartedness and care of certain people. No one imposed it.

Brother Maseo asked St Francis of Assisi, 'You are not good looking or particularly well educated. Why does the world run after you?' Francis replied, 'No one is more insufficient and worthless than me, and God has chosen me to confound the grandeur, strength, beauty and wisdom of the world.' Honesty, humility.

Impurity means that you want something from someone: sex, understanding, approval. G K Chesterton wrote about 'the blasphemy of pessimism'. You are afraid of what people think, afraid of not getting what you want. Fear paralyses, dries you up. And you can only look at the world through eyes that cannot see. And you cannot possibly expect something to happen to others and to the world which has not happened to you. And you do not want it either. Impurity and cynicism go together.

Christ asked us, and asks us, to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth. Light means honesty, salt means purity. They go together, because impurity loses its strength and attractiveness when its details are brought into the light. Then you can hate it.

The spiritual exercises of Ignatius Loyola have this sequence: 'Examine your life honestly, hate sin, study Christ's life, choose a course in life in accordance with God's will, take in the passion and resurrection of Christ, imitate Him, love Him.'

## Looking up

An Oxford student recently cleaned up her life. She said, 'It was as if I was walking all the time looking down. Now I look up, and I see people.' Now she is planning for the nation.

The apostle Peter wrote, 'Now that you have, by obeying the truth, made your souls clean enough for a genuine love of your fellows, see that you do love each other fervently, and from the heart.' Clean enough to love people genuinely so that we draw men and nations to God and not to ourselves.

## A marching army

Then perhaps we can see happen what G K Chesterton described as happening to the Franciscans: 'The servants of God, from being a besieged garrison, became a marching army, and the ways of the world echoed with thunder with the tramping of their feet.'

# Outside the ivory tower

by Ellsabeth Tooms

The following article appeared in the Oxford University newspaper 'The Cherwell', in its editorial page 'Platform' column.

I HATE OXFORD. Is it not, for all its brilliance, a sham, a dead city? Three years is time enough to grow up and, through bitter experience, assume the cynicism that makes a hollow heart, that cynicism which is the curse of Oxford. But behind the fun and games, I found a purpose for living and a new hope for the Oxford I love.

Outside the ivory tower we see a world the grip of ever-intensifying crises, people lost, confused and in pain. It is a world for which Oxford needs to take up its responsibility of leadership. Here are young people of every nation, an intellectual elite, the rulers of the future. Each should have a chance to learn that quality of living which can carry us all through disaster and success to build an international, classless society founded on mutual trust. Oxford's mood

# Inside the wasps' nest

by Steve Elliott Lockhart

A student at Plymouth Polytechnic MY RELATIONSHIP WITH MRA has been a sort of shotgun wedding—I was dragged up the aisle, my heels well dug in, by the inner voice!

Last October, my self-made world collapsed around my ears after a 27 year lifetime of evasion and compromise. I had faith at the time in myself, and liked to pick and choose the bits I liked best from the philosophies and religions of the world—the bits that felt most comfortable of course!

Suddenly I was faced with the real me, and I knew I had to live a life governed from the heart, and started listening to my inner voice which led me painfully out of the ruins.

I seemed to be drawn to MRA people and I was recommended to go and see *Song of Asia*. I was very impressed with the cast's honesty and sparkle, but I felt I was already doing what I could to put my own world in order, and took the pessimistic view that I had no contribution to make towards inducing changes in the world outside.

colours the future, and we must take on the responsibility of our undeserved privileges.

In practical terms, I know only one place to begin—with ourselves. The way we live matters and straight living means effectiveness. I decided to measure my life against the ABSOLUTE standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love. In thinking of purity I knew I wanted the clarity and passion that purity creates. So I decided to stop drinking and flirting. It was the beginning of a new life free from the bondage of social conformity and cynicism, free to love my friends and care for others. Then we need to learn in quiet the secret of men like Wilberforce and Keir Hardie, the secret of listening to and obeying our inner voice.

### Oxford beacon

A friend who was rusticated for a year, tried this idea and had the thought to tell college that he had cheated his entrance exams. He was free from that wrong to help others to be straight. Surprised, but intrigued, college invited him to return. These decisions are small and personal but unless we make them we will be ill-prepared for the big ones. Unless each one of us comes alive in this way, then I fear that our world will disintegrate and freedom become a dream. I believe that with the guidance of God, Oxford will become a beacon of hope in a darkening world, a symbol of integrity, honour and adventure. And that is what Moral Re-Armament is all about; that is the challenge to you and me.

But life still had plenty of knocks left for me, and at Easter I found myself in the company of a bunch of students on my way to an Easter Conference in Holland, (see NWN vol 24 no 27), to see what I was living for. At the conference, I surfaced from the trough of self-interest and happily accepted that God's plan for my life was far less likely to go wrong than mine, and put my life and trust into His hands. In a quiet moment, I received the thought of starting a little wasps' nest in my home area.

### The natural way

I wanted to give the opportunity and challenge of letting God run one's life to my neighbours, known and unknown, so that they too could benefit from this natural way of living. So I invited a team down for two evenings in Plymouth last month. One evening, for student friends, carried the title, 'Life size construction kit—How to assemble a better society', in which film, songs, sketches and personal experiences were shared. Then for the next night, I took a lead from the housewives at the Festival Hall last year, who booked the biggest hall available and prayed to fill it. I booked Plymouth's Lower Guildhall for a showing of *Cross Road* and started praying. It was not completely filled with people, but certainly with spirit, and it set some wasps buzzing.



An open-air performance in Stockholm of 'We need you'

Photo: Wetterfors

## Rain didn't stop play

'WE NEED YOU', a play about social reformer Peter Wieselgren, was presented last month in Stockholm as part of the celebrations of Swedish National Temperance Day. Wieselgren was one of the pioneers of the 19th Century 'People's Movements' which helped raise Sweden from poverty and drunkenness to a modern welfare state.

The cast of 50 from different parts of Sweden gave their play on an open-air stage in the historic Skansen park. They gave a vivid picture of the miserable conditions which prompted Wieselgren in 1833 to start a movement for reform which still influences Sweden today.

Rain was falling just before the play began, but it stopped, and the numerous audience stayed in spite of a biting north wind.

In his introduction to the evening, Gunnar

Wieselgren, great grandson of Peter Wieselgren, said, 'We need again the power of a spiritual, moral, social and economic revolution like the one that happened when the People's Movements broke through. With such a revolution our small nation could start to care, and help change the course of history for the 800 million in the world who are illiterate, unemployed and undernourished, and now live in conditions like those in Sweden in Peter Wieselgren's days.'

Immediately after the play, on the same stage, five MPs from all parties had a public discussion on 'The issue of alcohol and the coming national election'. One of the MPs referred to the play he had just seen and underlined that whatever is done to cure alcoholism must come from the people themselves and from convinced individuals. He was seconded by a Communist MP who had also seen the play.

## Ride on with zest

'WEST END'S ROYAL WELCOME to *Ride! Ride!*' was the headline to a full-page feature on the new John Wesley musical in the *Methodist Recorder*.

The report spoke of Church leaders from all the main denominations in the capacity audience, and continued, 'Methodist leaders from all over the connexion turned out in strength, anxious to see how Wesley was to be represented on stage to a twentieth-century public.'

The feature continues with these comments from the first-night crowd—

**General Secretary of the Baptist Union, Dr David S Russell:** 'Excellent! Quite excellent! This is a powerful presentation matching well the character of John Wesley himself. It is more than entertainment; it is proclamation.'

**Principal of the National Children's Home, the Rev Gordon E Barritt:** 'Increasingly moving as it progressed—a first class production.'

**Ex-President of the Conference and Chairman of the Plymouth and Exeter District, the Rev J Russell Pope:** 'A superb production! Let every Methodist see the rock from which we were hewn—and ask "What have we to offer this generation?" Congratu-

lations to everyone who has helped to give us *Ride! Ride!*'

**Teacher, Sue Greet, (daughter of the Secretary of Conference):** 'The background and times of the Wesleys is presented in a lively and most enjoyable evening's entertainment. The colourful characterisation and costume and tuneful music all combine to make a superb production which will appeal to a wide audience.'

**General Secretary of the Home Mission Division, the Rev George W Sails:** 'Well produced, well acted, this play builds up to an intensely moving climax. Entertainment? Evangelism? Perhaps both—it's worth finding out!'

**General Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, Canon Simon Barrington-Ward:** 'An astonishing feat! I felt that the central character, Wesley, and the whole theme of his life and work came through with life and zest.'

**The Ecumenical Officer of the Salvation Army, Lieut-Colonel George H Snell:** '*Ride! Ride!* is more than a musical, it is an experience, disturbing and challenging. Professionally and expertly presented—this will be used by God the Holy Spirit to bring

RIDE ON Contd p4

## AD-VENTURE

This text appeared in a full-page advertisement from Polydor of India in the Asian newsweekly *Himmat*:

'These workers are an uneducated, illiterate lot,' say some employers. 'What they need is discipline.'

And at last it has come: no more strikes, increased production, quicker licenses, a better supply of materials.

But ask yourself a few questions. Can a spirit of discipline and dynamism be established by government action alone? Can our people's character be changed only by laws? Do men become really honest just because they fear being found out?

The answer for any thinking man, any man of intelligence is, 'In the long run, it must be our own choice.' Many made voluntary disclosures of their wealth. What about some of us making voluntary disclosures of where we are poor—for the real poverty in our land lies in our thinking and living.

Try an honest experiment. Let your conscience have a little free speech. Stop the censorship of the unattractive facts about your own behaviour which you never admit to yourself. Take yourself before the Supreme Court that lies in your heart in one moment of silent reflection. And if you dare, write out for yourself a judgement on where your living doesn't match up to what you think the ideal Indian should be in terms of integrity, selflessness and dedication. Let yourself off on parole, on the condition that from today you will live differently.

Then you will help this nation rise. Then you will be able to look men in the eye and speak credibly of a new India, because you are new yourself.

Then we will have some of the 'self-discipline' everyone talks about. And the workers might catch it too!

## A TASTE OF ASIA

'A GROUP of young people whose message is different,' commented the CTV newsreader, introducing a three-minute item on *Song of Asia* in the six o'clock news from Ottawa last week. A song and an interview had been recorded in front of the Canadian Federal Capital's Parliament building.

The previous night, *Song of Asia* had featured for half an hour on the CJOH Network *Ottawa Aujourd'hui*. Five members of the cast were interviewed in French in Hull, across the river from the capital, for this programme which reaches Western Quebec and Eastern Ontario. After the *Song of Asia* presentation, the station announced the replacement of a film previously programmed to follow because 'it would be in bad taste'.

## AFRICAN ACTION

YOUNG PEOPLE of different races have been taking 'action groups' to many parts of South Africa as a result of the conference 'Which Way Africa?', in Johannesburg (See last week's NWN).

A multi-racial group of eleven, including a nursing sister, a bank employee, a sales representative and a social worker, visited the second largest high school in the Homeland of Lebowa.

The visit was at the invitation of Anthony Phatudi, a teacher from Lebowa. Introducing the programme on 'Our task in Africa' to the final year students, he said, 'We are not meant to point fingers at others but to fight creatively for the right.'

After different members of the group had spoken of how they had faced change in their attitudes towards other races, one student commented, 'I feel my hatred of the whites slipping away from me.'

Similar action groups are going to Swaziland, Cape Town, Bophutatswana and Natal.

### RIDE ON Contd from p3

God's people to meet the challenge of today.' Director of Christian Aid, the Rev Dr Kenneth Slack: 'Immensely enjoyable. Very well staged and often most moving.'

#### More press comments

**Methodist Recorder:** 'Seeing that John Wesley has never been given the full honour in this country that he so patently deserves, it is heartening to find any attempt to bring the story of this undoubted saint before the general public.'

'...the story reached its high point when it moved to Bedlam, a scene beautifully and realistically portrayed.'

'Gordon Gostelow gave us an entirely believable Wesley, Brendan Barry brought power and presence to the role of Hobart.'

'The Hogarth reproductions thrown on to the backcloth were a continual source of interest and pleasure and the elegant musical arrangements of the accompaniments were a constant delight. If your knowledge of John Wesley and the times in which he lived is sketchy, this play will give you the flavour of the man—his great courage, kindness, gift of speech, and his indefatigable devotion to duty in the task of saving souls.'

**The Stage and Television Today:** 'Right from the beginning, Wesley is a voice crying in the wilderness of a darkened stage. He demands the audience's attention by asking question after question about the moral health of the city.'

'The songs are, on the whole, good. Some are very good.'

'*Ride! Ride!* deserves a future in the West End.'

**Baptist Times:** 'This is an excellent performance. Well worth an evening out.'

### HIT HARD Contd from p1

he will realise that Dodds is a man to be marked out of thousands.'

It was Cardus, too, who gave him the idea of writing the book.

'Dickie,' he once said, 'you've got a faith. I can see you've got a faith. How did you get it?'

As Dickie told his story Cardus kept on interrupting: 'It's got to be a book.'

When Dickie had finished he said, 'It's like letting half volley after half volley go by and not hitting them. You must write all this in a book.'

## A promise

The Essex cricketer didn't know how to go about it.

'You can do it. Just write it down as you talk. Write for an hour a day. At the end of the week you will have so many words. At the end of the month so many. Don't make it long. There are too many long books. Now promise me you'll do it and I'll promise to write the preface.'

When Dickie Dodds had his 'benefit match' in 1957 and gave all the money received, £2,325, to Moral Re-Armament, it was national news. The three-day match also drew record crowds, as Dickie explained last week on BBC Radio Medway.

'I was determined to have a revolutionary game, to make it express what I believe in,' he told his interviewer. Contrary to normal practice he had decided to choose a midweek match and, although the weather that summer had been very bad, not to insure the event.

## Finest days, biggest crowds

'It was as if God said to me, "If I want you to have the money I'll give you the weather." They were the finest days of that summer, and the biggest crowds we had ever had to a benefit match.'

At the age of 26, he told the interviewer, had made a revolutionary commitment of his life to God. 'I tried to bring the things I believed in into everything including cricket.'

The 'most cautious, terrified opening bat in England' had asked God how to play the game and had received the answer: 'Hit hard and enjoy it.' It had transformed his cricket.

'I had no idea we were going to talk about this,' commented the interviewer. 'It's quite surprising.'

*'Hit Hard and Enjoy It'* by T C Dickie Dodds (*The Cricketer*) Hardback £4 available from your bookshop, or MRA Books. *'The Cricketer'* has made a special paperback edition available to the readers of *'New World News'*, obtainable from MRA Books only. Price £1.95 plus 25p p&p.