

# Madras Students Pay Back Rail Fares

**T**HE Sunday Standard (largest circulation in India) headlined a story from Madras by their staff reporter "Reformation in a Flood." It began:

"The cynic who said that man cannot be reformed by public meetings is mistaken. The meetings of Moral Re-Armament in the city appear to have induced morality in some members of the audience. Dr. Buchman, were he alive today, would be proud to learn that some schoolboys in the city have . . . realised the need to listen to their "inner voice" also.

"A practical effect of this is that the Southern Railway and the Madras State Transport have received remittances . . . These consist of the train and bus fares they (schoolboys) should have paid, but did not. The officials of the two organizations must have been agreeably astonished to learn of the decision.

## Youth Realises

"Youth never does thing by halves. The schoolboys concerned are certain that they set up an example for the whole nation. "Unless we put an end to these small mistakes (the failure to purchase tickets)', says a letter to the General Manager of the Southern Railway, 'we cannot put an end to unemployment poverty and corruption in our land. We have decided to continue this fight for the nation throughout our lives.'

"The students also 'wish to apologize' to the Director of the State transport 'for having travelled ticketless in buses.' In returning the money they added, 'The idea of doing this is that all the others, young and old, would stop cheating the Government.'

"To both letters are appended long lists of names and the money paid by each, presenting a saga of sacrifice'

A few days later students at the Madras Engineering College burned filthy literature in front of the college office. One student reading by the light of the flames shouted forth their proclamation, "India needs a national clean-up. The time has come to halt the brainwashing of India by the perverted, immoral and ditty. We must now destroy the wave of filthy literature that is sweeping across our nation, sapping our manhood, and destroying our national strength. We have decided to burn all such literature in our hostels."