

## Australians start 'A wholly new way of doing things' . . .

FACING THE DECADE of the 70's, Australia looks back on the 60's as ten years of unprecedented growth, especially in mineral and industrial development.

But for many the boom is something they only read about and other issues loom larger. In 1969, reports indicated that more time was lost in industrial stoppages than in any year for the last twenty.

Education systems in all States have come in for heavy criticism from teachers leading to newspaper advertisement campaigns and several strikes.

Violence in past months in parts of Papua-New Guinea has shown that the path to independence will not be smooth.

In dealing with these issues, the MRA conference, 'A Wholly New Way of Doing Things', held in Adelaide, has been reported by press, radio and TV.

Speaking on New Year's Day, J R Coulter, from Melbourne, said, 'Is this not the time in our national life when we are meant to give to other nations? Not just from the bounty of a booming economy, but in terms of character rather than cash. Could it be that we work out something with the people of Papua-New Guinea that could bring an answer to the bloodshed in Africa?'

Amongst the 350 delegates from eleven countries who came was the leader of the ruling Liberal Party in the South Australian Upper House. Others included a State Cabinet Minister, the Co-adjutor Archbishop of Adelaide, Archbishop J W Gleeson, the Secretary of the Victorian Employers' Federation, S M Gilmour, and the President and three executive members of the South Australian Institute of Teachers.

### . . . in Education

In his first public address since his appointment as shadow Minister of Education in the Federal Parliament, Kim Beazley, MP, said to the conference, 'Human nature can be changed: that

is the core of all creative education.'

Newspapers carried his convictions that 'the purpose of education should be to engage the mind and will in the production of excellence in civilization. The crisis of our time is not the colour of our skin but the death of our conscience.'

Mrs Short, President of the Woman's Branch, and Miss Thelma Parker, an executive member of the South Australian Institute of Teachers, were able to give concrete evidence of grievances between teachers and the Education Department being resolved rapidly through a new spirit in negotiations.

### . . . in Industry

Speaking on 'A Wholly New Way of doing Things in Asia', Stanley Barnes, MBE, told of his work in establishing a \$2 million condensed milk factory in Djakarta. 'The building work was done

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## Experiment in Ethiopian school

AS YOU LEAVE ASMARA, passing the outskirts to the west of the city, two giant satellite tracking stations are silhouetted against the perfectly blue sky. Against the background of man's scientific achievements, rows of uniform buildings stretch across a vast expanse of flat ground. This is Prince Makonnen Secondary School. It is the largest in Eritrea, Ethiopia's northern province. Every week more than two thousand students take turns morning and afternoon to grasp the knowledge necessary for them to play a part in constructing a modern and efficient nation.

Asmara is an educational centre and the capital of Eritrea. 50,000 students



S F Barnes, MBE, Executive Director of P T Indomilk, interviewed by ABC Radio in Adelaide after addressing the conference



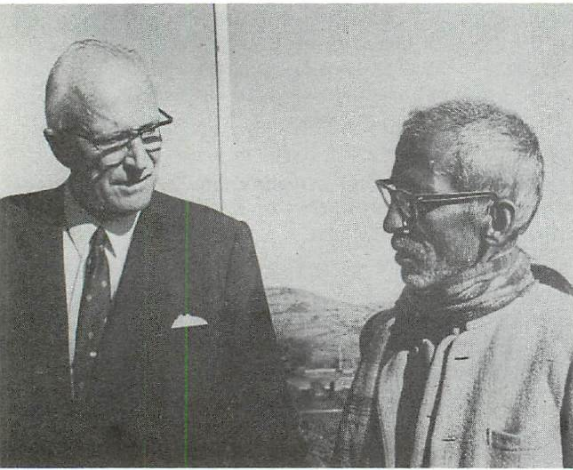
Prince Makonnen Secondary School

cram into its one university, 23 government schools and 83 private schools.

Recently the Governor General of Eritrea informed us that during these past two years the schools of this city and the Province had continued to function normally while in all the rest of Ethiopia the High Schools and University had been the scenes of such disturbance that most of them had been closed for long periods, much to the suffering of the pupils. In his opinion,

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Robert Carmichael, former President of the French and European Jute Industries, and Shivmangai Rai, Vice President of the All India Sugar Workers' Federation, at the conference. Shivmangai Rai said, 'I have received a lot, but I must give something too. I am not a rich man, but I want to give two per cent of my wages towards the centre.'

Alice Cardel from the Philippines Ministry of Youth and Sport, with Miss S Zainab, Executive Secretary of the 100,000 member National Council of Women of Malaysia. Miss Zainab said, 'We look forward in Malaysia to a visit of "Anything to Declare?" and the force of MRA.'

# Conference of East and West

Asia Plateau, Panchgani, India

DELEGATES from thirty countries came to the conference over Christmas and the New Year. R D Mathur, director of the MRA Centre at Asia Plateau, said before the assembly, 'This conference will be the only one of its kind held in Asia. Both East and West face a crisis of disintegration in family and economic life, and of disillusionment with old values. MRA and change in human nature is the common factor that can unite both to make humanity fit for the moon age, and free to answer man's gigantic physical and human needs.'



Many students attended the conference. Among them were (left to right): Yogender Sharma, Anil Patel and K Haridas. They spoke of a revolution of honesty sweeping through their colleges, and many have decided to make regular donations to the MRA centre

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effectively and economically by Indonesian contractors. Above all, the project was carried through in a framework of no bribes,' he said.

He said that there had been difficulties with the factory, of course, but added, 'to be able to turn to God for guidance has been a key factor in all this. I value the training of a conference like this and of MRA. It equips me with the world vision and the personal change I need to do my job.'

Many observers have predicted that 1970 will be the year of greatest industrial unrest. One Melbourne trade union official told the conference how he had felt like giving up his position. However, his experience with MRA had given him the courage to stay on and give a positive leadership to his members. His wife said, 'I used to react when my husband came home with all his problems from work. Now I want to make the kind of atmosphere in our home where my husband can find answers to his problems.'

## ... Papua-New Guinea

Opposition Leader Gough Whitlam has just announced his Party's policy to give Papua-New Guinea its independence by 1976. Papuans and New Guineans at the conference, however, have stressed the quality of life needed as a basis for independence. Paul Lapun,

Member of the House of Assembly for the copper-rich area of Bougainville Island, spoke of racial feeling and said, 'Without Moral Re-Armament the situation in Papua-New Guinea could explode like an atom bomb with the loss of thousands of lives.'

Wainele Tarua, a maintenance mechanic from the Milne Bay District of Papua, said he had decided to stop drinking, gambling and smoking last year. 'In this past year I have not touched one drop of these things. I have found a new love for my wife and we have money for the family.' Out of a weekly wage of \$8, Tarua makes a regular contribution to Moral Re-Armament.

*The Advertiser*, South Australia's leading daily, reported William H. Coffey saying in opening the conference, 'The heart of a new way of doing things is that men have listened to the voice of God and obeyed.' It has remained a theme of the conference. Frequent times of listening in quiet during the session have given new illumination to many. One student talked of 'the lack of purpose, a hollowness that no amount of partying, fast motor bikes, girls or surfboards could fill' and of the new purpose he had found for his life.

With a world in crisis, many delegates are finding not only a new way of doing things but the excitement of wholly new things to do.

## Mayor welcomes MRA force to Indian capital

THE MAYOR of Delhi, Shri Hans Raj Gupta, last week welcomed the 110-strong force of Moral Re-Armament to his city. He is Chairman of the Committee of Hosts receiving the MRA force which included the cast of the musical revue, *Anything to Declare?* With him on the Committee are Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, MP, the Union Minister for Industrial Development and Internal Trade Company Affairs, four other MPs from different parties and leading Delhi figures in industry, the trade unions and education. Many of the MRA force are staying in their homes.

At the press conference the Mayor said, 'MRA is out to make us really men, not men who tread on each others' toes or pull each others' legs and make wry faces at each other. MRA is out to make life worth living for us all. *Anything to Declare?* promises to be a feast of wonderful music. But it is not only music for there is a lesson behind it that is as true for this country as for any other. The Mayor expressed his gratitude for the training that Delhi citizens had received at Panchgani.



# Signpost for the Seventies

by Lawson Wood

THE REITH LECTURES in common with other recent surveys of man's situation on this planet reveal the need for us to rethink much that we have tended to take for granted in the swift development of our scientific knowledge and technological skills. New chemicals, for example, have been hailed for their immediate genius of producing bounty from the soil without adequate pause to regard the consequences. Now the bill is coming in with pollution, the elimination of birds, fish and other living creatures and with a threat to the very well-being of man himself.

The same is true of man as well as his environment. The tragedy of the thalidomide children is possibly the most familiar example of drugs produced in good faith for a short-term physical gain which have resulted in a costly long-term loss through lack of knowledge. The Pill is being given prominence at the moment for some of the immediate difficulties it may cause, but in the longer term it may be a generation before we know its full effects on the human race. Shortly we may receive warnings about it similar to those now being given about DDT, which everyone hailed in its day as a great advance.

All this leads one to ask whether man is too easily daunted by difficulty and whether with his passion for the easy short-term gain he may sacrifice his own longer-term interest and that of humanity as a whole.

## Far-reaching aims

Now as we enter the 70's is there not cause to pause and take a fresh look at what our aims and motives are? Are they large enough, practical enough and sufficiently far-reaching either to meet the needs of the world in which we live or to satisfy ourselves and make us give our best? We have a world in which suffering must be ended, peace assured, plenty provided. We clamour for peace in Vietnam and other places yet know little of peace in our own hearts and homes and certainly not in our industry.

The past year has been marked by a great deal of talk and much embittered discussion about the aims of industry, the control of wages and prices, the profitability of production, but little time or thought has apparently been devoted to giving the men and women who work in industry a purpose worthy of the name. Indeed the White Paper *In Place of Strife* has proved a source

of strife possibly as much for its lack of purpose as for its proposal of penalties. Workers need to feel they themselves matter even more than their wage rates, that in the end of the day they are not just part of a red or black figure on the balance sheet: but that someone *cares* what happens to them, indeed that there is for them and their families a purpose and a destiny.

## Humanising industry

Has the moment not come to give our best thought to humanising industry as the most important step in modernising it? This has nothing to do with the old paternalism, which often creates as much bitterness as the new sterility of computerised management. Yet evidence exists in sufficient quantity to bear out that if you treat a man as a human being because you care and not because it is the latest technique of good management, even the most difficult situation can be rapidly and radically transformed.

One of the most significant comments I have heard in recent weeks was that of a well-known figure in British industry who said that the new industry that his company had started to take care of people likely to be rendered redundant had proved more profitable than the original industry. Could this conclusion contain the secret that we so persistently sidestep, that we must put people in first place for their own sakes and not for what they produce?

In one of the most important articles in *The Times* last year, Professor Toynbee was quoted as saying, 'A human being will insist on being treated as a person, even if the only way in which he can secure personal attention is to get himself knocked on the head by a policeman's truncheon and had up next day before a magistrate as a "case". This, I believe, is the underlying cause of the demonstrations, foaming over into acts of violence, which are now rearing their crests, in waves, above the dead-level surface of modern man's dehumanised world.'

In short, people need to feel they matter and an essential part of that is being given a purpose worth living for beyond pay and profit, necessary as both are.

What our industry so remarkably achieves in spite of its present anarchy shows what we could do for ourselves and for the world were we to find this

new and larger purpose men and management could share with mutual regard and respect.

The secret is partly in the point of view but even more in the determination with which we in Britain decide to tackle the Seventies. So many problems common to humanity we should begin to have the answer for if we laid aside our own bitterness of class, colour or creed and took a fresh look, now that Christmas is over, at what the Christ Child proposes as possibly the only realistic aims for a modern society and certainly the most practical. His standards of honesty would transform a society in which shoplifting alone costs £100 million a year and whole vehicles are lost daily in parts on the assembly lines, to say nothing of their impact on corruption and tax evasion. His standard of love would answer corrosive hate and dull indifference alike, to say nothing of the revolution it would create in our society if we were once more to take Him literally in matters of purity and unselfishness.

## Revolutionary faith

Christmas is in fact the most down-to-earth appraisal of what is needed in the world and offers a practical way of dealing with those rugged and elemental forces in human nature by which old selfishnesses repeatedly deprive man of the fruits of his new-found skills.

A diplomat returning to this country from East Europe this last Christmas spoke of seeing the lighted Christmas trees in country after country as they came along and spoke of what a Europe united by a revolutionary faith could do for the world.

A dream? Or the only practical politics in a world in which we have made a poor show in the Sixties of grappling with Vietnam, Nigeria-Biafra, the Middle East and a host of kindred problems whose settlement remains an urgent and immediate task?

It could be the signpost for the Seventies.

16 page pamphlet

### **Industry, Deadlock or Destiny** by Lawson Wood

1s each, 6 for 5s, 20 for 16s

From MRA Books, 4 Hays Mews,  
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## 'A programme more radical than violence'

'THE NIGERIAN CRISIS came about because we were filled with lust for power and were always so sure that we knew best. I hope that the killings of innocent people will now be over,' said Mrs Keziah Fashina, former City Councillor of Lagos.

Mrs Fashina was speaking in New Delhi. She is visiting India on the invitation of Rajmohan Gandhi.

'We are grateful for international aid,' she continued, 'but we need something that will cure the wounds of hate and bitterness that exist after war.'

'We need Indians with that cure. It is something that India can export to the

world. It is India's destiny to do so.'

The former General Secretary of the Marine Floating Staffs Union, the largest national union of port workers in Nigeria, Mr O Zudonu, who had just reached Lagos after two years as a refugee with his family in the war zone, said at a Moral Re-Armament conference held in Lagos recently, 'Faith in God sustained me. It was our refusal in this country to live the four absolute standards of MRA that has caused the civil war. The problem is not one of colour or tribe, but of character.'

'How to enlist young and old in a programme more revolutionary than

violence' was the theme of the conference held in Lagos at Christmas time, attended by government workers, members of the police and other services, university and technical students and trade union leaders.

The conference was opened by Clement Eze, an Ibo working in the port of Lagos. 'To end violence,' he said, 'something more radical than violence is needed.'

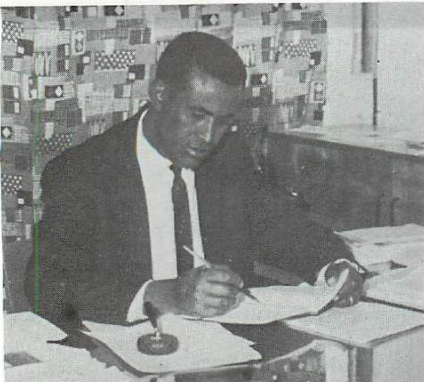
'When I apologized for my hatred,' said one student, 'I realized that the real question was not what tribe a man came from, or what race or colour, but what was in his heart.'

## Experiment in Ethiopian school

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MRA was the reason for the fresh spirit which had spread here in the schools and which had taken firm root especially in the Prince Makonnen school.

Interested by this statement your correspondent decided to investigate



Sewasew Aweke, Director, Prince Makonnen Secondary School

whether there had been a basic change in students and teachers which had channelled their energies to more constructive action than violence or whether a moral programme had been forced on the students to quell their rebellious spirits. I interviewed students and teachers from Prince Makonnen.

Mr Abraham is an Indian as are nearly half of his staff. He has worked for eleven years in Ethiopia. As Deputy Director of Prince Makonnen, he is in closest touch with the students. 'It was last March,' he said, 'impressed by

the change which had taken place in several of our boys, that I started to look at myself. Until then I considered myself a very honest person, almost perfect; but I was a chain smoker of contraband cigarettes! Did I have the right to blame my students if they cheated?' The day he decided to be straight with the State, he lost his desire to smoke; another colleague followed his example.

One of the students who had most affected him had given back books stolen two years before. Other students had decided to stop cheating. Some had decided to clean up their classrooms voluntarily and mend broken chairs.

Mr Abraham said, 'Before there was a real hostility amongst the students towards the teachers and in particular the foreign ones. I was at my wits' end faced by this wall of aggression. However, many of our students decided to put an end to it. Some apologized. Now it has almost disappeared.' He recounted how the previous year there had been an especially troublesome class. 'We tried all the traditional methods of punishment to improve that class without avail,' he said. 'We thought at least 75 per cent of them would fail. One day I became so exasperated with an incident in the class that I lost all mental balance and slapped a boy five or six times. Later on I was so sorry for what I did that I called the boy and apologized to him. To my utter surprise I found the boy apologizing to me. He became instrumental in changing several others. Surprisingly, nearly all this class passed their exams. There is a correlation between academic progress

and the type of life the students, but most of all the teachers, lead.'

Mr Abraham feels strongly that it is up to the staff to start changing. Alemseged Turuneh, a final year student, holds the view however, that it is up to the students to behave in such a way that the teachers can give their best. With this attitude students and teachers are beginning to meet the needs of their country.

Another final year student, questioned as to how the change in the school had affected him, said, 'I have recognized the needs of my country, and decided to teach a literacy class for adults. I do this every evening after school without salary. In this way I am contributing towards the end of at least one practical problem.'

Certainly Prince Makonnen is not perfect yet. But in view of these facts, one wonders whether the answers to educational problems arising all over the world are not a lot simpler than generally considered.

The biology teacher, while speaking of the innate character of the individual, insisted on the possibility that a person can change in his own nature. This seems to be the key to Prince Makonnen's improvement. At the end of last school year, it had the best academic results in the whole of Ethiopia.

This may be why the Education Officer for the city of Asmara and the Director General of Education for the Province of Eritrea have jointly and officially proposed that Moral Re-Armament henceforth becomes part of the curriculum for the schools. CHARLES FIGUET