

"HARAMBEE AFRICA" STARTS TO MOVE

PUBLIC MEETINGS, film shows and school assemblies are taking place throughout East Africa preliminary to the tour of the MRA musical demonstration *Harambee Africa* in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Twelve mayors and civic leaders are inviting this show to their cities during April.

Over one weekend there were eighteen showings of the films *Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill*, *Voice of the Hurricane*, *Freedom*, *Men of Brazil*

and *Sing-Out, Speak-Out*. A Catholic school in Dar es Salaam arranged seven showings in two days so that all the pupils, staff and parents could attend.

Records of the Colwell Brothers, stars of the American musical *Sing-Out '66*, were broadcast over Radio Tanzania. Radio Uganda interviewed members of the cast of *Harambee Africa*. A Tanzania Government film unit is showing *Freedom* in Swahili in

the Kilimanjaro region. In Arusha, Tanzania, the Regional Commissioner arranged a meeting in the Town Hall to raise money for the visit of the musical.

The sound of new choruses echoes on the slopes of Mount Kenya, Kilimanjaro and the Ruwenzori and on both shores of Lake Victoria. The choruses sing out the ideas of the recent 'Aim for Africa' conference at Kenyatta College in Nairobi.

AFTER THE BAYONETS—WHAT?

THE BAYONET is rapidly replacing the ballot box. Ghana is the fourth coup this year in Africa. There have been eight in as many months. Since 1960 forty-two governments in the world have been changed by violence. It is not uncommon for a coup to be followed by a counter-coup, for force begets force.

An enforced change of government or system looks an attractive proposition when the alternative seems to be continued chaos or oppression. But recent history shows that the resort to violence does not in itself produce the just society. A further stage is required. This is acknowledged even in Soviet circles.

A friend of mine, a young English trade unionist, was until recently a convinced Trotskyite. Socialism, he felt, had become 'bourgeois'. British Communism was 'reformist'. 'I respect the sincerity in Trotskyism,' he said, 'but there is too much hate.'

'A bloody revolution keeps postponing the real job for a generation,' says my young friend. 'First it is thought that the old people are past re-education, so every hope is pinned on training the youth. And then they grow up, and though able and well educated, tend to be less revolutionary than their fathers. And their children in turn often become rebels. So the

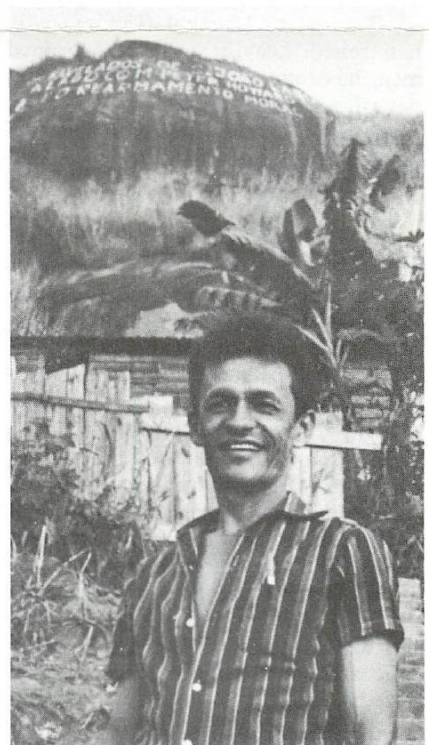
basic revolution is postponed for yet another generation.' This process will be repeated, he believes, until there is a revolution in the character of man on a scale big enough to permeate society.

A Rumanian priest who has just come to Britain after fourteen years in secret police prisons, tells me there is a void in the East. Hard drinking does not fill it. 'God made the heart of man and like St Augustine that heart is restless until it finds rest in Him', he said.

This is advanced thinking for the materialist. True, it is the language of a priest. But the fact remains that a philosophy built on a transitory 'anti' instead of on an eternal 'for' will breed rebellion against itself. Men often go along with dictatorship for a while but sooner or later they or their children rebel. The Chinese are not sufficiently satisfied with their young men and women to trust any top party post to them. The Soviet youth and the young Indonesians rebel against enforced conformity in the same way as young Americans protest against a society which makes no demands on them. Young Russians question anti-Americanism, and young Americans chafe at anti-Communism.

Some young apprentices in Birmingham said this week, Continued over

BY GORDON WISE



Luiz Pereira, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee of the Sao Joao Favela, Rio de Janeiro, stands before a rock inscribed, 'Favelados of Sao Joao side by side with Peter Howard and Moral Re-Armament.'

AFTER THE BAYONETS—cont

'We're fed up with not being asked to give our best, not getting jobs where we can give our best. Yet we are paid as much for jobs where we do not have to give our best.'

The difference between East and West is that the Soviet lands have the will to create a new society but not the way. The West may know the way but lacks the will. If dictatorships produce robots, then purposeless 'democracies' produce vegetables.

When Peter Howard went to Brazil sixteen months ago, he described the bloodless revolution that had taken place as 'the first stage of revolution'. He added, 'Unless you now proceed to end every social injustice and the selfishness of the Right which caused the Communism of the Left, it is a revolution that may fail.'

Brazilians took Howard seriously. The portworkers and favelados (slum dwellers) have led the way. They have attacked the corruption, slackness and division in the port.

In two years the income of the port of Rio has mounted from 1.3 billion cruzeiros to 3 billions with wages rising proportionately and administration costs reduced. Now the Minister of Transport, Marshal Tavora, who has relied heavily on MRA-trained men, has requested the release on full pay of a score of these portworkers so that they can take their experience in the form of a play to other ports and other industries.

Power scrambles

Cynicism is the common factor in East and West because cynicism is the fruit of betrayed ideals. Christian ideals have been perverted by compromise. Communist ideals have been swamped in power scrambles.

The moral revolution the world wants does not have to await the change of system or a re-educated generation. It can begin this moment in the heart of every man who chooses to do what he knows is morally right and makes it normal where he lives and works. Legislation, defence, economic and social change are necessary. But the future will go to that nation which learns how to liberate the unlimited creative instinct in man and civilise an entire civilisation.

Such a revolution can forestall bloodshed. It can also fulfil the hopes for their country of sincere men who have resorted to violence.

Swedish farmer amazes Russians and Africans

SWEDISH FARMER, Ove Jensen, amazed three Russian agricultural experts by his reason for farming. When they visited his farm he told them his aim was to get farmers everywhere thinking how the whole world could be fed.

Jensen farms nearly three thousand acres of arable and forest land 150 miles north east of Gothenburg. Through hard work enough food could be grown for everyone—that was the idea Jensen wanted to spread.

After he had found this broader aim for farming he began to 'count his workers as co-operators in feeding people and not as objects to make him richer.'

He designed cheaply-built, easy-to-run cow-sheds so that the dairy men could have more free time. Formerly they got less than other farm workers. In turn the dairymen took more care of the animals and fed them properly.

Jensen solved long-standing disputes over piece-work versus hourly pay. In summer the small Swedish hayricks are made of seven poles. Hay is dried on ropes strung between the poles. Piece work paid on the rick meant that workers produced too many small ricks. This did not suit Jensen so he decided to pay by the hour. The workers did not like this.

He told them, 'I am sorry I mistrusted you. We can do it either way, by piece work or by the hour.' They talked it over and decided to be paid by the hour. Rick building is hard work so Jensen decided they would get 9 hours pay per 8 hour stint. Now the right amount of ricks of the correct size go up.

Last winter's snow and cold were severer than ever. One of the woodmen said, 'Why not dismiss us so we can draw unemployment money in comfort?'

Jensen realised that many farmers had done that and so had cut off timber supplies to the saw mills. The men of his forest land decided to work despite severe weather. Jensen

in turn gave ten per cent extra as hardship money.

Since they were no longer paid on individual piece work, they began to help each other instead of only being interested in their own claims.

The drivers hauled more wood than any previous winter.

These were some of the attitudes and motives for farming that interested Jensen's Soviet visitors. Last week with a fellow Swede, Lennart Sjögren, he left for Africa with British farmers, Sir David Ogilvy and Edward Evans. They are expressing to the Africans the concept of farming that had interested the Russians. They are now in Kenya after three days in the Sudan where they were entertained by members of the Government, visited farms and conferred with the Directors of Agriculture and Forestry.

Tyneside Conference

A COAL TRIMMER from Tyneside was one of over seventy delegates at a conference of trade unionists in Newcastle last weekend. He listened to the evidence of MRA at work in housing, shipyards and engineering and then responded: 'If we all do this in our daily work there will be an explosion throughout the country. It is what this nation needs and it is about time those people in leadership woke up and realised it.'

The conference was called by eight men from shipyards, docks, mines and engineering in the North East, and was chaired by a Northumberland miner. Among those who attended were the Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, the Mayor of Whitley Bay, the Lord Mayor-elect of Newcastle, the Mayor-elect of Sunderland and the Deputy Mayor of Gateshead. Also present were workers from eight major industries and ten unions.

THE LAST LETTER of an American serviceman before he died fighting in the Pacific is jolting Americans at home. It is read as the climax of the MRA musical *Sing-Out '66*. He wrote:

'THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE EMERGED TODAY WITH MORE POWER AND PRESTIGE THAN ANY COUNTRY IN THE FAMILY OF NATIONS. MANKIND IS KNOCKING AT OUR GATES, SEEKING WISDOM FROM OUR LEADERS, THE HOPE OF PEACE FROM OUR PEOPLE. BEFORE WE CAN FULFIL OUR DESTINY TO LEAD THE WORLD TO SANITY AND HARMONY, WE SHALL HAVE TO REBUILD THE FIBRE OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE.'

Thousands at army bases, on university campuses, in public auditoriums have responded to this challenge posed by the cast of *Sing-Out '66*—130 enthusiastic young Americans of all races—and by the casts of other 'Sing-Outs' now springing up all over the continent.

'America—Our freedom must never die' sing eight girls as the lights fade on one side of the stage, then come up centre stage on the GI, in battle dress, reading the letter:

'SUPPOSE WE AS A NATION FIND AGAIN THE FAITH OUR FATHERS KNEW? SUPPOSE OUR STATESMEN LEARN AGAIN TO LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF GOD? THEN WE SHALL KNOW ONCE AGAIN THE GREATNESS OF A NATION WHOSE STRENGTH IS IN HER OBEDIENCE TO THE MORAL LAW OF GOD, WHOSE STRENGTH IS IN THE SPIRIT OF HER PEOPLE.'

Three times the show was given at Fort Benning, Georgia, the US Infantry training school. 'I wish those servicemen who are fighting in Vietnam could see your

through their state. There are now over 1,000 students in Florida engaged in creating 'Sing-Outs' in Orlando, Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Bradenton.

Last week a new 120-member cast *Sing-Out Georgia* was formed. Already they are being signed up for television. In Columbus they joined the original cast on stage for performances sponsored by the *Ledger Inquirer*. Over 6,000 people came in the evening and 4,700 in the afternoon. Four thousand had to be turned away. In a lead editorial the *Inquirer* stated, 'Admission is free but the show is priceless.'

The Governor of Tennessee, Frank Clement, introduced the show in Cookeville. 'I have come here,' he said, 'because I believe in what these young people have set out to do and I admire the manner in which they are doing it.' At the end of the performance 220 high school and college students from Nashville—representing *Sing-Out South*—rushed on to the stage. One of them said, 'All of us have committed ourselves to give the whole of next summer to take our show throughout the south and wherever we are needed.'

These hundreds of young people are an assurance that the challenge of that GI is not going unheeded:

'AMERICA CHOOSE THE RIGHT ROAD. UNLESS THERE IS BORN AGAIN IN OUR PEOPLE THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE AND SERVICE, OF MORAL RESPONSIBILITY, MY COMRADES AND I WHO WILL FIGHT ON THE BEACHES AND THOSE OF US WHO DIE HERE WILL HAVE BEEN EXPLOITED AND BETRAYED AND FOUGHT AND DIED IN VAIN.'

LETTER TO AMERICA

show,' said the Chief of Personnel, Col D E Tisdale. 'Our fighting men are defending the cause of freedom. But you go far beyond the defence of freedom with your message of Moral Re-Armament.' Two standing ovations were given one performance and a third ovation when Captain Roger Donlon, only living man to win the Congressional Medal of Honour in Vietnam, came on stage to thank the cast.

Vietnamese soldiers in basic training and hospitalised US soldiers were at an afternoon performance. Col Herbert E Wolff, Director of Instruction for the Infantry School, said, 'Young ladies and gentlemen of *Sing-Out '66* I would like to think of you as the voices of modern America.'

Brigadier General George I Forsythe, Acting Commander of the US Army Infantry Centre, said, 'I hope and pray young men and women throughout this world will follow you.' General Forsythe presented the cast with a certificate of achievement inscribed, 'To the highly dedicated young men and women who comprise *Sing-Out '66*. Their sincere and enthusiastic representation of young America on the move is refreshing and inspiring and comes at the time when all of us sorely need faith and confidence in our fellow men and most of all in the youth of our country.'

Cheering, clapping and whistling, 3,800 men at Fort Rucker, Alabama, US Army Aviation Centre, would not stop their applause for ten minutes as the cast gave reprise after reprise. The performance marked the first appearance of thirty new students chosen from hundreds of Florida students who applied to join the cast during its tour

Meanwhile another 'Sing-Out' has started a tour of the West Coast. In Santa Barbara fifteen hundred students exploded in response to the musical at the University of California. This university has been the focal point of the anti-Vietnam and Civil Rights demonstrations. 'I'm glad we finally got you to the campus,' said the student body president, Ken Khachigian, introducing the evening.

At Castle Air Force base in Merced, California, alert crews of the Strategic Air Command were given special permission to attend the performance. They sat in the front row in their flight suits. Two shows were given with crowds sitting in the aisles, along the walls and twenty deep at the back. The base newspaper had the headline '*Sing-Out '66* Show Stirs Musical Storm'.

'IT IS THE ELEVENTH HOUR. BY YOUR CHOICE YOU WILL BLESS OR BLIGHT MANKIND FOR A THOUSAND YEARS TO COME. WHICH ROAD WILL IT BE AMERICA?'

The light fades on the soldier and his letter and comes up first on a soloist, then the chorus singing 'Which Way America? Which way to go? This is my country. I want to know—which way America is going to go.'

The GI asked the question. Young America is giving an answer. Richard Lowe, who is in the US Marine corps and a member of the original cast, says, 'I travel with *Sing-Out '66* because I believe our generation needs to wake up. We must learn to understand our fellow man no matter what his race, colour, class or nationality, and learn to live, work and plan with him for a world without hate, racism, violence or wars—a world where man has a big enough aim and purpose.'

SWITZERLAND

Peter Howard's plays *A Travers Le Mur Du Jardin* and *Mr Brown Steigt Herab* were shown in eighteen Swiss towns this month. The Paris cast of *A Travers Le Mur Du Jardin* performed in French-speaking Switzerland including Geneva and Lausanne. At the same time *Mr Brown Steigt Herab* had sold-out performances in the cities of the German-speaking part of the country.

In Bern, the Swiss capital, *Mr Brown Steigt Herab* was sponsored by the President of the Canton. The cultural editor of *Der Bund*, Dr A H Schwengler, wrote, 'With the play *Mr Brown Steigt Herab* the British writer Peter Howard has left a true legacy. *Mr Brown* is his best play, not only because of its dramatic effect which is remarkably strong . . . but also because Howard succeeds here in proclaiming once more everything which Frank Buchman and he himself had to say to the world . . . Peter Howard has taken the message of Christ seriously and has presented it on the stage in the only way in which it can be treated if you want to make His cause understandable even to the broad masses.'

FRANCE

A Travers Le Mur Du Jardin opened its French provincial tour in Strasbourg last week. In the audience were the Military Governor of Strasbourg, the Director of Education for Alsace, the General Secretary of the Prefecture, the Dean of Strasbourg Cathedral, the President of the Synod of the Reformed Church and the President of the Jewish community. The play opened this week in Brittany.

FINLAND

In weather of minus 40°F four thousand people in sparsely populated northern Finland saw the film of Africa, *Voice of the Hurricane*. They came to showings in Rovaniemi, capital of Lapland, Kemijaervi and in Kuhmo at the Russian border. MRA speakers addressed meetings arranged

by colleges, schools and Rotary and in lumber camps in the extreme north. At a teachers' training college, students who had attended the Caux new year conference, are now producing *The Ladder*, a play by Peter Howard.

AUSTRALIA

At the Melbourne Flinders Naval Depot, Australia's principal naval training centre, a crowded theatre of trainees and officers cheered *Sing-Out Australia* this week. The production was invited there by Commodore J P Stevenson who commands the depot.

INDIA

Indian students presented *Sing It Asia* in Hindi and Marathi to five thousand people last week in Dandeli, a modern industrial town carved out of the dense jungle of Mysore. Dr J K Somani, a senior executive of the West Coast Paper Mill, speaking after the musical said, 'Our greatest thanks will be to apply what we have seen tonight to our lives.' The West Coast Paper Mill has undertaken all the arrangements and financing for this visit.

BRAZIL

There were four showings of *Men of Brazil* on Brazilia television last week.



Joseph Cooper plays at the Westminster

Around Britain

LONDON British and foreign journalists crowded the hall of the Institute of Journalists for a showing of *A Man to Match the Hour* and *Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill*. The showing, arranged by members of the British press, was attended by former editors of British national dailies, executives, feature writers and reporters from daily and weekly papers and foreign correspondents including the representatives of *Pravda* and of the *Economic Gazette* of Moscow, Commonwealth and European papers.

A MEMORIAL MASS for Peter Howard was said at the headquarters in Farm Street of the English Jesuit Province arranged by Father Thomas Corbishley, former Provincial of the Jesuits in Great Britain. Among those attending was the Peruvian Ambassador.

WESTMINSTER The house was full at the Westminster Theatre on Sunday afternoon for Joseph Cooper's presentation of *The Schumann Story*. Cooper, well known as concert pianist, television personality and broadcaster, captured the audience with his playing of Robert Schumann's music and amusing narration of the composer's life. Some of Schumann's *Dichterliebe* Lieder were sung by William Elvin. The concert was presented by the Friends of the Westminster Theatre as one of a series to raise funds for the new Westminster Theatre Arts Centre.

BRIGHTLINGSEA, ESSEX A capacity audience saw the all-African film *Freedom* in the Brightlingsea Sailing Club last week. The Mayor of Colchester, Councillor S H Wooster, and the Deputy of Brightlingsea, the Rev R P Angwin were at the showing which was introduced by Isaac Amata from Nigeria. This was one of eight film-shows given in six days by the crew of an MRA film unit in the area.

LEEDS A Yorkshire businessman has sent 1200 copies of *Dare* magazine about Peter Howard to customers and others in Yorkshire and Humberside.