

Who will decide the future?
It will be the militants,
the men of passion.
To a great extent
the word 'militant' has been
pre-empted by those determined
that 'what we have, we hold'.
And it needs to apply to those
who set themselves to turn
the course of history God-wards.

Men of passion

- a message to
militants

by Peter Hannon

WHAT SHOULD OUR AIM BE? Reconciliation? 'All being friends together' will not interest either extreme in the slightest. Nor will making any local situation work for its own sake — be it South Africa, devolution, industry. Such an aim, on its own, can perpetuate selfishness.

If we face the realities of the world we live in, what we have to do is to set ourselves to be God's instruments for a new step forward for mankind.

It is very possible that, within the next ten years, some guerrilla group on one continent or another will get their hands on nuclear weapons and use them regardless of the appalling consequences. Alty this to the continuing and unrelenting bids for world ideological control. And add the population crisis and the threat of continental famines. We may need to face the possibility of a new dark age where old values, standards, assumptions are swept aside by the majority.

Uncomfortable people

In this perspective to aim for local palliatives is painting one's cabin while the ship sinks. Individual solutions to burning issues are valid if placed at the service of a world in desperate need.

In 1938 Frank Buchman clarified these issues. He addressed a rally of thousands. 'Some of the people have come here hoping to be changed. That is very good. Some of you have come here with the hope that you will learn to change others. That, too, is very necessary. (He might have said, 'Some of you have come to learn to work together.') But the danger is that some of you want to stop there. I am tremendously interested in a third point — how to save a crumbling civilisation. Then I want a fourth thing. I want to reach the millions of the world.'

'There were,' he continued, 'some people in the Acts and the Gospels who gave everything. There were others who did not

give everything. Even in a revolution some people want an amount of padding around them. But somewhere on the battlefield we will have the real revolutionaries.'

The aim is not to reconcile those who call themselves today's revolutionaries. It is to set them free from the corruption, fear, bitterness and greed that keeps their revolution too small. They should remain uncomfortable people to have around.

I think of the militant black student leader who came to a conference. After some days he said, 'I am not convinced by many people here. I am not convinced that this "change" will not soften me.' As one man sought God's guidance in this instance the thought came, 'Tell the student leader that, for him, the issue of the white man is irrelevant. The issue is what sort of leadership do his people deserve? What about money, women, flattery, power? His people deserve better than that.' He said, 'That is true. Those are points I need to deal with.'

It is the same for the white militant. Or any militant.

One test is — can God use me not just to become friends with my enemy, but to change him so that together we can put right what is wrong.

Think of St Paul. He lived in an age of imperialism, racialism, corruption and exploitation. He talked of some of these things. But one does not get the impression in his letters of a man trying to solve

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Bristol militant Jack Carroll speaks at the opening of a Trade Union Seminar in Petropolis, Brazil, in September. He is translated by Luis Puig, from Guatemala. Seated: Fred Small from the port of Brooklyn.

Representatives from 46 trade unions and six Labour federations, representing over one million workers, took part in the seminar arranged under the auspices of MRA in Brazil.

NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

KING OF TONGA

King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV of the Pacific island kingdom of Tonga gave an audience to Mr and Mrs Michael Lennon from New Zealand.

For an hour and a half they informed the King of developments which had followed the MRA conferences in Salisbury, Banff and Caux this year and of the part young people from the South Pacific were playing in *Song of Asia*.

They were also received by Princess Pilolevu, and later His Majesty and members of the Royal Family viewed the films *A Man for All People* and *The Smile of the Apsara*. As guests of the Prime Minister, Prince Tu'ipelehake, Mr and Mrs Lennon attended the closing of Parliament by the King. This marked the end of the first hundred years of the Constitution given to the nation by King George Tupou I.

Madho Prasad, the Fiji representative at the New Zealand MRA educational conference, was earlier received by His Majesty and he conveyed the greetings of the Maori Elders and delegates, and informed the King of the response to MRA in Fiji.

In Suva, Marist Brothers College invited a speaker to address the whole school on MRA and, on the succeeding two days, six special classes were arranged for fifth and sixth form students to see *A Man for All People*, and to have discussions on MRA and its part in building a new society. The Prime Minister and over sixty per cent of present Members of Parliament attended this first multi-racial college in Fiji.

HUNDRED TITLES

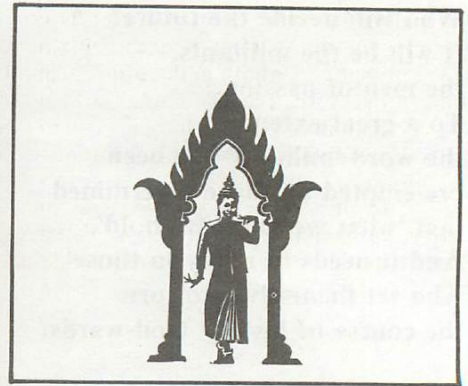
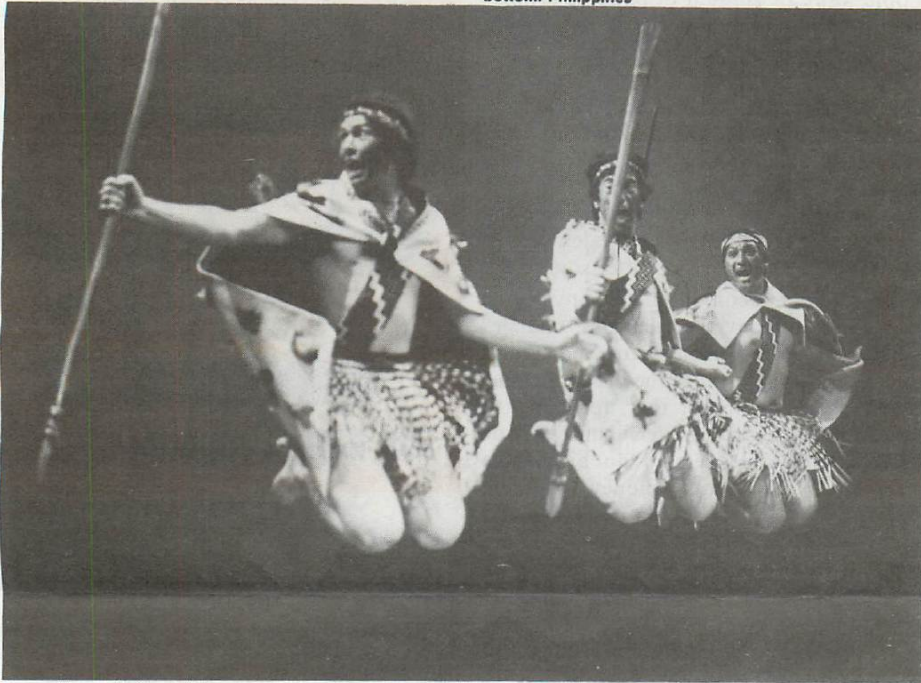
Grosvenor Books, in conjunction with Caux Verlag, were among the 4,039 publishers from 62 nations exhibiting books at this year's Frankfurt International Book Fair — a record attendance despite fears of inflation and recession.

On the Grosvenor Books stall were over one hundred titles in English, French and

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Dances from Asia

top: New Zealand
middle: Turkey
bottom: Philippines



Changing the ill-fitting garb

by Leena Rege
from India

WE ARE SIXTY from fourteen Asian and Pacific countries. Amongst us are people from villages and minority tribes of India, farms of New Zealand and Australia, a head-hunting tribe of Papua New Guinea, a former Naxalite (Maoist) and a retired Colonel.

In the last two and half years we have been in nine countries of Asia and Europe with our musical stage production *Song of Asia*.

It is an expression of longings and discoveries from our continent. The sketches are drawn from true stories. Few experts have been involved in the writing and producing of *Song of Asia*.

It has brought together people of very varied backgrounds, habits and temperaments who share a common vision — Asia could rise out of her wounds and her turbulence to be a continent on the give. As her peoples listen to the 'still small voice', they could find answers to divisions and injustices that are engendered by wrong attitudes.

Te Rangi Huata, co-director and former head prefect of a school in New Zealand that stands for the best of Maoridom, says, 'Maoris believe that man is made up of three aspects — physical, intellectual, and moral and spiritual. This idea is symbolised in Maori carvings by three fingers. But we have failed to develop the third aspect and have therefore lost perspective. We are with *Song of Asia* to learn this dimension and take it back to our people.'

Observers speak of today's world as a growing moral wasteland. Britain, we believe, could turn back this spirit of death and disappoint many a prophet of gloom. It could do this by reviving its heritage of honesty, faith, high standards, sense of humour and service to fellow man, and by making these qualities fashionable in the world today. If Britain remains satisfied with a lesser calling it would be an ill-fitting garb for this great nation.

Most of our countries have had connec-

Photos: Robinson

tions with Britain. We do not want to blame Britain for the mistakes of the past but we do want to reaffirm our faith in its future. The present crisis, we believe, could be the making of Britain. The British are known to combat best when they are stretched most.

We also turn to Britain for its sense of fair play and for its spirit of freedom, both so precious. A member of the Asian group whose country has suffered greatly says, 'My way of living was responsible for the mess in my country. When we have freedom we do not use it. We just blame everyone else. Freedom must go together with a sense of responsibility and high moral standards. Could the world learn this from Britain?'

Song of Asia has just spent six months in different parts of Europe. A university professor in Denmark said to the cast recently, 'If our Christian nations had known their responsibilities the world would have been different today. Our spiritual background has been lost and we are left standing only with material riches. There are two alternatives to the present mess — you either find something you can rely upon like a spiritual revival, or you destroy yourself. You need a way different from destruction. That is where you have a part.'

We come to Britain in response to an invitation from a cross section of its multi-racial society. We come as partners to learn and to give our very best.

Win for Asian Wanderers

MAORIS FROM THE CAST of *Song of Asia* performed a Haka on the field before the kick off in the first division rugby match between Jordanhill and Edinburgh Wanderers in Glasgow. They were the guests of Ian MacLachlan, 1973 Vice Captain of the British Lions and present Scottish Captain. After the match thunderous applause from the crowded pavilion greeted the singing.

The councils of Glasgow, Strathclyde and Clydebank welcomed *Song of Asia*. The Lord Provost of Glasgow, Peter McCann, received the cast in the City Chambers.

Welcoming the young Asians he commended their work to melt hate. After listening to their experiences, he said, 'I am no stranger to suffering and there is one thing I would like to say about it. It takes more than emotion to get through suffering. You have to work through it, and you need God's grace.'

Jimmy Woods from Wairoa, New Zealand, presented an official letter from the mayor of his home town to the Provost of Clydebank, Wairoa's sister city: 'In the past Clydebank has launched great ships and is now launching great oil rigs. But in the future Clydebank will launch great men with great heart.' The Provost entrusted the Maoris with the coat of arms of Clydebank and a letter to the Mayor of Wairoa.

Another group from Southern Asia were

received by Councillor Geoffrey Shaw, first convener of the new Strathclyde Regional Council, with the vice-convener and another councillor for an hour. The cast were also officially welcomed by the Provost of Milngavie and Bearsden.

Leena Rege, from India, and Jimmy Woods, from New Zealand, were interviewed for four minutes on Scottish Television's midday programme, *House Call on Tuesday*. The programme ended with pictures of the show together with a Maori song from the *Song of Asia* record.

Radio discussion

'Out of Asia can come a new hope, a new message, a new quality of life,' said Cigdem Bilginer, from Turkey, during an interview on Radio Clyde. With her on the Sunday night arts programme *Inter-Act* was Charles Ooi from Malaysia. In the 15 minute interview they discussed the origin and aims of *Song of Asia*, and the commitment of its performers.

More than 2000 saw the musical revue at its three Glasgow performances. Among the audiences were councillors, trade unionists, industrialists, politicians and churchmen. Five hundred school children from ten Glasgow schools, both Catholic and Protestant, attended the matinee.

BBC Radio 4, heard all over Britain, reported *Song of Asia's* visit to Scotland. 'All of us hope,' said Robert Corcoran, from Glasgow, on the broadcast, 'that people who see the show will decide that in every issue that comes up they will not be afraid of other people but do what they really feel is right.'

An Asian flavour

A SUBSTANTIAL GIFT of foodstuffs consisting of two big sacks of rice, chapatty flour, spices, pickles and pappadums has been made by a Pakistani businessman, Afzal Rajah, of Manchester, for the use of the *Song of Asia* cast.

He personally brought the gift to Tirley Garth, the Moral Re-Armament centre in Cheshire, where the cast will be staying for some weeks during December.

Mr Rajah is now collecting other items for use in Japanese and Chinese cuisine. 'I was very touched by the dedication of the *Song of Asia* cast,' said Mr Rajah. 'Most people who come from abroad come to gain something. But here we had a unique example of people coming to give to Britain without hoping to gain any material benefit from it.'

'As a Pakistani I felt I had the responsibility of doing something materially for them, even if I was unable to devote the time that they are giving.'

'I also thought it would give me the opportunity of enlisting the help of my friends. As well as my own firm, friends in three other Asian firms in Manchester gave

generously towards getting these foodstuffs. They were very impressed with the idea of *Song of Asia* and want to come and see the show.'

The fund for *Song of Asia's* campaign in Britain now stands at £24,900.

As a result of many gifts in kind such as these and a reduction in the cost of the cast's travel both to and from Britain, it has been possible to reduce the target for the fund from £50,000 to £42,000.

This leaves £17,100 still to be raised. Contributions can be made payable to 'Song of Asia Travel Fund' and sent to 12 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JF.



Indrani Kiatasamy (2nd from left) visits Norwich. The London housewife offered to go anywhere in Britain to raise money for the visit of 'Song of Asia' by cooking curry meals. The 'Eastern Daily Press', Norwich, had the headline 'Curry party raises cash for touring musical'. £60 was raised.

Photo: Eastern Daily Press

'A PORTRAIT OF TODAY'S ASIA, and a glimpse of what the future could be' — that's how LBC, London's commercial all-news radio station, described *Song of Asia* at the end of an 18 minute interview with three of the cast broadcast last Sunday.

From the interview:

Niketu Iralu (Nagaland, N E India): The still small voice which speaks in every human heart can be Asia's permanent contribution to mankind. From our continent the four great faiths of the world come, all rooted in this truth that the still small voice — I believe as a Christian it is the voice of the Holy Spirit — can speak in every human heart. It enables men to distinguish between right and wrong, and leads a person from whatever background, if he is truthful, to an experience of the Cross.

Nicholas Page (LBC interviewer):

What practically do you want the audience to do each night when they go?

Iralu: We believe that some people may be led by God to solve the very difficult human problems in your country in the political, social and economic fields. And if you can solve your problems, people all over the world who expect so much from Britain will be greatly encouraged, and will want to imitate your example. We are hoping that we are touching something deep in the ancient, adventurous spirit of the British people.

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German. *The Black and White Book* was shown in 21 languages, with the accompanying Study Course. A photograph montage display of *The Revolutionary Path* (Frank Buchman's speeches) had striking pictures from Asia, Europe, Africa and Brazil, under such headings as 'Rhodesia — new hope?', 'Homes for the Homeless', 'Breaking the chain of hate'.

MEDIA-POWER

'At a time when newspapers are often under attack for sensational, destructive reporting, the Press owe Mr Holme a debt for pointing out to a wide public that the mass media can be a great power for good.'

This is how *The Journal*, monthly publication of the Institute of Journalists, reviews a new book by former *New World News* editor Reginald Holme. It also has illustrations by Bill Cameron-Johnson. 'It could well be something of a best-seller,' writes *The Journal*.

Entitled *Mass Media and Their Social Effects*, this book is written for the 13-16 year old age groups but is also of value to older students.

It is one of a Blandford series of which the *Times Educational Supplement* writes, 'Good things are happening in the field of Social Studies and not least in this new series. The content is good and it is likely that this new series will become part of the Social Studies teachers' armoury.'

COLUMBUS DAY PLAY

On Columbus Day, Miss Mary Kyle, a teacher and counsellor, presented a new play at Bailey Junior High School, Jackson, Mississippi. Written and produced by Miss Kyle, the play aims to help pupils make the right decisions for each day's new challenges. Children of Dutch, English and African heritage illustrate themes drawn from *Give a Dog a Bone* and *The Black and White Book*.

WALES AWAKE

Two leading Welsh language weeklies last week carried news of MRA's ideas and action.

Under the heading 'Waking Wales to a new responsibility', *Y Cymro*, Wales' largest circulation Welsh paper, reviewed *Beth fydd llais Cymru? (What will be the voice of Wales?)* launched earlier this year at the National Eisteddfod (NWN Vol 23 No 40).

'The emphasis of most of the fourteen contributors,' says the reviewer, 'is on the duty to waken Wales to a new responsibility and after this to the responsibility of serving the world. Even though Wales is a small nation it has its place and its duty to help mankind along the path that leads hearts to the Great King.'

In an article in *Y Goleuad*, organ of the Welsh Presbyterian Church, Mrs D P



M K Varma, Personnel Director of Phillips (India), calls for 'a participative style of management'.

Photo: Pankaj Shah

Wider horizons for management

from Sanjoy Hazarika

THIRTY INDUSTRIALISTS and executives met recently at the Moral Re-Armament centre, Asia Plateau, in Panchgani, for a four-day seminar to look for 'wider horizons for management'. They included A S Bhatena, Managing Director of Wanson (India), Ramu Pandit, Secretary of the Indian Merchants' Chamber (Bombay), Himatlal Doshi, Managing Director of Estrela Batteries, trade union representatives and several young businessmen.

As well as surveying the economic and industrial scene, delegates assessed the role of industry in terms of its social responsibilities. The need for mobilising human resources, particularly the educated unemployed, into a strong, purposeful and constructive force was a subject which concerned delegates.

M K Varma, Personnel Director of Philips (India), challenged the management representatives to encourage 'strong, responsible trade unions who could deliver the goods'. He called for non-interference in

union affairs coupled with 'fairness and firmness'.

'Management gets the trade union it deserves,' said Varma. He stressed the need to adopt a 'participative style of management' and to treat employees as individuals. 'If our attitude is not right,' he said, 'all the gimmicks of behavioural science and hikes in salary will come to nought.'

Students from six Bombay colleges presented the industrial play *The Forgotten Factor* to those at the conference and to others from surrounding villages. They were given a standing ovation. One delegate remarked to another, 'My God! That was stunning.'

Summing up, one of the conference organisers, A K Bahl, an executive in Boehringer Knoll, said, 'We do not want to indulge in hypothetical situations but act upon what needs doing. It serves no purpose by saying that somebody else needs to make a start. We must begin from ourselves. Each one of us has a contribution to make.'

Davis writes of the forthcoming visit of *Song of Asia* to Wales (3-10 December) and of the Housewives' Declaration (Datganiad Gwragedd Tŷ) now available in Welsh. After stressing that a section of the cast 'come from our mission field (North East India) and know our hymns and tunes', Mrs Davis forecasts, 'If the love and joy which fills members of the group can spread to thousands in our small country before St David's Day, this year's campaign of 'Wales for Christ' will indeed be fulfilled.'

BELFAST IN DORSET

Following a short evening service during which the Archbishop of Canterbury's message to the nation was read, the film *Belfast Report* was introduced by its director, Peter Sisam, at St Mark's Church, Ferndown.

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particular situations or local issues. He has a strategy to reach the heart of the power structure of his day. He set out to create a network of pressure-proof men and women with totally new motives, loyalties, aims, standards; men and women who, fearlessly, would confront the evil of their day, yet who were so free in their spirits that they could win their persecutors; men and women who could — and did — turn the tide of history.

Could this be God's purpose for MRA? To build a world force of God-led, pressure-proof men and women who bridge every barrier, confront the tide of evil in the world and act with a strategy for continents.

Do we have the nerve to accept the magnitude of God's revolutionary commission? It is certainly a task only for the militant.