

INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE MEETS IN LONDON

MELBOURNE dockers' leader Jim Beggs, now visiting Britain, said that he had great hope for the future effective running of the British ports. But it would be a battle, he warned, in an address at a MRA international industrial conference this week in London, attended by delegates from Australia, Holland, the United States and many parts of Britain.

The Australian was confident, from having talked with 23 dockers' leaders and 15 port employers in London, Liverpool, Glasgow and other ports, that it was a battle that could be won.

A force of men was growing in the British ports who were applying the absolute moral standards of MRA in

their negotiations, work and home life. Beggs, who was last year's vice-president of the Melbourne branch of the Australian Waterside Workers' Federation, said that he had had himself to end the personal rivalry with another man on the Melbourne branch executive. With other dockers he then began to build a unity between management and trade unions in the ports of Australia which helped to make the introduction of decasualisation possible without trouble.

Main obstacles

The main obstacles to the effective running of the British ports were not disagreements over wages and conditions—important as they were—but

the conflict between people, between management and labour and official and unofficial trade union leaders. He criticised some port employers who had no direct contact with dockworkers. 'It is only through people that we will solve our problems in industry,' he said.

Beggs is visiting the British ports following visits to the ports of India and the Middle East, where he had spoken to meetings of dockers and had conferences with dockers' leaders. At the end of the month he will go to Rotterdam and other European ports.

Management

Management representatives at the conference commented on some implications of the recent gold crisis. British Oxygen's Employee Relations Manager, Neville Cooper, said that many on both sides of industry feared mounting suspicion and bitterness following the gold crisis. A panic search for a scapegoat could be the result, with some crying, 'wicked bankers' and others, 'lazy workers'. Cooper said, 'We all have a part in this crisis. The danger is that everyone will look for scapegoats, and so multiply division.'

The gold crisis highlighted one of the main issues in the world today, he said. Could free men, without dictatorship, fashion a new society? 'Industry has got to present the answer to this question,' said Cooper. Three essential requirements for good management today were inflexible

continued overleaf



Dockers from Australia, Holland and Britain. Left to right, Jim Beggs (Australia), Jan van Komen (Holland), Jack Carroll and Tom Ham *photo Strong*

moral standards, intense care for individuals and a realistic concern for the needs of the world. 'These do not, as some wrongly feel, conflict with loyalty to your firm or industry. You cannot be really loyal to your firm without these principles,' he said.

Honesty normal

N F Ledwith, a partner in a City of London insurance company, said that the gold crisis was also 'a crisis of confidence and a crisis of honesty'. He said, 'If Britain said one day she had no intention of devaluing the pound and the next day did, it was not surprising if Frenchmen felt more secure with a gold brick buried in the back garden.' Honesty was both normal and natural and must be practised, he said.

Vic Cummings, a Transport Workers' Union section chairman at the John F Kennedy Airport, New York, came to the conference. He commented that the weekend conference had demonstrated 'labour and management unitedly tackling the industrial problems of the world'. He said his visit would help him in combating the corruption of New York Airport and the threatening racial violence in New York industry.

The conference was supported by representatives of German industry who sent a message, signed by members of the works council of the Säure Schutz Rheinruhr factory, coalminers and a mining engineer. They said, 'We congratulate you heartily



Neville Cooper

on your timely and necessary European and international industrial conference. We stand united with you on the platform of changing the thinking of men through a moral and spiritual revolution to shape the community in all spheres of life. For that we need every man.

'We are in the course of building up action groups in the whole country and look forward to sharing our experiences and strategy with your



Frank Ledwith

photos Strong

country and other European countries.'

Among other speakers at the London conference were Jack Carroll, T and G W U branch chairman in the port of Bristol; Tom Ham, a member of the executive council of the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union; Jan van Komen, crane operator in the Rotterdam docks; and John F Vickers, chairman of Benjamin R. Vickers & Son, Leeds.

Industrial assembly to open in Lorraine

AN ASSEMBLY for Moral Re-Armament, with the theme—'Each Man counts for the building of a new world'—will take place in France at Thionville at the beginning of April. Delegations from many parts of France and from other European countries will meet in this Lorraine city over the 5-7 April Palm Sunday weekend.

In February 1967 a conference took place in Caux in Switzerland, dealing with problems facing regions in Europe where great industrial changes were underway. Jean Quesnel, now commissioner for industrial redevelopment in Lorraine, spoke at the conference on the reconversion of Lorraine industry.

In April last year trade unionists met at Chateau de La Pervanchère to discuss the problems of Loire-Atlantique, a region of France facing indus-

trial change. Their meeting coincided with the Paris negotiations ending a 2-month long strike in the St. Nazaire shipyards.

Redevelopment

The forthcoming Lorraine Assembly is set in an area severely affected by the problems of industrial redevelopment. The organisers of the conference believe the experience gained through the application of MRA in other countries will be of great value to delegates. At a dinner, presided over by the Mayor of Thionville, Lawson Wood will speak on the subject, 'The Men of Moral Re-Armament and the Crisis in Britain.'

The City of Thionville, following the visit of the European revue, *Anything to Declare?* last November, will provide the facilities and headquarters for the conference.

Sunday, 31 March 11 am

A NEW PAGE FOR BRITAIN

The cast of the new European musical *Anything to Declare?* will speak and present items from their show. They leave for France next day. Many from Merseyside and the Midlands, where the show has been over the past two months, will take part in the Assembly.

Men and women who have been setting a new pace through changed lives in vital industries, homes, government departments, offices and schools, will outline their experiences and plan how to make them nation-wide.

**Westminster Theatre
Palace St, London SW1**

SCIENCE: MAN'S MASTER OR GOD'S SERVANT?

Film of Howard's last play could present this choice to millions, say scientists.



MEN TODAY can reach the heavens while their brothers live in hell on earth. It is a contrast that millions are aware of. And it demands a revolution in the thinking and motives of all men, including the scientists.

David Sarnoff, chairman of the Radio Corporation of America and a pioneer in electronics, sketched out the issue last month.* He said, 'Technology, properly guided, can satisfy every material human requirement—feed and clothe the world's multitudes, shelter them, give them work and guard them from disease.

'If man can muster the wisdom to use the tools which technology has given him, the generosity to devote them to the benefit of all men, the humility to live in harmony with nature, there is little in the spectrum of human progress that is not within his grasp.'

To muster the necessary wisdom, generosity and humility men will clearly need a moral and spiritual revolu-

* February issue of 'Science Horizons'

tion in their living and aims.

Promotion of this revolution among scientists is one reason why two young British scientists, Dr Bryan Hamlin and Dr Ian Robertson, have given up promising research and teaching posts in the United States.

'The challenge of this age,' said Dr Robertson, interviewed last week, 'is that we link up God Almighty's plan with the inventiveness of Man. Science must be linked to God's way of doing things or we will be on a giddy machine and not know where it is taking us.' Science today is regarded as a god to be worshipped, rather than as the gift of God to be used for His glory. Dr Robertson and Dr Hamlin are convinced that scientists and non-scientists alike must face this challenge. They believe the most dramatic way of presenting this challenge to millions is through the production of a film of Peter Howard's play, *Happy Deathday*.

Bridges division

Dr Hamlin said, 'There is a need now to ensure that scientists and non-scientists are aware of the challenges that technology is putting before mankind and are in a morally fit state to make the right choices. *Happy Deathday* is a weapon in this battle.'

Happy Deathday cuts through the barriers between the races and generations of mankind and throws a bridge across the so-called division between faith and science.

The story is woven around the conflicts and aspirations of three generations in a family. The grandfather is a wealthy businessman near death who claims a faith but does not convince others of it. His son-in-law, a militantly atheistic molecular biologist, is determined to 'track truth to its final lair' and so demonstrate the irrelevance of God. There is a lonely teenage daughter who, according to her mother, 'lives for nothing but the next thrill, the next party, the next man'. She does not see why, if people regard her as 'so many atoms wrapped up in a pretty case' they make 'such a fuss about lovers and babies and marriage'. The family doctor and the scientist's Negro assistant are in-

involved in a situation that deals with abortion and colour prejudice. The scientist, who believes in the possibility and power of genetic manipulation, is faced with the pregnancy of his own daughter by his own assistant. Didactic, but providing no pat answers, the play involves the audience in the search for solutions to the dilemmas that confront each member of the family.

Evidence of the power of *Happy Deathday* in stimulating such solutions comes from a liberal arts college in the United States where Dr Robertson invited his students to use it for a play reading. It deeply affected them. A Negro student talked for the first time of the burdens of race and family he was carrying. He said, 'On a white campus I don't know what to say. It's like sitting on a barbed wire fence and it is painful. But that play . . . it treats us Negroes right. It gives us a way out without violence.'

Another student from a broken home went to see both his parents for the first time since both had remarried and as a result lost his hatred for them. He returned to the college a calmer and stable man.

A brilliant yet purposeless student said, 'The questions in that play are the ones we face on campus and in the world. I thought I was a help because I got good grades, but this play gives me a solid basis for choosing which way I go in life.'

Greater scale

What has been done on a small scale through a playreading Dr Robertson believes could be achieved on a decisively greater scale by means of a film to be shown in schools and universities and on television.

Backing Dr Hamlin and Dr Robertson in this undertaking is a distinguished committee including Air Vice-Marshal D N K Blair-Oliphant, CB, OBE, BA, who for thirty years has been concerned with weapon development in the RAF, Dr H A C McKay, MA, DSc, pioneer atomic scientist, B G Robbins, MSc(Eng), MIMechE, former Secretary of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, and Dr D

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Students: a question of aim?

NEVER BEFORE has the student population of this country been discussed at such length in the press, on television and even in Parliament. Some bitterly complain about the agitators, others applaud the growing consciousness of students to the vast problems of a swiftly changing world society. Considerable numbers of students have joined forces with militant elements in grasping hold of the nearest exploitable issues (and there are many) in order to show their discontent.

Under the heading 'Set Book Materialism,' a letter by a college lecturer in *The Guardian* on 13 March said, 'Student demonstrations manifest an agony among the young, in protest against the dehumanisation of the environment, and the terrifying lack of preoccupation with the aims and meaning of civilisation among the older generation.' It would be wrong to condone many recent demonstrations and it is interesting that even the politically committed students tell me they have no faith that politics alone can provide fundamental answers.

Political leaders and others who

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Robertson, MB, ChB, DTM, FRCS, Ed, Senior Lecturer in Anatomy at Edinburgh University.

The immediate target is the raising of £45,000 needed for the filming. Of this sum, more than £6,000 has already been raised in cash and a further £10,000 has been pledged.

The film of *Happy Deathday* will be made on location in colour and directed by Henry Cass who produced the play with such distinction at the Westminster Theatre. It will subsequently be dubbed into other languages for worldwide distribution and use on television.

Of particular appeal to men of medicine, science and in education, the filming of *Happy Deathday* is a security which cannot be devalued and one in which everybody concerned with the rising generation and the future of mankind will want to invest.

BRIAN LIGHTOWLER

Cheques should be made payable to: 'MRA, Happy Deathday Film Fund' and sent to the Treasurer: Dr G L MacKay, 4 Hays Mews, W.1.

criticise students, but who fail to provide them with an adequate environment for study and moreover an adequate aim and purpose in which their studies can most effectively help the nation and the world, will create the very student revolt they wish to avoid.

Peter Howard, in whose memory the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre was built, was quite clear on the new type of leadership needed. He said, 'In the present tumult, where men are technological and industrial giants, but moral pigmies, unless we live for the remaking of the world we have an inadequate aim. Nothing else will save humanity from destruction. It's difficult, but no aim short of that is valid.' Howard's reason for writing for the theatre was to 'encourage men to accept the growth in character that is essential if civilisation is to survive.'

Universal force

Reaction to censorship of anti-Russian lines in a Warsaw theatrical production sparked off student demonstrations and the sacking of the Ministry of Culture. The power of the theatre is a universal force in the world today.

'I believe that the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre represents what Britain's new world role should be', declares its Director, Louis Fleming. Thousands of students from many countries come every year to discover what lies behind this unique Centre.

Annie, the current production at the Westminster Theatre, has had a marked impact on student thinking. The newspaper of the Institute of Education of London University, commented that the play offered a solution to the elements of deadlock in industrial dispute. This aspect caught the imagination of a group of radical students from the London School of Economics, who, after seeing *Annie*, returned to the Arts Centre for an evening to learn more from MRA-trained men holding leading positions on both sides of industry.

What the Arts Centre can do for the world is clearly expressed by two students from Asia. An Afghan Colombo Plan Scholar said, '*Annie* brought a change into my ideas. Now I am able to study more, properly use the scholarship and return to my

country to help it.' The play brought a new aim and an answer to bitterness to a Cambodian student who said, 'I have got an unshakeable conviction for myself, my family, my country and the world. My future is going to be much affected.' He is starting this revolutionary new way of life by 'working with students to spread the message of *Annie* which means changing people, mending things and opening your heart.'

London University's newspaper *Sennet* has recommended the Westminster Theatre, because of its 'view to the future' in providing the special student rate of 5s*, and for organizing discussions after the performances.

Out of this action are coming the men and women equipped to answer the great divisions of our age, and who care enough to provide for the needs of all humanity. This is a new dimension in education relevant to the last third of the twentieth century.

GEORGE WILLIAMS

* Money to cover the expenses for the special student rate is being met by women who are joining the 'Enterprise 100' programme. This programme aims to enlist 1,000 women who will raise £100 each to support both future productions at the Theatre and the expanding work of the Arts Centre.

MARGARET BURTON

GERALD HELY

ROSLYN DUNBAR

and full company

in

ANNIE

at the

Westminster Theatre

Books and Lyrics by

Alan Thornhill

Music by William L Reed

THE WORKS of Robert Browning are always bracing to read, but not always easy to understand. It is recorded that one day a lady took to him a copy of his most difficult poem, 'Sordello', and asked him what a certain passage meant. After reading it carefully several times he replied, 'Madam, when I wrote that passage, two people knew what it meant, myself and God. Now, only God does.'

Perhaps a handful of people in the world know and understand all the

Dr Frank Buchman, 'is simply the selfishness of all of us together.' It is a harsh conclusion, but the only one that offers hope. Any other would condemn us to the prison of despair. If the decisions of men have led them to the brink of disaster, their decisions can lead them back to safety. All of us can play an immediate part in bringing a cure as we start to deal drastically, in ourselves and those nearest to us, with the forces in human nature which have brought it about.

every proposal, every hypothesis, he asks one question only, 'Will it work?' It would be unkind to apply that test to the policies of successive governments in Britain, especially in economic affairs.

There is one idea, one hypothesis, which for two generations now has been tried and tested in action by a steadily increasing number of people in many countries and on every continent. It is the idea of Moral Re-Armament.

The Wealth of Nations

by H S Addison

technical details behind the present Gold Crisis. Most of them, at the moment of writing, are closeted together in Washington, trying to decide what to do about it. To the ordinary man it has come like a tornado or an earthquake—as frightening, as unpredictable, as destructive, as completely beyond the control of man. Before it he feels helpless, bewildered, angry and afraid. An expert speaking on television the other day said that it could have consequences as serious for the world as those of the Wall Street crash of 1929. No one who remembers the thirties can have heard these words without a shudder of apprehension.

For a layman who knows no economics to write about the crisis requires a certain hardihood. But it may be worthwhile to remind ourselves of a few plain facts which can bring perspective and hope.

The first is that it is not an irruption of the blind forces of nature. Nor is it the work of a Frankenstein, a monster which we have ourselves created and set in motion, but which has escaped our control. It is the result, expected or unexpected, premeditated or unpremeditated, of the decisions of men—of men acting under the compulsions of greed or panic, of leaders who have refused to face their people with the facts, or who have sought only the aggrandisement of their own nations, of nations who have been happy to go on living selfishly and undisturbed. At every stage men have been responsible for the actions which have led to it. We are in fact all responsible for it—even by our sheer irresponsibility. 'Collapse,' said

Indeed, no lasting solution can be brought to it any other way. The expertise of bankers and economists may devise expedients for getting us round the next corner. They will hardly do more than successive Governments in Britain who have dealt with one economic crisis after another, but have never seemed able to avoid the next one.

The second fact is that the real sources of the world's wealth are left unimpaired. The earth, with its rich soil and precious minerals, is still there. So are our factories and shipyards, our machines, our ships, and our aeroplanes. Above all, we have still the inventive geniuses, the skilled craftsmen, the resourceful leaders of industry who are the real creators of the wealth of nations. Cannot we yet, with them and with the statesmen and the economists, do something to lead the world decisively away from another depression which will throw millions out of work and postpone for years the hopes of the underdeveloped countries? If the present monetary system has broken down, is it really beyond our combined wit and wisdom to devise a better?

Perhaps it is. Perhaps human wisdom has failed, and is bound to fail, to grapple with the chaos created by the clash of conflicting motives. For years now Britain—and the United States too—have been ruled by men who have been delighted to call themselves pragmatists. A pragmatist, the dictionaries tell us, is a man who 'concerns himself with practical or material affairs,' and is interested in the 'actual working out of an idea in experience.' Of every theory, every philosophy,

It is the hypothesis that when man listens, God speaks; when man obeys, God acts; when God acts, men change; when men change, problems are solved and the will to co-operate is created. That hypothesis has been put to the pragmatic test in the most difficult situations. It has been found to work. Daily the evidence accumulates. It is available for investigation by all who have open minds. Has not the moment come to apply it on a national and global scale—for the statesman to try as well as the ordinary man?

Frank Buchman, who launched the idea of Moral Re-Armament, once called it 'The Electronics of the Spirit'. He had this to say about it:*

'Statesmanship without the Electronics of the Spirit, without guidance and without change, is like flying an aircraft in stormy weather over uncharted territory, without choosing to use radio, maps or compass. It is both unnecessary and criminal. It is recklessly selfish. It leads inevitably to disaster.'

'With the Electronics of the Spirit, renaissance becomes inevitable—and it can happen fast. The statesman, the businessman, the worker, the housewife, the family—all have their part to play. Guided by God, all can build unity and answer the frustrations and the divisions of our times. The Electronics of the Spirit holds the answer to the second half of the twentieth century'

'It is an answer that works.'

* *Remaking the World*, page 225. Blandford 1961 edition.

AUSTRALIANS AND ASIANS SEE MUSICAL

A D BRIDGES, new South Wales Minister for Child Welfare and Social Welfare, represented the State Premier at a performance of the MRA musical, *Wake Up Matilda*, in the Sydney Conservatorium of Music earlier this month.

Bridges, who is leader of the Government in the Upper House of the New South Wales Parliament, expressed interest in the musical's way of dealing with Australia's relations with Asia.

Asians in the audience included the Cultural Attache for Indonesia, the Trade Commissioner for Ceylon, Consular representatives for Japan and Thailand and the Presidents of the Indian and Indonesian Students' Associations.

In the course of a week 3,400 school students saw the musical. The Deputy Director-General, D J A Verco, said, 'I congratulate you not only for the way you presented the show, but for what you said in it'. The N S W State Education Department has given its approval for the MRA musical to be shown to school audiences in class-time throughout the State.

Members of the cast contacted 450 schools in the Sydney Metropolitan area. They also visited men in the management and trade unions of the metal trades and other industries which have recently been involved in major disputes. The State Secretary of the country's largest union, the Australian Workers' Union, and officials of three employers' federations were among the audiences.

Representing Sydney's 12,000-strong Aboriginal population were members of the Foundation for Aboriginal Affairs who came with their Manager, Charles Perkins. Perkins had earlier addressed an MRA assembly in Melbourne in January. Princess Lilardia of the Ulupna Tribe, recently awarded with the MBE, spoke at the end of each performance. She said, 'We dark Australians and white Australians could, under God's direction, be a pattern of unity for the world.'

WHAT MAKES MARRIAGE WORK

A London housewife, Mrs John Faber, this week addressed a lunch, attended by 70 people, in MRA's headquarters at 45 Berkeley Square, London. Below are extracts from her talk, given on the importance of Britain's home life.

● Homes form the character of the nation, and this is far more important than whether a nation is rich or poor, or powerful in terms of armies or bombs. The strength of a nation lies in the character of its people.

● Today there is a deliberate attack on home life and the standards and values on which our country has been built. We are becoming known as a nation of broken promises, whose word can no longer be trusted. Has this any connection with the growing number of divorces in this country and broken marriages?

● Much money, time and publicity is given to a reform of the Divorce Laws—and they probably need reform. But will making divorce easier solve the problems of our society? Carried to its logical conclusion, people will soon be saying that marriage is unnecessary. Why bother to get married if you can break it off after a year or two because you no longer love your husband or think you would prefer to live with someone else?

● People need to be taught how to live together, how to build a sound home. If the emphasis is on making divorce easier, people will not take marriage seriously because they can always get out of it if it does not suit them. Will a marriage ever work on that basis?

● Divorce would not be necessary if people knew how to change. There are the seeds of divorce in any marriage, but people can go back to the roots of their faith and find a cure. I believe human nature can change, and that is the most relevant fact in the world today. I know because it is my own experience. It is not necessary to have peaceful co-existence, war, or armed neutrality in a home when there is a cure available.

● In a home where absolute honesty is the common practice between hus-

band and wife, a child can grow up with no secrets or shadows in life. If we parents know the secret of how to change on the points in our human nature that make us difficult to live with, our children will be able to be creative, out-going and know how to bring unity wherever they are. If we parents live for something beyond money, success, and our own comfort, our children will be pioneers in living responsibly and selflessly for the nation and the world.

● My husband and I decided, when our daughter was born, that before anything else in life, we wanted her to grow up with a living faith in God, knowing the difference between right and wrong, and with the courage to choose what is right. These qualities are far more important than brains, good looks or worldly success.

● We need to take the world into our hearts, and live with the needs of the world on our hearts as much as the needs of our own family. Our homes should have an ever open door. Do we open our homes to people from other nations who are living or studying here? Do we help make them feel welcome and wanted? How would you feel if your son or daughter was thousands of miles away, in another country? Would you not be grateful if someone invited them to their home, and looked after them? Many of the students now here go back and become future leaders in their countries.

● A home that is geared to the needs of the nation and the world will never be a dull or routine place that children want to run away from. Life will be so fascinating that the children will want to invite in all their friends and will go out from it to live lives that are effective and satisfying.

● These things are *our* responsibility—and it all starts in our own home.