### MRA Information Service

VOLUME 15 No 25 LONDON 4 MARCH 1967 9d



photo: Channer



### **CYPRUS** can be **East-West** bridge says Gandhi to **Makarios**

India Arise effect permanent -Education Minister

PRESIDENT MAKARIOS received Raimohan Gandhi and the 64-member cast of India Arise at his Palace last week during their eight-day visit to the island. Welcoming them he said, 'Unless man is reborn mankind cannot live in peace. I am sure you can greatly contribute to this direction and wish you all success in your efforts'. He expressed his 'deep gratitude' for the work of MRA. Rajmohan Gandhi in reply said that Peter Howard had the conviction that Cyprus could be a golden bridge between East and West and show the world the answer to bitterness and division, 'We from India have come to this island with the same firm belief.' The Cyprus Mail published an interview of Gandhi under the headline 'A Formula for Tough Problems'.

#### Kutchuk will host performance

The Minister of Education, Dr C Spyridakis, said after the opening performance of India Arise in Nicosia, 'Way, way beyond my expectations. This will have a permanent effect in Cyprus.' The occasion, attended by the Speaker of the Parliament, the Minister in charge of the Presidency,

General Dwight D Eisenhower received the cast of 'Up With People' at his Palm Springs ranch before their departure for Hawaii. At Valley Forge, Pa. the Moral Re-Armament 'Up With People' programme was awarded the Freedom Foundation's George Washington Medal of Honour.



Conrad Hunte, Vice-Captain of the West Indies Cricket XI is introduced to President Makarios on the occasion of the Archbishop's reception of the 'India Arise' cast.

Photo Channer

continued from previous page

diplomats from East and West and a large number of the UN Peace-keeping Force, was under the Education Minister's patronage. A later performance is to be hosted by Vice-President Dr Fazil Kutchuk.

This week the *India Arise* cast were guests of the Famagusta Orange Day Festival Committee, headed by Famagusta's Communist Mayor, Mr Pouyouros. A twenty-minute programme was given by the cast in the football stadium before 20,000 people, including General Martola, UN Commander; the Deputy Minister of Culture of East Germany; and the Polish Chargé d'Affaires.

#### SYRIAN TV FILMS 'INDIA ARISE'

THE DIRECTOR - GENERAL of Radio and Television in Syria last week filmed a live performance of *India Arise* in the military theatre of the Syrian Arab Army. He told the cast, 'With these ideas you have a great mission to express to us and others. The show you are doing will be seen by our whole country, Lebanon, Jordan, Cyprus and Cairo.' The filming was directed by Duraid Laham, popular comedian of Syria, and will be translated into Arabic.

During their eight hour stay in Damascus the cast were taken on a tour of the historic places, arranged by the Ministry of Information.

# 'Those who control the ports control the world's lifelines'

## says international dockers' team

#### ASIA AND AUSTRALIA

RUSSIAN-TRAINED AND CHINAtrained dockworkers in the ports of Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon and India have responded to the ideology of MRA in recent weeks.

Brazilian dockers' leader, Claudio Falcao, reporting on his recent visit to the East with Bristol docker Jack Carroll, said that Communist and non-Communist dockers 'were eager to accept MRA training that deals with corruption and division,'

But too many port employers thought only in materialist or technical terms, and were failing to give an idea and purpose for the docks industry.

A battle for the control of the Australasian and Asian ports was being waged and it made no difference whether the nations were rich or poor, Falcao said to an assembly at the Westminster Theatre, London, this week.

Carroll said he went to the East because the men who controlled the ports controlled the lifelines of the world. 'I went to change men. I told them what MRA could do for their families, their port, their nation and the world.'

Labour and management together under God could solve the problems, he said.

Falcao and Carroll had spoken to many employers during their visit. They had been invited to Australia by the Vice-President and Secretary of the Melbourne Waterside Workers' Federation.

In New Zealand, Singapore, Ceylon, and India, Carroll and Falcao talked either with the responsible cabinet ministers or the employers and trade union officials responsible for the ports. They often spoke to large-scale dockers' meetings. In Ceylon they addressed 80 officials of the Colombo trades unions arranged by the Workers' Education Department of the Ministry of Labour.







Falcao

Lima

Carroll

#### GREECE

THREE HUNDRED TRADE UNIONISTS of the Piraeus Federation of Trades Unions saw the Rio de Janeiro dockworkers' film Men of Brazil last month. Among them were the Federation Secretary and Treasurer and the Presidents of the Textileworkers, Ship Radio-Telegraphists, Tally-Clerks, Stonemasons and Tobacco Workers.

The President of the Federation, Ioannis Kasimatis, introduced Brazilian workers, Euclides da Silva, leader of 60,000 Rio shanty-town dwellers whom he has rehoused, and Rio cranedriver, Leonardo Lima, to the audience. Da Silva and Lima have been visiting European ports in recent weeks to enlist port employers and dockworkers in the moral re-armament of their nations.

The Piraeus Federation, the pioneer of Greek Trades Unionism, founded in 1908, is drawing up a plan to take *Men of Brazil* to all important trades union centres in Greece. Requests have been received for showings to other individual unions.

All Navy and Merchant Navy personnel in Piraeus, the major port of Greece, saw the film in two special showings at Naval Headquarters. This was arranged by the Minister of Mercantile Marine, Andrew Kostizis, who drove to Piraeus two days earlier from Athens to see the film with his staff.

Lima stressed the important role that Rio port—whose monthly revenue increased 100% after the application of MRA—had in the economic progress of Brazil.

The Greek Merchant Navy, third largest in the world, with 20,000,000 tons of shipping, is the key to the progress and development of Greece. Lima also spoke to leaders of the Greek maritime industry.

### MERSEYSIDE DOCKERS RESPOND TO CALL FOR A NEW SPIRIT

#### "Dismal Jimmies" take a hammering

SEVERAL HUNDRED DOCKERS and their families filled the Edinburgh Park Dockers' Social Club, Liverpool, this week to hear the cast of It's our country, Jack! give an hour-long programme of songs and sketches. The smoke was so thick that it was hard to make out people's faces beyond a few feet away. Thunderous applause followed every item. Twelve hundred dockers in five dock canteens have heard the cast in eleven days.

Jim Worthington, a member of the National Executive of the Seamen's Union, told the cast in his home town of Wallasey that the people in the docks, canteens and towns of Merseyside, 'now feel there is a way. That it is our country, Jack.' He said, 'They thought that the couldn't care less spirit was the modern method of getting things done. You are showing another way. This is undoubtedly the way for all of us.'

The Wallasey News wrote: "The press have acclaimed them. They tour the country from town to town, from port to port and they take with them but one message, "It's our country, Jack and it's our world". They lead a revolution that works."



Liverpool dockers' social club applaud 'lt's our country, Jack!' cast

Photo: Beall

In the past six months the revue has visited over twenty ports and industrial centres of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Alderman H Allen, JP, in welcoming them in the Liverpool Town Hall, said, 'I admire very greatly the line you are taking.' At a lunchtime reception a former Lord Mayor, Alderman D Lewis, JP, chairman of the invitation committee, said, 'I hope that the seeds you are sowing will take root over the years. Thousands will benefit by listening to you.'

Fifteen hundred people attended a performance of the show in Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall. A few days earlier the Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Reverend Stuart Blanch, addressing the cast said, 'There is in the country as a whole a demand for a way of life that makes sense, a real yearning for a way of life that will work. I hope your work will touch chords that we in our churches are often not able to do. I am very grateful for any agency that will remind people of the reality of God and the principles for which you stand. I welcome you to the city and diocese. We are delighted to have you. I wish you every blessing in your work.'

In Chester the first performance was attended by the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Florence Grogan, and fourteen other Mayors and deputy Mayors.

Last week saw the launching on Merseyside of Britain's second Polaris submarine, but it may also mark the launching of a new spirit in the life of the docks. As a journalist in a Merseyside newspaper wrote, "The dismal Jimmies" who look upon this country of ours as decadent, a back number, took a hammering from the 70 young people in their teens and early twenties who have given up careers to follow, as did the disciples of old, their beliefs and principles. I believe they will succeed."

Christopher McAll Michael Smith

#### COEXISTENCE DEMANDS COMMON AIM

THE HEADS OF MISSION of Pakistan, Korea, Ceylon, Malaysia, Vietnam and representatives of the Ambassador of the USSR in Canberra came to hear William Jaeger speak on 'A New Basis for East-West Relations'. He was speaking in Canberra's Civic Centre.

Jaeger, who is an authority on Labour affairs internationally, said, 'Any man in any country today who takes the leadership of a nation must learn how to include and unite Left and Right in one great aim and how to get the best out of people. Do we have the wrong dividing lines in the world? The real division is between those who want to destroy and those who want to rebuild; between those

who do not care and those who want to be responsible.'

Jaeger told the audience, which included senior civil servants, representatives of the army and press that Moral Re-Armament meant bringing the standards of absolute unselfishness in economic planning, absolute love in social attitudes and patterns, absolute honesty in industrial and political action and absolute purity in every home-that a man has the same standard of integrity in his home, work and nation, Jaeger stressed, 'There can never be honest coexistence without a common commitment. Mankind's commitment must become the rebuilding of the



# Actors read Howard's unpublished writings

On the second anniversary of Peter Howard's death West End actors read extracts from his unpublished writings at the Westminster Theatre. The extracts were presented by Godfrey Kenton and Clement McCallin, currently playing in Howard's new play Happy Deathday, Philip Newman who played the prisoner in both the play and film of The Dictator's Slippers. Phyllis Konstam and Howard's daughter, Mrs Patrick Wolrige Gordon. Members of the cast of It's our country, Jack! sang several songs written by Howard. The occasion was directed by Henry Cass. Extracts from Howard's writings ranged from stories for children to poems on Easter.

Below is an extract from his introduction to his poems:

'A modern theory says that you have to be a bad man in order to be a good writer. The idea is that only those who reject what are called "bourgeois" conceptions, absolute standards of morality, can pass on with their brush and pen the tides and flavours of humanity.

'But it is harder to be good than to be bad. Everyone knows this, even journalists and poets. Those who travel the hard road may have more to tell than those who travel the soft. And those who swim against a tide measure its strength and taste its strong flavours far more accurately than those who drift with it.

'It is true that many bad people have been successful in art. But millions of others have not. Some of these would have made more of life if they had known the secret of victory over moral defeat, glorified by the pens and brushes of evil genius.

'Immorality is seldom immortal. There is so much dirt around in every age that it is hardly worth preserving it from one generation to the next.

'Anyway the question must always be asked and can never be answered in this world—if immoral genius in history had spent less energy in self-satisfaction, would it have left even better gifts behind? If the best that a poet can express is himself, does his work deserve to die with his body? It is the glimpse of something eternal which has the stuff of greatness in it.

'All I know is this—in my own case, if I were a better man I would be a better poet.'

(L to r) Col R E Waterston, Athene Seyler and Godfrey Kenton Photo: Strong

# Athene Seyler opens star dressing room

ATHENE SEYLER, London actress and President of RADA in 1950, opened the star dressing room in the Westminster Theatre last week as a memorial to Lena Ashwell.

Lena Ashwell, also known as Lady Simson, OBE, was a star on the London stage before the turn of the century and during the heyday of Henry Irving and Ellen Terry. She died aged 84 in 1957.

She took an intense interest in the Westminster Theatre and said, 'It is a wonderful thing to be doing something in the theatre, through the theatre, which brings a true and vital message to my great country.'

At the ceremony Godfrey Kenton paid tribute to Lena Ashwell's work in British theatre. He quoted John Masefield on the Lena Ashwell Players in 1926: 'Generally, the inspiration of all little communities that are worth their salt, and are doing memorable work, comes from one person. Probably that is so in this Company. Inspiration is a vague word for several qualities, such as faith that the work is worth doing; hope, that the world may some day know this; and courage to keep the thing going in the midst of adversity. It is always by such qualities of soul that the individual inspires the little band to go down into the trouble to alter the thought of the world.'

BEAVER, newspaper of the London School of Economics, reviewing Peter Howard's Happy Deathday, wrote:

'We've thrown out God. But have we thrown out the baby with the bath water? If you wonder how the human animal is going to survive the final third of the 20th century, go to Peter Howard's new play *Happy Deathday*, now playing at the Westminster Theatre.

'The play tackles the question head on. It gives an extremely clear picture of where we've failed to give an answer and some idea of where we might look. *Happy Deathday* is moving, humorous, thought-provoking and, at times, profoundly disturbing.'