MRA Information Service



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COMMUNIST, CAPITALIST ACCLAIM 'INDIA ARISE'

THE MUSICAL 'INDIA ARISE' has become the talk of Jaipur, capital of Rajasthan, where it was invited by the Maharani of Jaipur, MP.

On the opening night, the Maharani of Jaipur and the entire family of the Chief Minister and the families of others of the State Cabinet as well as educational leaders of the city were in the audience.

Members of the audience who wanted, in response to the musical's patriotic theme, to give a new spirit and will to India were invited on to the stage. Ramnath Poddar, a leading industrialist said, 'I came on to the stage to express that I am fully with you.' Among those who followed him on stage were twenty of a visiting cultural delegation from Czechoslovakia. The audience applauded and cheered as one of India's leading capitalists and the Communist delegation joined in the finale song 'Bardhe Chalo'.

The man in charge of the Czechoslovak delegation said, 'This is inspired, infectious and revolutionary. This is the new type of theatre. You have got very clear ideas and clean thinking. Since we have been in India we have seen many things which have given us pain. Now we go back with great hope having seen this force of young men and women in action.'

An Indian educationalist said afterwards, 'I was a revolutionary once. After Independence I thought the job was done. I was simply taking it easy. Now I see there is a bigger task to do.'

The Director of Tourism of Rajasthan, Narayan Sinha, said, 'What conferences, speeches, and debates have not been able to express in 20 years, you have said in two hours.'

A Malaysian student said, 'I'm going to write every Malaysian student in India about this play and ask them to write our student leaders and government to invite this show to our country.'

The principal of one of the leading girls' public schools in India, Miss Lutter, in a letter to parents of students said, 'I consider *India Arise* one of the finest productions. I have seen very much during my lifetime, from the Far East in Tokyo to the West in Berlin. The precision with which the whole production moves, the excel-



Photo: Gov't of India HH the Maharani of Jaipur

lence of the music and singing and the whole-hearted way in which all combine to sing in various languages with such great perfection is hard to describe until seen and heard. I want you to go and see what our boys and girls here, with inter-state and international living together, can accomplish.'

KING MICHAEL:

Arts Centre will give faith to nations

HIS MAJESTY KING MICHAEL of Rumania, presiding last week at a lunch in support of the new Westminster Theatre Arts Centre, said that it would play an important part in 'a great battle being fought for the minds of men'.

The Arts Centre, dedicated to the memory of Mr Peter Howard, will be opened on 26 November.

The King said, 'This new Arts Centre will be devoted to new constructive trends in the arts. It will seek to build up faith and moral values on which the future of our countries can be based.' Peter Howard was one man who had the vision of what the real theatre was meant to be and what it could give the world, he said.

Among the fifty guests at the lunch in 45 Berkeley Square were

Majesty Queen Anne Her of Rumania; His Eminence Sayed El Imam El Mahdi of the Sudan; The Hon Sir Albert Peries, Speaker of the Ceylon Parliament; HE Dr G P Malalasekera, Ceylon High Commissioner; HE Mario Cardoso, Ambassador of the Congo, and Mrs Cardoso; Lord Colgrain; Dr Paul Tucker of Philips Oil, and Mrs Tucker; Mr Anthony Stephens, member of the Baltic Exchange; Mr Patrick Wolrige Gordon, MP, and Mrs Wolrige Gordon and Mrs Peter Howard.

Mr Kenneth Belden, Chairman of the Trustees of the Westminster Theatre, said that £290,000 had been raised towards the target of £550,000 to build, equip and endow the Centre. Gifts had come from forty-eight countries.

Safari with films rallies Uganda youth

from our East African correspondent

YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN throughout Uganda have heard news over radio and in the press of the musical, *Harambee Africa*, (Pull Together Africa).

They have been asking what they could do to further the moral rearmament of Africa.

Ezekiel Iraku, student at a Catholic college in Northern Uganda, is one who has been helping to answer this question. He got permission from his headmaster and travelled with two others to all the secondary schools in his area.

On the trip the travellers lived rough. Bread, peanut butter, bananas and black coffee were standard diet. Sometimes they spoke to five schools in a day, travelling great distances to do it. Often they slept in sleeping bags in their car. On other occasions headmasters gave them hospitality. They jolted their way over rough, dusty roads and tracks. Often they had to keep going fast to meet a traditional ruler. 'When you have a coffee-date with a king, you can't be late,' they said.

Crossing the upper reaches of the Nile on a ferry they were watched by beady eyes of crocodiles and hippos. They drove southwards past road signs that said, 'Elephants have right of way.' Impala deer sprang from their path and grey-brown Congoni buck with lyre-shaped horns cantered off the road.

The travelling party showed MRA films and told the students that the youth with *Harambee Africa* had decided to be 'the new type of man who feels the needs of men of every tribe, race or nation deeply enough to do something about it.'

Everyone could be that new type of man for a new Africa and world, they said. Eager questions came from their audiences and young men and women gave their names, asking to take part. Many bought books to learn more about MRA.

The 2,400 mile safari covered Northern Uganda up to the Sudan border. It also went from the shore regions of 150-mile-wide Lake Victoria, bordering on Kenya, to the 16,000-feet 'Mountains of the Moon', the Ruwenzori range of the Congo.

A Catholic Bishop who saw the MRA films in one school invited the travelling party to breakfast to hear more. He arranged with the Mother Superior for them to address a large Catholic girls' school.

The acting headmistress of a Protestant school had seen *Harambee Africa* in Addis Ababa and said it was just what was needed in Uganda.

An Italian priest was present at a film of Peter Howard's life. He told his students, 'That man's commitment is a challenge to us all.' He contributed towards the expenses, urged his students to buy Peter Howard's books and arranged to show the film at a meeting of priests.

The young men had started without enough money to finish the 2,400 mile tour. Yet they felt God wanted them to go and would provide if they had faith.

Gifts came in as they went along. A Catholic sister, headmistress of a teacher-training college, asked how they were financed. As they left she gave them an envelope with £5 in it. 'That is for your petrol. God bless you,' she said.

After their Uganda tour they left on a new 1,000 mile trip to schools in Kenya's Coast Province.

Indians want straight talk from British Christians

'THE DELHI PRESS have noted the vigorous reaction of British Church leaders to the dangerous compromise of the Sex and Morality Report produced by a working party of the British Council of Churches,' cabled a New Delhi correspondent.

'This is at a time when student disturbances and lowered standards of leadership are giving sound men here concern. A strong stand on these issues anywhere strengthens the world front of righteousness everywhere and Scottish and English firmness helps shatter the idea that Western progress is now normally in the direction of decadence. The longing here is not for justification of compromise but for the secret of how men can live free, and free the nation from the drain of known evil. The voice of that conviction from Britain is still heard and eagerly welcomed by people searching for a new purpose and new standards and faced daily with a dangerous disintegration created by the compromise the report condones.

It is in this wider context that statements by Christian leaders should be judged. Here are two uttered last week.

The chairman of the working party which produced the Sex and Morality report was reported in the *Methodist Recorder* as saying that it was better for people to be in a state of 'sanctified confusion about morality' than to have crystal clear convictions on every issue.

Lord Reith, on being installed as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, appealed to the youth of Britain to prevent a materialistic take-over of these islands. 'The burden, I suppose, of what I am trying to say to you young men and women is, for God's sake prevent it . . . I would beg you to find some inspiring, guiding, determining ethic; some rules for life.

'But we haven't begun—nor have the churches in my view—to take Christ seriously, His person and message. In particular, we haven't begun to comprehend the mystery and magic of the indwelling Christ; therein via, the way; therefrom veritas, the truth.

'I know this to be true and I long for you to discover early for yourselves what I have come to realise so late.'

The people of Britain should ask the following question of statements made by Christian leaders: 'Is this a voice of comfortable appeasement, the voice of the moral Municheers; or is it the voice from which other nations can once again gain support and faith?'

The validity and worth of statements will then be apparent to the nation.

caux: Industry's role in securing world's future

NEW RELATIONS between management and labour in European industry, leading to economic solutions, were reported at an industrial assembly at Caux, Switzerland last weekend. Such solutions were essential for securing the world's future, said the President of the French Jute Industry, Robert Carmichael. 'Evidence presented here shows that they are a growing reality,' he said.

Carmichael's opposite number on the trade union side, Maurice Mercier, Secretary-General of the Textile Federation (Force Ouvrière) of France, said that trade union officials in the past two decades had been taking more and more responsibility for the economic life of their countries. This was due to their training in MRA.

Frederick Philips, Chairman of Philips Electrical Industries, Eindhoven, Holland, said that in Caux the partners in industry meet not simply as trade unionists and management but primarily as men with hearts open to the needs of the world. This was the only way to create the confidence so necessary to the future of Europe.

Gottfried Anliker, head of a large Swiss building firm, was at the conference with a delegation of engineers and workers from his firm. He had been able to build houses 20 per cent cheaper than the average, but of better quality and with better social conditions for those employed.

The Secretary of his works council stood with Anliker on the conference platform. 'We are proud to be part of the most socially advanced and dynamic building firm in our area,' he said. 'Our works council recently decided that it is not enough to have good working conditions for ourselves, but that the experience of our firm must now be shared with the whole building industry and Swiss industry in general.

'We are grateful for the social security, old age pensions and security of employment. But above all we value the atmosphere of honesty which means we can freely discuss all our problems with management.'

French delegates, 340 in number, formed nearly half the 750 at the conference whose theme was, 'A society at the service of all men.' Swiss TV filmed the arrival at the mountain station above Montreux of shipyard workers from Nantes and Saint Nazaire in the West of France, (Loire Maritime), miners from the Pas de Calais, and men from Lyons and Besançon in the South, as well as a delegation of 100 from Paris. Later, 90 miners arrived from the Lorraine coalfield, as well as mining directors. Workers from all three French Trade Union Federations, representative of the Catholic, Socialist and Communist workers, were present.

Senator Maurice Sambron, President of the Economic Development Board of Loire Atlantique, told the conference that during the last three years Moral Re-Armament had 'created a dialogue between people who otherwise would never have met.' Young Employers' Association of Nantes, said he had been moved to discover the importance given at Caux to the 'moral and spiritual values which make possible an approach to solutions that have so far eluded us.'

Clydeside shipyard workers and Bristol dockers reported on what had been accomplished through MRA in their industries.

Caux had become the perfect centre for a work of such global proportions, said the Mayor of Montreux, Alfred Vogelsang, in welcoming the delegates. The world was changing so fast that what was valid yesterday was no longer valid today. 'At the heart of this rapid evolution is man himself,' he said. 'It is to him that MRA directs its challenge. The men of Moral Re-Armament are of a tough fibre and will never stop fighting.'

Wladimir Zalkind, member of the

Workers, Employers, must plan for hungry millions

by Maurice Mercier

Secretary-General of the Textile Federation (Force Ouvrière) of France speaking at Caux last weekend

WITH AN INDUSTRY as sensitive as the textile industry, no change happens in the world without affecting it.

It was a step forward that we could reach agreement based on absolute honesty with the employers.

We made this step along with our comrades of the Technicians' Union (CGC) and of the Catholic Textile Union (CFTC).

In 1951 we had already discussed and signed two collective agreements. One of these, for the artificial textiles, was certainly one of the best in Europe. One agreement covered 26,000 workers. The other, for natural textiles, covered 430,000 workers.

There was no agreement comparable in the industries of France. These two agreements were models and could serve as a basis for the discussion of agreements on a European scale.

We felt, however, that these nego-

tiations with the employers were not enough. Together with the Technicians' Union and the Catholic Union we signed the agreements of 9 June, 1953.

In these, our unions stated their responsibility for the economic life of the country.

(These agreements, described by Antoine Pinay, a former Premier, in Figaro as 'an example to follow' were, said Mercier at the time, a direct result of visits by himself and large textile industry delegations to Caux.)

Along with this declaration of principle in 1953, there came the first additional pension for textile workers. Today I find old comrades—I shall be retiring myself in five years—who get 40 per cent of the wages they used to earn from the National Insurance and another 25 per cent as an additional pension. That old workers should be thus adequately provided

'Give 100 per cent' says Newcastle Deputy Lord Mayor

SIR NICHOLAS GARROW (left), Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, and Alderman John Smalley, Deputy Lord Mayor of Newcastle, talk at a Newcastle performance of *It's our country, Jack!*

Alderman Smalley, speaking from the stage after the show said, 'If we could give 100 per cent as the cast have given 100 per cent tonight then Britain will be saved. The economic freeze and demarcation disputes would vanish if we had the power this cast has shown us. I am proud to be one of the company.'

This week Alderman Garrow gave a reception for the cast in the County Hall.

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for is a very great win. Since that time this system of an additional pension has become general throughout the country.

We also have an agreement on piece rates. On 26 June, 1963, we signed an agreement which settles this question. Under this agreement a research bureau, run by the Technicians' Union (CGC), the Force Ouvrière and the Catholic union (CFTC), examines the fair remuneration for each type of work. A whole series of agreements enables the experts appointed by the employers' organisations to meet with the experts of our bureau.

Finally—and in this we are alone in France—we have obtained allowances for partial unemployment. If an employer does not provide work and maintain a certain number of hours worked, he must pay a compensation. During the 1964 crisis under this agreement more than 75,000 workers were paid the equivalent of a large number of days' pay.

Two years ago here at Caux, thanks to MRA, we brought together the employers of the textile industry. We succeeded in having meetings of employers and trade union representatives from the countries of the Common Market before the Community got moving. There were about ten employers from France, five or six from Germany and a number of union leaders.

Four times a year, outside the framework of the Community, about fifteen union leaders and twenty-five employers, including experts in economics and social questions, meet at Brussels, Amsterdam or elsewhere. In a month's time we meet in Munich where we will take another step forward towards settling economic questions with the Common Market and in trying to develop a common trade policy.

We will also explore the possibilities of collective agreements for the textile industry of Europe. We will study too the problems of the concentration of industry and of rationalization which mean that tens of thousands of workers lose their jobs.

We want to wipe out the disgrace of the four million workers in France whose wages are not adequate.

Beyond this we must give the world enough to eat. France gives nearly 2 per cent of its national income for the developing countries. My organization is training at least 1,500 African trade unionists each year.

We do this because we see that instead of bringing coloured workers to France to sweep the streets and do the most unpleasant work, we would do far better to invest in the African nations so as to help them improve their agriculture and then build up their industrial structure.

With this new force that we are creating in the factories, through delegations coming to Caux, let us show to employers' and workers' organizations, to governments and to the High Authority that Europe, which turned the key for our industrial civilization, still carries great hope within her.

The workers of the Western countries must now take responsibility with employers for the millions of hungry people in the developing countries.

German coal owners and miners in joint action

THE RUHR COAL EMPLOYERS' Association and the German National Union of Mine Workers together have asked for a programme of *Sing-Out Deutschland* to be given in Germany's biggest hall, Westfalenhalle, in Dortmund on 12 November. In the presence of Helmut Burkhardt, head of the Ruhr Coal Employers' Association and Walter Arendt, President of the National Mine Workers' Union, the show will be part of a demonstration concerning the future of Ruhr industry.

The President of the Chamber of Commerce for the Federal Republic, Dr Schneider, is arranging a showing of *Sing-Out Deutschland* in the famous Düsseldorf 'Schauspielhaus'.

Three hundred and fifty representatives of Sing-Out groups from Hamburg, Berlin, Hanover, Essen, Duisburg, Düsseldorf, Neuss, Stuttgart, Munich, Garmisch and Kaiserlautern, met last weekend in the Ruhr.

One newspaper reported: 'The Sing-Out wave is now rolling across Germany like a storm.'

Rheinischer Merkur, the leading Catholic weekly, wrote this week that 'something is stirring the German youth.' The reporter continued: 'I talked to and tested them (the cast of *Sing-Out Deutschland*) to find out what was behind this overwhelming dynamic. One of them, about 17 years old, and apparently from a good family, said, "We don't just sing, we also live it." Then he told me very seriously the principles of MRA.'

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