## MRA Information Service

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# I AM PROUD OF 'INDIA ARISE' SAYS CARDINAL GRACIAS

# LARGEST AUDITORIUM

THREE DAYS IN ADVANCE OF this week's combined performance of the musicals *India Arise*, *Sing-Out Australia* and *Sing-Out Bombay*, all the seats were sold out in India's largest auditorium, the Shanmukananda Hall, Bombay. People offered to pay five to ten times the normal price for last-minute tickets.

The cast of 212 included 120 from twenty-five Bombay schools and ten colleges who had formed their own Sing-Out following twenty showings of the other two musicals in the last three weeks.

Cardinal Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay, and his party which included an Austrian prelate sent by the Church to report on India's food crisis, six Test cricketers, stars and directors of the Indian film business, and industrialists were among the capacity audience of 3,250. At the end of the three and three-quarter hour show the audience roared their approval.

Cardinal Gracias, speaking to the audience from the stage, said, 'I am one of thousands who enjoyed every minute of this evening. I am very proud of the cast of *India Arise*.' He said the three shows had collaborated in the spirit of MRA—a spirit which sought to emphasise the idealism for which humanity must strive.

'The world is on the verge of moral and spiritual bankruptcy,' the Cardinal said. 'God bless you and the message to which you are wedded,' he said to the casts. 'Stand for justice, honesty and purity and you will lay the foundation, strong and secure, of that process you call "India Arise".'



'Sing-Out Australia' in action. The cast is in India on the invitation of Rajmohan Gandhi

#### What Britain can do

Miss Kathleen Johnson of Horsham, Sussex, graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, London, is one of the musical directors of *India Arise*. She said in an interview that gifts and government aid were needed for famine relief but that economic schemes alone would not achieve the necessary result.

'Plans founder on the rocks of human selfishness,' Miss Johnson said. 'Who will have the guts to tackle this root problem? Britain can do two things: Export men and women with the will to work; demonstrate to the watching nations of Asia and Africa that with full stomachs and good wages can go united families, youth with purity and guts, fair play in industry and an aim for living that could answer the unsolved problems of Russia and China.'

Paul Williams of Eastbourne, Sussex, 26 year-old Oxford graduate said, 'Nations are not only hungry for the means to live. They are also searching for the secret of *how* to live. For this pioneers are needed in the field of the human spirit. They must have an allout commitment to bring a new quality in the life of people around them.

'Britain can still provide such men and women. It doesn't cost vast sums from the Treasury. It may cost our pride and comfort. Could not hundreds more from our country give their time and energy for the moral re-armament of the nations?'

## **Appeal to Asians**

MASAHIDE SHIBUSAWA, leader of MRA in Japan, last month addressed Chinese university students in Taipeh, Taiwan. The following are extracts from his speech :

THE PRESENT LEADERSHIP OF the world is, both in the Communist and non-Communist worlds, strangely lacking in direction and perspective. Every country and every class makes their case strongly that they are absolutely right and the others are absolutely wrong, but very few people seem to be concerned with what kind of world we create for ourselves and for our children. Will we still live in endless wars, poverty and despair thirty years from now? Or is a new turn of world history possible? Under the kind of leadership which refuses to face the challenge of history, we are bound to have a world where problems abound and nothing is really solved.

The idea of class struggle is too small for this age. At the same time, however, we must be equipped with a theme and direction adequate and ready, when the time comes, to lead the whole of 700 million people of China to true greatness.

We must attempt to remake the character of civilisation so that every class, every race, and every nation will have its true part to play in the management of the world. The whole world is on tip-toe waiting for some nation to rise up and pioneer such a new way for humanity.

#### Effective

In order to make a nation really effective for the next years and decades to come, we need a theme for the world. There is no idea which can win and capture the minds and hearts of modern men other than an idea to remake the world. Anything less than that will only make people bored and frustrated. Remaking the world is

### Brave men choose

Five years ago DR FRANK BUCHMAN spoke to the world through his address, 'Brave men choose', a few weeks before he died. The final words in the speech were :

WE ARE FACING world revolution. There are only three possibilities open to us. We can give in, and some are ready to do just that. Or we can fight it out, and that means the risk of global suicide. Or we can find a superior ideology that shows the next step ahead for the Communist and the non-Communist world alike.

What we shall never do effectively is to patch things up by pretending that basic differences do not exist or do not matter, nor by supposing that an ideological challenge can be met by economic, political or military means alone. Absolute moral standards are not just questions of individual conduct today. They are the conditions of national survival.

We need to scour out the dirt in our national life, our political life, our

economic life, our school life and our home life through a change in men. Wherever men give man the place in their lives that God alone should have, slavery has begun. 'Men must choose to be governed by God, or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants.'

#### No neutrality

There is no neutrality in the battle between good and evil. No nation can be saved on the cheap. It will take the best of our lives and the flower of our nations to save humanity. If we go all out for God we will win.

'Then it is the brave man chooses, While the coward stands aside, Till the multitude make virtue Of the faith they had denied.'



MASAHIDE SHIBUSAWA

the call of the day. That is the natural next step of world history. It is to create a new pattern of nationhood and manhood, and that happens to be the purpose and theme of Moral Re-Armament.

I would like to see the youth of Asia co-operate with this kind of crusade to remake the world. I believe the result of this kind of work will have a direct bearing on our future, even on the life or death of many of us and our children. But not only that -I believe this is the kind of thing which youth in China, Japan and all other Asian nations are longing to do, deep down in their hearts. Many of them are now living in constant frustration and a slow process of despair, because they are not given a theme and purpose big enough to bet their lives and possessions on. However, if we put up a flag and invite the multitudes of young Asia, I believe they will rise.

I want to see our nations move together to build a new continent, where everybody *cares* enough and shares enough so every last man, woman and child will have enough food, clothing, shelter, and a hope for the future.

MRA is a life. It is a chance for modern man to shape his future.

It is a challenge to the ordinary man to do extraordinary things. I happen to believe this is in line with the true tradition of your great nation.



A 'NEW TREND' AMONG YOUTH was the subject of comment last Sunday in the German national newspaper *Welt am Sonntag*, published in Hamburg.

In an article on the current tour of the musical *Sing-Out* '66 in Germany at Chancellor Erhard's invitation, the paper said: 'Through the means of modern music, the Sing-Out movement raises a protest against a selfsatisfied society. They call for commitment. They want to set a new trend. And now the whole of Hamburg eagerly awaits their coming'.

This call for commitment has led to 2,000 young Germans participating in nine new Sing-Outs in the cities so far visited. A hundred have joined the 150 young Americans of the Sing-Out '66 cast on the tour.

In Wolfsburg, home of the Volkswagen factory, the hundred young Germans raced up on stage in the finale of Sing-Out '66. They sang two of their songs from Sing-Out Deutschland amid cheers from the audience of Volkswagen employees.

The President of the Volkswagen company, Professor Dr Heinrich Nordhoff, thanked the combined cast. He said that the factory aims to be a window from the West to the East, just as the Sing-Out movement aimed to reveal a new spirit from West to East. The Wolfsburg factory is the largest car factory in Europe and produces 7,000 cars a day.

#### Unrecognisable

An example of the effect of Sing-Out '66 on some of the thousands of German youth who have seen it was shown in the comment of a girl from Neuss, one of the Rhineland towns visited.

At a rehearsal of the new Sing-Out Deutschland she said, 'I don't recognise myself any more. All problems have become small, and my horizon has expanded. I am very grateful to the Americans who have helped me find this new aim. I have decided firmly to give my whole life to God and I am convinced we will succeed.'

The Federal German Government

arranged a tour for the US and German casts along the dividing line between the two Germanies. When the force reached the divided village of Hoeftleben, West German TV cameras were there to cover the event. As the theme song 'Freedom Isn't Free' resounded across the barbedwire demarcation line, people on the East side appeared at every corner. They peered through open windows and stood on roof-tops. Children sitting on fences waved to the cast. Guards moved the villagers away but the East Germans kept reappearing, eager to catch every word.

#### Russians listen

At Helmstedt, one of four check points on the 875-mile East-West zone border, the cast sang and spoke. As soon as the songs started, all traffic stopped on the East side as the German guards and the Russian officers listened to, filmed, photographed and tape-recorded the entire programme.

In these small towns John Ruffin, a spokesman for the cast, said, 'We mean to stand firm for freedom, but more than that, we want to win a world free from race and class hate, where freedom is secured for generations to come.'

Many viewers in the East zone will have seen these border visits on television programmes given on West German TV. The tabloid *Bild Zeitung*, Germany's largest circulation daily, carried a report under the heading, 'Message of Freedom'.

After the border tour 500 refugees in the Friedland camp saw a performance of the show. In the last twenty years two-and-a-half million people, who have escaped from East Germany, have passed through this camp to the West. To cross the border they have to dodge guards with machine-guns on watch towers and armed patrols. They must cross a tenyard wide ploughed strip sown with mines, and a high barbed-wire fence. The audience, among whom were some who had just made their escape, joined in the songs with the cast.

In the historic city of Münster in



'LINDA CALLS THE YOUTH' wrote the 'Hamburger Abendblatt' of Linda Blackmore and her portrayal of Joan of Arc in 'Sing-Out '66'. Miss Blackmore says, 'Today we need millions who, like Joan of Arc, are ready to commit their lives for God's plan in the world.'

Westphalia the cast was welcomed by Father Franz Bieler in front of the cathedral, where a large crowd had gathered. Father Bieler said, 'Sing-Out '66 is in the tradition of Cardinal Gahlen, who stood alone for freedom at a crucial time in our history. There are few such men left. Sing-Out '66 is bringing that spirit again to our generation'. Cardinal Gahlen was at Münster during the Hitler regime.

The head of the Socialist Party in Münster received the cast in the room where the Treaty of Westphalia was signed in 1648, ending the Thirty Years War.

In Hanover, the Commanding General of the army unit stationed there was among 3,000 people in the Grand Kuppelsaal who gave an enthusiastic welcome to the show. Officers of the Bundeswehr Training School were present.

Another performance was given for the First Tank Division of the German Army at the invitation of Major General Detlef Von Plato.

### at a glance

**BRIGHTON** Sir William Teeling, MP said that Peter Howard 'was one of the most important people in this country in the years after the second world war'. He was speaking in Brighton at an exhibition of original paintings being sold in aid of the new Westminster Theatre Arts Centre. The exhibition was opened by the Mayor, Alderman Mrs Watson-Miller.

WANDSWORTH The Wandsworth Borough News reported K D Belden, Chairman of the Westminster Theatre Trustees, as saying Britain needed 'something more than a philosophy of pessimism and despair.' He urged the country, the paper said, 'to revitalise the spirit of attack in Britain, to build unity and not division, revive hope in place of disillusion and to create a will to work -and a will to win.' Belden was speaking at a recital of Australian music by Miss Beatrice Oakley, given in aid of the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre.

**STOKE-ON-TRENT** Nine hundred people last week saw the *Voice of the Hurricane*, a film starring Muriel Smith and Reginald Owen. Alderman J A Boon, last year's Lord Mayor, received the guests as they arrived.

#### Uganda Argus

During the state of emergency last week all Uganda read an account of the tour of the all-African musical show *Harambee Africa*. The Uganda Argus, a national daily, devoted its editorial page to a 2,000 word article written by a member of the Kisubi School Band which had participated in the tour. The headline was, 'African Youth is on the Move'.

The Uganda student in the article urged that *Harambee Africa* be presented throughout the continent. 'It has given us hope that there can be unity of all races, colours and nationalities through our personal experience on the tour,' he wrote. 'We believe that such a spirit can be developed and spread to every man in Africa and the world, so that all hatred and envy will disappear and we



'THEATRE HISTORY WAS MADE,' said the African daily paper 'The World', Johannesburg, last month, 'when for the first time a white cast presented a whacking play for an African audience in Soweto' (an African township).

"Through the Garden Wall" was certainly an occasion with a difference. The gala opening was packed out with the pick of the community. The African audience's sensitive, uninhibited response to the humour of the play was an experience itself. The actors said afterwards that it was the finest audience they had played to.' Earlier the Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg and the mayors of nine goldmining towns attended the premiere of this play by Peter Howard in Johannesburg.

shall have created a new world worth living in for generations to come.

'This is the challenge to the youth of Africa—we have taken the only practical step and begun with ourselves.'

#### Mackinac College

The US Office of Education is granting Mackinac College \$14,560 to aid 29 of its students. Mackinac College, opening in September, will equip youth for the moral, intellectual and social leadership that the age demands. Last year the Directors of MRA in the US deeded the MRA buildings on Mackinac Island, Michigan, to the Trustees of the College. During the summer months the buildings will continue to be used for Moral Re-Armament conferences.

### US Army

The US Army Information Bulletin, issued by the Chief of Information, Department of the Army, has given support to Sing-Out '66. In its April issue it wrote, 'This musical has now played in Forts Campbell, Benning, Rucker, Gordon, Bragg, Myer, Belvoir and the US Military Academy. Over 30,000 troops have seen the show and from General to Private the response has been enthusiastic. If your post is approached in the near future remember that this is good, clean, fast-moving entertainment with patriotism and morality as its theme.'

#### Universal Pictures

A Universal Pictures Newsreel, now running in America, has two minutes on *Sing-Out* '66—'a revue that is the hit of West Germany'.

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