MRA Information Service



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The men Wilson needs

Kenneth Belden, Chairman of the Trustees of the Westminster Theatre, London, says British youth want to 'live greatly, dangerously and arduously for something greater than themselves—for the country and the world.'

He was speaking at a reception in the New Theatre, Hull after the first night of *Mr Wilberforce*, *MP*.

'I would rather that my teenage son and daughter took up the task of Wilberforce than that they climbed up on a motorbike to go and break up Clacton,' he said. 'Mr Wilson calls for a national crusade to raise production. The spirit that can do it is in this play—men like Wilberforce, who will take up the battle for social justice and responsibility for the nation. That is Moral Re-Armament.'

Kenneth Belden said that parties from 277 schools, nearly 10,000 students, had seen *Mr Wilberforce MP* during its London run. 'I thank God for a play that shows them how to find a faith and a master purpose for their lives.'

Last year's Sheriff of Hull, Edward Chapman, gave a dinner in the Guildhall to mark the occasion. It was served on the city's Wilberforce dinner service—only the second time it has been used since it was given to the city for the Wilberforce Bi-Centennial in 1961.

The Yorkshire Post wrote, 'The opening performance attracted one of the largest Monday night audiences seen in the theatre for some time.

'Mr Thornhill brings this historical period to life again with honesty and a measure of delightful humour. A bright cast, headed by Colin Farrell as Wilberforce, sincerely recreates this time of political intrigue and tells the story of the man who freed a million slaves.'

The Daily Mail, Hull, says the play's wit and humour make it satisfying entertainment.

Next Monday Mr Wilberforce MP opens at the Opera House, Manchester.



4,000 students in the riot-torn Watts district of Los Angeles saw Sing-Out '65 before it left for Japan (see back page) photo: Fleming

'65 Alive in Cardiff

Men in Government call for greater output. George Brown announces his National Plan. Reports are produced on how industries can be modernized. But the crucial question remains: How are all these excellent documents going to come into effect through people?

Last weekend I was at a conference where men from both sides of industry showed how this can happen and where youth expressed their determination to get Britain going.

'A coal miner has a heck of a lot more to give this country than coal,' said Graham Vaughan, a young miner from the Rhondda Valley. Speaking at the Cardiff Conference for Moral Re-Armament, to which he had come straight from the night shift, he continued, 'A miner has got the guts and determination to get a job done provided he has the right goal in front of him. It is our job to give him the goal!'

Four years ago Graham Vaughan had left his wife and the mining industry. 'Since meeting MRA at that time,' he said, 'I not only care about my wife and kids, but about my colliery and the South Wales coalfields.'

Speaking after the Rhondda miner, Clifford Alger, a managing director from Newport, said, 'I, too, am here because I am concerned for the future of our country.' The issues facing by Aline Dolman

Britain today, he said, were not of management or labour, of left or right. The issues were of national character and national purpose.

'Industry, like the nation,' he said, 'has come to the parting of the ways. Management, instead of clinging to privilege and position, should be leading, with Labour, the revolution we all need. Moral Re-Armament means putting people before profits, and the country before our careers. We are seeing here today the spirit that will make plans work.'

Seventy young people from schools and colleges streamed into Cardiff to put on their musical show '65 Alive. They came from all over the British Isles. Some travelled through the night, others travelled all day, so great was their keenness to produce their show for the conference. Fifteen new members have joined the cast since the last performance in Sheffield.

Their singing and convictions met with a heart-felt response from the 200 Welsh there. One life-long miner and former Communist said that reports in the press about juvenile delinquency had depressed him. But he was greatly encouraged to see a virile body of young people on a campaign to change the hearts of men. 'This is the sort of thing the Rhondda needs.' AHMEDABAD Topic, the Indian magazine of current affairs, in an article about Rajmohan Gandhi, writes : 'One who fights for Moral Re-Armament is convinced that American Society needs as much change as Russian Society does, that the Capitalists need as much change as Communists do.'

MONTEVIDEO El Pais, published here last week, 'A call to those who govern and to the nation'. It was edited by four crane-drivers from the port and signed by fifty of their colleagues. They ask that 'absolute moral standards be established in the nation so that Uruguay will become herald of a new civilization directed by men who are governed by God'.

Montevideo's TV showed the film about Rajmohan Gandhi, A Nation is Marching.

BUENOS AIRES The thirty-two democratic trade unions of Argentina have given extensive coverage to the news of MRA's advance around the world in their official joint monthly bulletin. On 18 September A Man to Match the Hour was shown on TV. The five main morning papers carried articles about Peter Howard announcing the programme.

ROME The headquarters of the Catholic Cinematographic centre of Italy evaluates the *Voice of the Hurricane*: 'The message of the film which is a call for love and understanding as well as to find a solution of racial problems with a supernational yardstick makes this film highly positive and able to be shown to everybody.' The centre refers to the hope and faith in moral values that the film creates, and to 'the nobility of the way in which the central theme is treated'.

This centre previously has expressed to the RAM Company of Rome their satisfaction that they were presenting two films in Italy which the Catholic Centre judged to be fully suitable for viewing by any Catholic family.

ROME Voce Adriatica, the main daily of Ancona and Province on the Adriatic coast of Italy, publishes a

half-page editorial which states: 'Beyond and above the age-old contrast of politics, race, economics and sentiments, a new idea is gaining ground in the unhappy system of relationships between the peoples. It is a new light of understanding that is making ground in the most advanced minds. It is a Moral Re-Armament. The world needs an ideology which places its basis on faith, on the respect of others and on the collaboration of the classes. Such a hope of renewal is progressing in that very place where so many contrasts of caste, of religion and of culture are most outstanding: in troubled Asia. Young intellectuals, illustrious politicians and exponents of the economic world are finding the basis on which they can talk and the ground of understanding on which they can move.'

DURBAN 'A film that has been hailed as the "most provocative ever to be screened in this country" will have a special showing at the University of Natal before opening a twoweek run to the public at the Lyric Theatre, Durban.' This was quoted from *The Daily News* in a report announcing a showing of *Voice of the Hurricane* arranged at the request of members of the Students Representative Council. The Council had appointed a special representative to promote the film on the campus. He described the turn-out as exceptional.

LONDON 9,000 seats have already been booked for Peter Howard's Christmas musical, *Give a Dog a Bone*, which opens at the Westminster Theatre on 9 December. Fifty-three social clubs and school and church parties have taken advantage of the theatre's offer of special rates for bookings made before 31 October.

LONDON The cast of the Eastern Nigerian Theatre Company, who are here for the Commonwealth Arts Festival, were entertained at his home by Alan Thornhill, author of *Mr Wilberforce MP*. Producer John Ekwere, speaking for the cast of thirty, said, 'This has been the high point of our visit to Britain.' They attended a preview showing of the film *Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill*.

'65 Alive (continued)

Conrad Hunte, Vice-Captain of the West Indies Cricket Team, said of the '65 Alive cast, 'We need to move with the same speed and guts and enthusiasm as these young people. They are going to do what the older generation has failed to do.' '65 Alive will be given in Newcastle upon Tyne on 24 October.

from the Southampton Echo

While harsh critics of those under thirty will go on declaring that 'youth is wasted on the young', they would be forced to admit at some time that young people often not only have a much clearer insight into world problems but also of the basic problems of their own lives and of those around them.

Such people as those who recently attended the Moral Re-Armament Conference — 'Challenge of the Century'—at Tarporley in Cheshire.

There were 250 of them from 22 nations and among them Jean McAll, a Southampton college student, her brother Christopher, a Dorset schoolboy, and Southampton schoolgirl Alison Avent.

Miss McAll and Miss Avent came in to tell us first-hand about the conference and its aim—to teach young men and women to bridge the gaps between management and labour; black and white; young and old and other divisions of our age by applying the principle of what is right rather than who is right at every level and situation.

It was realised that if they wanted to change what was wrong in their countries and the world, then they would first have to change what was wrong in their own lives.

Members of the conference took part in various workshops such as art, journalism, music and drama. Jean, Chris and Alison were in the drama workshop which combined with the music workshop to produce the show '65 Alive which contained songs and sketches written by the youth themselves. The conference was extended a week in order to take the show 'on the road'. Those who saw it were greatly impressed by its quality and enthusiasm.

Said Jean: 'The whole world desperately needs this new spirit to lift it beyond the "me first", "don't care", "anti-God" bog in which it is immersed.'

Which way the Congo?

Brussels airport, 30 June, 1965, five years after Congo's Independence. It was midnight. In the shadows a special plane taxied alongside the hangars. A large crowd of prelates, ordinary folk, television cameramen pushed forward —and white-clad nuns who escaped from rebel hands on the Sudanese frontier emerged out of the night—a night which for them had lasted five months.

Yet, that very evening of 30 June, two hours later in the same plane, ten young Dominicans were setting out to carry the torch of faith to those areas set free by the Congolese Army where their brothers had perished.

Dark hours

Such was my re-encounter, after a year's absence, with the Congo of 1965—a Congo where I have lived through dark hours since 1960, when the Senate President implored the men of Moral Re-Armament to stay: 'If you leave,' he said, 'we will no longer have any friends.' And we stayed bullied, attacked and our houses broken into, like so many others who did not want to yield to panic or betray their calling.

One may well feel disappointed and at times nauseated by the corruption of politicians, the bribery among civil servants, the general apathy. But one cannot disregard the men who do fight —whether Congolese or Europeans to restore standards of honesty and of workmanship. Because of their persistence, I remain convinced that the Congo will one day achieve the stability which will make it a force for peace in Africa.

As we flew the 2,500 miles across the interior of this vast land, we revisited some of the men who have been to MRA Conferences at Caux since 1960, in particular members of the military delegation sent by General Mobutu. One of these is now a colonel. He was praised publicly for his courour correspondent with Congolese officers

age when he led his troops in the recapture of Albertville.

Recently he was in command at Kindu. The soldiers of his battalion captured some rebels. The Colonel. unarmed, invited them to a meal and talked with them as brothers. That very day, these outlaws, whom others would have killed, went out into the forest to find forty of their men and convince them they must end this fratricidal war. In a few weeks 150 'simbas' had rallied to the forces of law and order. The Colonel showed us a farm abandoned since 1960. Now the employees are back at work under the Colonel, turned farmer for the moment, who is convinced it is his duty not only to defend but also to feed the thousands of people who depend on him.

At the other end of the huge country, where the river runs into the sea, is Kitona air base. It is now a training centre for the Congolese Army. The training battalion of 2,000 men is commanded by an officer who went to Caux. All the corps of instructors are Belgian or Congolese officers who have been through military college in Belgium. Two battalions have just left Kitona and been posted to the interior. A 'finishing school' for the officers rapidly promoted in 1960 after the mutiny is also operating, as well as a school for non-commissioned officers. A training course on civil, moral and ideological issues begins there this autumn with all the MRA films being used. Soon the whole army will have passed through Kitona and been given an entirely new look. The country will then be assured security-the first step towards establishing justice.

Reconciliation

Our readers no doubt remember the reconciliation between the Baluba and Lulua tribes in 1961, which brought an end to what Dag Hammarskjold described as 'genocide'. At the time of the public reconciliation ceremony,

President Kasavubu and General Mobutu

the leaders of the two tribes had asked for the MRA film Freedom to be shown, 'because of the essential part it has played in our history'. The retiring President of Luluabourg's provincial government, who through his contact with MRA was one of the chief architects of this reconciliation. assured us that it still held firm. There have been no more hostilities, the agreement seems welded into their pattern of life. 'It is an example for the whole Congo,' he said, 'even for Africa. This reconciliation was born out of the fight of a few men who overcame bitterness and saw beyond personal gain; it was not the fruit of political manoeuvres.'

Western aid

Western nations have given generously to the Congo since Independence. American aid finances a good share of the national budget. Military supplies have given invaluable support in the fight against the rebels. France is bringing quality to education. Belgium grants substantial technical help and offers training courses in Belgium for thousands of Congolese students. Britain sends equipment, lorries, spare parts. Germany has just signed a contract to build a factory for milling manioc flour, the staple diet.

Very often, however, the aid so generously given does not produce the dividends one might expect. This is because purely material aid cannot but encourage the materialism in some of those who receive it.

Congolese leaders told us their great wish was that the young soldiers acquired not only firm moral foundations, but also an understanding of the ideological needs of nations and a revolutionary passion to fight for things to be different. The West can show the way through the quality of men it sends and the training it is prepared to give.

P E Dentan





The first issue of WIN as a national monthly has just been published

Popular and provocative, *WIN* is fast becoming a voice for British youth. It seeks to represent the vast majority of youth who are constructive in outlook. It aims to give them the material and the ideas to make them more effective.

- WIN aims to set a high standard in journalism, where journalists face up to the great responsibilities they carry. It will promote absolutely honest reporting, and features that set out to wake up Britain.
- WIN will feature news of Moral Re-Armament youth action across the world, with special emphasis on Britain. There will be editorials and comment with fresh thinking on national and world issues. There will be cartoons and competitions. It will be light and easy to read, but will grapple with serious problems.

A yearly subscription is 10⁷- for twelve issues post paid. Write to WIN Circulation Dept, Tirley Garth, Tarporley, Cheshire Subscription for two copies is 16⁷-

Million wanted

Rajmohan Gandhi last week gave a lecture at Waseda University, centre of the revolutionary Zengakuren movement, on the theme 'Asia's message to the West'. Although in the middle of exams, 500 packed the auditorium. He challenged Japan to offer a million men and women students for promoting permanent peace—a million who will give a year or two or all their lives — a million who will practice absolute moral standards and obedience to the inner voice in all they do, whatever their jobs.

'Asians can decide to break out of stagnation', he said, 'and launch the most dynamic movement of all time the revolution of MRA that will finally bring about the victory of man over his animal nature and thereby satisfy every need of man.' The speech was interrupted several times with enthusiastic applause.

Sing-Out '65 invades Japan

Japanese officials flew from Tokyo to Hokkaido to receive *Sing-Out '65* on its arrival at Chitose Airport. It has been invited by the Prime Minister of Japan. The 130 young Americans from the cast of this musical ran off the plane in one minute flat with bass fiddles, guitars and banjos to sing to the welcoming committee of more than a hundred.

This was the pace set and kept as the cast moved through Japan's northern island of Hokkaido. 'The spirit of these young Americans is the one that can solve the problems tearing Asia apart,' said Governor Kingo Machimura, hosting an official reception jointly with the Mayor of Sapporo.

More than five thousand young Japanese crammed the Nakajima Sports Centre for two showings of *Sing-Out '65*. They shouted, clapped in time and gave a sustained ovation to salute the performance which was translated simultaneously by projecting Japanese words on a giant screen.

Two thousand officers and men of the Eleventh Division of the Japanese Ground Forces gave a standing ovation to the show. It was given at their base on the orders of Lieut. General Tsukamoto, Commander of the largest region of Japan. The garrison greeted the American task force with giant posters and paraded them onto the base with their crack band. Soldiers lining the route cheered the cast as they marched in, dressed in smart western outfits.

The Hokkai Times called Sing-Out '65 'the most refreshing performance we have seen in a long time.' Members of the cast were interviewed in a fifteen minute TV broadcast at peak listening time. All the overseas guests stayed in homes. A businessman said, 'We have been deeply impressed by these youth. There is no telling how far this explosion could take the people of Hokkaido. Thank you for what you have done.'

Five hundred university and high school students came to a training meeting and stayed afterwards to lay plans to continue the work and create their own ideological weapons. They will send a large delegation to the MRA World Assembly at Odawara 10-17 October.

Governor Machimura, who spent most of a day with the cast said, 'They are the most revolutionary group of youth I have met anywhere in my life. This is the way to establish the right relationship between Japan and the United States.'

Kabuki

In Tokyo the oldest traditions and highest ranks of Japan were opened to this new type of young American. 2,400 saw *Sing-Out* '65 in the Kabuki Theatre. Renowned as a national monument for its flawless productions of Japanese drama dating back hundreds of years, the Kabuki has never experienced a Western production like this.

The cast was welcomed to Odawara by the Mayor and more than a thousand high school youth with banners. One read, 'We need the young revolutionaries from the USA.'

Charter flights to Paris

two charter planes have been booked for the weekends of October 9-10 and 16-17 to fly to Paris for Peter Howard's play

A TRAVERS LE MUR DU JARDIN

The weekend includes a sight-seeing tour, theatre ticket, meals and overnight hospitality for the inclusive charge of £12.

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