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BRAND NEW PANTOMIME
BY PETER HOWARD

WESTMINSTER THEATRE—BOOK NOW

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ELECTION CHOICE

WHOEVER we choose to govern us, there's a choice to be made in every voter's heart. It is whether we of Britain will try to live safe and shallow in harbour, or adventurously on the deep seas of this century.

It's an election choice that goes on long after 15 October.

A man who made the lifelong choice to live dangerously on deep seas once said on the eve of an election: 'The greatest issue is whether we will elect God as the guide of our individual lives, and so of our national life.' The man was Frank Buchman. Peter Howard said this year in a speech 'Election 1964'*:

'Often in the past, at moments of danger, and when our friends despaired and our enemies rejoiced, Britain has with a giant leap of energy and will, from lethargy, risen and prevailed.

'We still could give our best service to the earth, not as conquerors, not as exploiters, not as boot-lickers or jackbooters, but as men and women humbly, hopefully, resolved at a time of danger and opportunity such as has never been seen on earth before to remake the world.'

Tokyo: fever to win Games, fervour to win China

from our correspondent in Japan

Five coloured Olympic rings will be traced today in the blue sky above Tokyo by Japanese Air Force jets while 105 mm. howitzers blast out a salute for the opening of the first Olympic Games in Asia.

Olympic fever is running high over the whole country. Special Olympic songs are being sung everywhere. The newspapers have been full of pictures and stories of the new railway lines, monorails, bridges, highways and hotels being completed for the influx of people.

While the Games have attracted country-wide and world-wide interest, the Japanese nation continues its gigantic struggle to lead the world in industrial production. In spite of the crucial situations in South-East Asia, Cyprus and the Congo, there is very little concern here—public or private—for anything beyond immediate economic targets. (In the last decade Japan's national productivity has increased annually by 9.4 per cent; Britain's by 2.4 per cent.)

Amid this bustle and hubbub is heard a siren of sanity sounded by Masahide Shibusawa. Here is one figure who has come more and more into the public eye as a man of passion, faith and conviction.

With Rajmohan Gandhi in India he is creating a mass movement 'to unite the free peoples of Asia, and create a society that ends corruption, poverty and social injustice.' These two men see Japan and India as the centre of an action which will eventually win the masses of China.

In Japan, Shibusawa has started a 'crusade of national conscience'. Commenting on the recent elections, described as the most corrupt in Japanese history, he attacked senior statesmen who had talked about moral education but bought votes with millions of yen.

'Japan must become a pattern in her quality of life and standards for her neighbour nations from China to Australasia, by a revolution of character,' he said.

One part of this programme has been a summer training camp for youth from all parts of the country held on the northernmost island of Hokkaido. Two full-length musical plays, *Light from the North* and *Teenage Explosion*, with combined casts of one hundred, then went on tour through the towns of Hokkaido.

This year another play, Beyond Communism to Revolution, completed a tour reaching one-third of Japan's military personnel at 58 Army and Air Force camps and Naval bases.

*Available, price 3d. postage extra, from 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1.

WHAT DO THE YOUTH OF AFRICA WANT?

by a correspondent recently in Kenya and Nigeria

HALF the population of Kenya are under 16, said the Minister of Finance in his budget speech a few months ago.

If the new census figures for Nigeria, giving a total population of 55 millions, are anywhere near correct, at least half the population must be under 15. It is probably safe to say that well over half the population of Africa are teenagers or younger.

What do they want—the hundreds of thousands pouring out of the secondary schools and universities?

'We want a social revolution, an agricultural revolution and an industrial and economic revolution to turn our country quickly into a modern state.' This was a typical comment at two recent youth conferences, one in Nigeria, the other in Kenya.

What Africa wants is not a defensive non-alignment, but a policy which is a positive counter-thrust to both East and West.

The students are violently impatient with anyone who only warns them of the dangers of Communism. But

they listen immediately to anyone who shows them how they can challenge both blocs with something better.

They are beginning to express the nature of this counter-thrust. The students of Kenya started a daily newspaper at their conference. They have decided to continue it, under the title *Tomorrow's Africa*, after the conference, in order to keep in touch with each other and with students in other parts of the continent.

In an article on 'Who is to blame for the Congo?' one of them writes: 'The extent of the cold war in Africa is in direct proportion to the character and conduct, the moral and spiritual values, of our leaders.'

They issued a 'Call to our Nations', most of which was reprinted in the *East African Standard*. It called on the political leaders, civil servants and teachers 'to set and live high standards of self-discipline as an example to the youth'.

These young men are embarked on a programme in which they show the films of Moral Re-Armament to their people and in their schools and colleges.

Nigerian student leader calls for 'moral revolution'

A TOTALLY new voice sounded among the students of Nigeria's largest and oldest (16 years) university at the opening student assembly last week.

S. O. Oyedeji, President of the Ibadan University Students' Union, before a crowd of one thousand packed in the Trenchard Hall, called for a 'moral revolution' to solve the problems confronting the nation.

Last March scores of furious Ibadan University students were held at bay by riot police as they tried to storm into the Federal capital of Lagos. Feelings ran high and there were accusations of politically manoeuvred census figures, alleged to give unfair dominance to Northern Nigeria.

Student complaints were heard again as the mass protest general strike of Nigeria's workers rocked the economy and the government in June.

Next month Nigeria chooses her future in the Federal general elections.

The Ibadan student President welcoming the freshmen for this session said, 'It's a matter for regret that our leaders prefer to be politicians rather than statesmen. In order to solve the problems confronting us today, we need broadmindedness and a moral revolution.

'We cannot blame illiterates,' he went on, 'for being tribalistic; they don't know that the world is shrinking fast. But we who are enlightened, who should by now look at one another as Nigerians rather than Ibos, Yorubas, Hausas, Urhobos, or Edos should be condemned for tribalistic tendencies.

'I call upon you all, leaders of tomorrow, to sink your

differences, social and political and otherwise, to work for the progress of this country.'

The Secretary of the Union invited the students to stay and see the film *Freedom*, which was also shown next day to Ife University by the Students' Union President there.

On the first anniversary of Nigeria becoming a republic, 1 October, the *West African Pilot* published a message headlined 'MRA Youth Greet Nigeria'. It read:

We youth from all Regions whose lives have been touched by Moral Re-Armament have pledged ourselves to raise a corps of brave and incorruptible patriots across the nation who will sacrifice personal ambitions and interests to make Nigeria a dynamic, clean, united country, a voice of freedom, sanity and hope for Africa and the world.

After taking part in the national day parade, young men with leaflets and loudspeakers invited the population to a mass open-air showing of the all-African film *Freedom* in the National Stadium.

Under a clear, star-studded tropical sky, crowds cheered school and college students led by Isaac Amata and John Nchekwube, a senior prefect of Lagos City College, who introduced the film. Special applause greeted black and white youth from South Africa who said, 'We want to fight with you'.

The audience crowded round afterwards to buy copies of Peter Howard's address 'What Colour is God's Skin?', published specially for Independence Day.

'The day I pulled the Mayor's leg'

YOUTH are in the news in New York. The U.S. Government recently appropriated \$4.4 million to train unemployed youth in Harlem, the Negro district. At the same time, another youth organization was being investigated for infiltration by 'subversives'.

Three young men from Harlem have decided to make New York 'a pattern city for the world'. They are William 'Buster' Chapman, Gene Oliver and Steve

Goodwin.

They believe that the 74 nationalities who live in New York are a great strength. Gene Oliver says, 'There are more Puerto Ricans here than in San Juan, more Irish than in Dublin, and more Jews than in Israel. We each have our own little nation so to speak.

'If we can reach the youth of all these groups with Moral Re-Armament and get them to live beyond what they feel, or what they hate, they are a great potential.'

Chapman met the Mayor of New York, Robert Wagner, a few weeks ago and arranged for him to receive 100 delegates to this summer's Conference for Tomorrow's America on Mackinac Island.

'We decided we were going to see Mayor Wagner,' Chapman said. 'We didn't know where or how, and had no way of getting into the Armory where the State Democratic Convention was being held. We went to the Armory anyway and I asked the officer outside, "Would it be possible to get in?" The officer said, "Who are you?" I said, "I'm the nephew of Sydney Poitier continued in next column

Teenagers make new headlines

Two go-ahead teenagers, Pippa Mackay-Miller, 17, and her brother Hamish, 19, heard about the Conference for Tomorrow's America. They decided to hold a conference of their own at their home in Rainham, Kent. They informed their local paper which announced: "Decadence" is fought by Rainham Girl (17).

Pippa explains why they invited 100 of their friends to this weekend. 'Nowadays, Mods and Rockers constantly hit the headlines. Instead of being a headache, why can't teenagers take responsibility for the way the country goes?

'We need a big enough aim for our lives. We want to create a new trend—where it's normal to live straight.'

The weekend went with a swing. It included a coach trip to see Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill at the Westminster Theatre; film showings in their home at Rainham; news from six young people recently returned from the Mackinac youth conference in the U.S.; sport; and discussions on how they could bring a new spirit to their communities and the country.

Says Pippa, 'Britain needs moral re-armament and I believe the youth can do it.' She plans another weekend soon.

and Archie Moore." He said, "Well, O.K."

Inside, Chapman made his way to the delegates' box. 'I was near the platform where the Mayor was sitting. I started to call him but couldn't get his attention, so I reached up and pulled his pant leg. He looked down. I told him about the Conference for Tomorrow's America and started to get his interest.

'I talked with him for ten minutes. Then he gave me an alternate delegate's badge which allowed me to sit on the platform. When Robert Kennedy came he introduced me to him, and I sat on the platform in the same

row with the Kennedy family.'

The following day, Wagner's secretary called Chapman and the meeting with the hundred delegates was arranged. From that a further session was set up at which the Harlem youth presented their programme for the moral re-armament of the city.

The three young men have begun their programme by meeting many of the Negro leadership in New York. Says Oliver, 'These men know the youth are the people to reach for. You can see their genuine interest in something that is different. What impresses them is that we are one of nine different groups from the Mackinac Conference working together in the country.'

Dare ... Dare ... Dare ... Dare

The voice of young America is heard in *Dare*, the nation's newest publication, a 40-page *Life*-size pictorial magazine.

'It's a young man's America and a young man's world,' say the editors. 'For those who dare it will be a new age of adventure.' The publication is designed, they state, for the generation who 'dare not only to go higher into space, deeper under the ocean, harder and faster, but who dare to speak up for what they believe in and want, no matter what anyone may say, think or do.

'It is for a generation who will reverse the morals, manners and methods of out-moded materialism.'

In its first issue, out on 8 October, *Dare* describes with pen and photo the uprising of young men and women, first at the Conference for Tomorrow's America, then spreading across the continent.

Selling for 25 cents in the United States the magazine has an initial press run of 100,000. The Editor, Robert J. Fleming, and Managing Editor, Stewart V. Lancaster, anticipate wide demand 'from all forward-looking people, especially those who attended the Conference for Tomorrow's America.'

Firemen's Hazard!

Youth from the Mackinac Conference parading through Hazard, Kentucky, were led by the city fire truck carrying the slogan, 'Don't miss a meeting to set America on fire.'

'A provocative play'

THE editor of *The British Bandsman* wrote on 3 October under the above heading: 'London's Westminster Theatre has in recent months been visited by many bandsmen from the North, and their friends; and other visitors to London during the coming weeks would undoubtedly find the current play, *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*, a worth-while, challenging experience.

'The author, Peter Howard, has daringly chosen for his theme the return of a Christ-figure, in modern dress, to a segment of today's world. The wholly orthodox may be shocked by the conception, language and presentation, but the writer found himself strangely moved.

'There is no "preaching" as such, but the play is unfashionable enough to have a "message". There is humour as well as drama. It is thought-provoking, the pace does not slacken, and the whole company is first rate.

'Many bandsmen will be visiting London this month. (For the National Brass Bands' Championship on 17 October). An evening to spare could hardly be better spent than at the Westminster Theatre.'

David Savage wrote in the *Baptist Times* of 24 September:

'Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill is deeply disturbing.

'It shatters the "holier-than-thou" complacency which so many of us Christians have substituted for a dynamic Christ-centred faith.

'Lillias Walker as the harlot, John Richmond as the Bishop, Mark Heath as the black man and Eric Flynn as Mr. Brown are all excellent.

'The effect of the play is accentuated by the simple settings of Hutchinson Scott and the weird electronic music which links the scenes.'

Olympics: test of national aims as well as athletes

Two 1960 Olympic gold medallists have been assisting Robert Kane, administrative head of America's 1964 Olympic Team. They are John Sayre and Richard 'Rusty' Wailes who beat the Russians in a rowing event the U.S. had never won—the four-without-coxswain.

They were invited by U.S. Olympic Committee officials to assist in a programme of instruction before the Games began and have addressed each group of athletes in turn.

Wailes, who conferred earlier this year on building national character with Japanese Olympic officials and competitors, explained what U.S. athletes could expect to find in Tokyo. He emphasized that 'the world judges America today not by what she says but by how she lives'.

Sayre spoke about the almost 7,000 athletes from 90 nations who will be comparing the ideas and attitudes of the Communist and non-Communist nations. Citing the bad examples set by some U.S. competitors at the

Winter Olympics in Innsbruck, Sayre said, 'Our task in Tokyo is to send a team who are not only the most fit physically, but who are also fit in character. Such athletes are the best answer to these charges of our bad behaviour, low morality and lack of purpose.'

After their talks to the track and field group, the team manager came up to Sayre and Wailes. He said, 'Two things hit me: one, they all listened to you. Two, they applauded when you finished. They have never done that for anyone.'

NEWS IN BRIEF

Montreal—The Crowning Experience has started a commercial run in Quebec Province.

Caux—A special train brought 400 from textile, aircraft and car industries to 'Jours de France' at Caux last weekend. A French version of the film *Voice of the Hurricane* had its first showing.

Hollywood—The Southern California Motion Picture Council gave a special award to *The Crowning Experience* last month.

Raid or reality

DURING the war the operetta Lilac Time was being given at a London theatre. Richard Tauber, the popular tenor, was playing Schubert. He was giving his best in the second act when suddenly the sirens wailed. Stepping to the footlights, Tauber said, 'Ladies and gentlemen, you have just heard the air raid warning. Those of you who wish to can take cover in the tube. And now, back to reality!'

This story is told by Henry Cass, the producer, in 'When the Curtain Falls' in *New World News* No. 35, which is published next week.

In this provocative article, Mr. Cass says that the modern intellectual playwright who sees no hope for humanity should be recognized for what he is—'a man with a sick mind who is in need of a mental health specialist and whose work should be seen only on a small, closed-circuit screen by his doctor.'

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Dynamic news film



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