

SATURDAY, 15 FEBRUARY, 1964

'Ten thousand new farms' - aid for Kenya crisis

NEMPLOYMENT has faced the Kenya Government with a situation more serious and explosive, in many ways, than the disturbances in the Army.

The Kenya Minister for Labour said recently, 'Thousands of unemployed in this country are rapidly becoming a major security risk."

'Half of Kenya's population is under fifteen,' wrote Tom Stacey in the Sunday Times of 2 February. 'Not much less than half of the employable population needs work.'

Proposals which could create employment for twenty or thirty thousand people were made by three Kenya farmers in two interviews with Prime Minister Kenyatta last month.

A new policy, part of 'a vast agricultural revolution' planned in Kenya, resulted from these interviews.

Developments which have taken place at Narosurra in the Rift Valley over the last two years are to become the basis for this new policy*. Narosurra is where Mr. Michael Low, one of the three farmers who went to see Mr. Kenyatta, has his farm.

Farming-in-partnership

Under the headline, 'Rift Farmer has Anticipated Government "Share" Plan', the East African Standard of 29 January stated: 'A Rift Valley farmer has already demonstrated the practicability of the farming-inpartnership form of settlement which, as the Minister of Agriculture announced this week, the Kenya Government plans to adopt.'

Describing how nine new farms came into operation at Narosurra, now doubling the arable output and increasing employment thirty per cent, the article concludes: 'The Minister of Agriculture revealed that the Government hopes to introduce a very similar kind of scheme using Land Bank finances. These would be joint ventures with farmers and settlers co-operating in such things as use of machinery.'

"In this way we will bring into utilisation the

Africanisation of large areas of farms in the former European Highlands, which are under-developed." Mr. Mackenzie, the Minister of Agriculture, said. "We think a great number of European farmers are prepared to cooperate with the Government." '

The three farmers who saw the Prime Minister, Mr. Michael Low, Mr. Wilfrid Hopcraft and Colonel Alan Knight, outlined their proposals in the Kenva Weekly News of 31 January.

'Outside the present million-acre settlement scheme there are over two million acres of mixed farming land,' they stated. 'In this area there are approximately 1,300 farms. If 1,000 of these farmers made it possible for say 10 of their employees to take up land on acreages yielding an annual income of £200, it would bring into operation 10,000 new farms.

Expand economy

'These would be integrated into the present farming structure with all the advantages of continuity of agricultural practice, co-operative marketing, and the fullest use of local experience. At the same time, the existing agricultural production of the country would continue and expand its vital contribution to the national economy.

'They gave the working example of Narosurra Farm. at Eldama Ravine, where such an experiment has been in progress for two years. This mixed farm of 1,092 acres has an economy based on dairying, beef and coffee. Michael Low, who farms Narosurra with his wife Mary. decided to think out how every acre could be best used in the service of a new and developing country. They considered how to farm more intensively on a smaller acreage and, while producing enough for the need of their own family, make land available to men who should have the opportunity of farming themselves.

'Two years ago 425 acres were offered to nine experienced employees, some of whom had worked on the farm for over twenty years. The land they were offered ranged from 30 to 70 acres and was estimated to give an income of approximately £200 per annum.

^{*} The developments at Narosurra (Place of Dark Trees) are described, with pictures, in *New World News* for April - June 1963.

'The Central Land Board purchased the 425 acres from Low and have resold it to the nine owners on a 30-year repayment basis.

'During the first year production from the arable land of the whole unit, comprising ten farms, has doubled. Today the nine new farmers are employing over twenty additional men while employment on the original farm has remained at its previous level.

'Each of the new farmers is moving towards an economy based on dairying, maize, coffee and mutton. An important feature of self-help is that they can continue, if they wish, to work part-time on Narosurra Farm which assists them in overcoming initial financial outlays. Together with Low they are now forming a marketing co-operative which will facilitate the sale of their produce.

'The entire amount from the sale of the land received by Low from the Central Land Board has been re-invested in the farm, enabling him to clear land, fence and increase water supplies. In this way he has raised his own production on a farm where previously no finance was available for additional development.

'Together with the significant increases in production and employment, a far greater sense of responsibility and trust has grown between the ten farmers. Stocks thefts, for instance, are a thing of the past.'

The three farmers are confident that their proposals can be applied on a national scale.

'To create the 10,000 new farms,' they wrote, 'the Government would purchase portions of existing farms from their present owners and in consultation with them plan the new farms, choosing the most suitable new farmers from the present employees. The land could then be made available to these men by Government through 30-year loans.

'In addition to the 10,000 families thus settled on viable farms of their own, employment for twenty or thirty thousand new farm workers will be created.'

Kenya's Ministers of Finance and Agriculture have visited the U.S. and Britain in the last fortnight, seeking finance for the country's agricultural revolution, which, the Government states, 'could result in the present critical unemployment situation being turned into a labour shortage in two years.'

Barbara Ward-Jackson, the economist and journalist, recently summed up Kenya's prospects: 'No small state, simply by its performance, has ever had the same certainty of affecting, profoundly, the politics of other lands . . . Kenya offers an extraordinary opportunity.'

In Japan's listening post

To the Soviet-held Kurile Islands from the north-east of Hokkaido is only three miles. Hokkaido, Japan's northern island, is known as a sounding board and listening post. Everything done there is said to be marked in Peking and Moscow.

Governor Machimura is leading a campaign to 'enlist and train ten thousand patriots courageous enough to clean up their lives and take on the nation's future as their priority for life.'

To start this he paid for a full page announcing the campaign in the *Hokkai Times* and bought the latest tape recorder equipment for use with the play *Beyond* *Communism to Revolution.* This play will be a main weapon in the campaign. The Governor has arranged for an Assembly in Hokkaido at the beginning of March.

The cast of the play were flown from Tokyo by Air Force plane to Chitose Military Base, where 3,000 officers and men saw the play. At another town the entire Tenth Infantry Regiment saw it.

Students of Hokkaido University, a centre of violent Communism, were spellbound by the play. In the mining towns miners have packed it out.

The cast have been lent white bear-skin coats, caps, boots and gloves for the sub-zero weather.

Australians call for race policy change

DELEGATES to an Australia Day Assembly for Moral Re-Armament in Melbourne called on the Federal Government to re-introduce compulsory military service and end racial discrimination in Australia's immigration policy.

The defence resolution said that compulsory military service was necessary for Australia to show its determination to support Malaysia and repel any aggressor threatening Australia or any of her allies. It would also 'reassure our allies that we are prepared to sacrifice as a people and fight alongside them if necessary.'

Signatories to the resolution included youth in the military service age bracket and senior service officers.

At present Australians pay £18 per head per annum on defence compared with £32 in the United Kingdom and \pounds 112 in the United States.

The resolution on immigration policy called for an end to racial discrimination by giving to all nationalities the opportunity of entry into Australia, regardless of colour. Present policy does not allow Asians to settle in Australia except under certain special conditions.

A new play, *Out of the Shadow*, was produced at the Assembly. Written by an Asian student, it depicts the struggles of Asian students in Australia and how they find a new purpose. The play will be given in Australia and Asia.

FIVE THOUSAND ASKED TO GIVE £1 A MONTH

by JOHN RAINBOW, F.C.A.

FULL pages for Moral Re-Armament, placed month by month in the *Daily Express*, are paid for every single time not out of great funds—which MRA does not possess—but by the sacrifice of hundreds of people throughout Britain.

The January page, 'A Big Job for Britain', for example, was paid for by 1,170 people from all sections of the population. An estimated 850 made contributions in 'pass the basket' collections at meetings. Through the post came 320 gifts ranging from £200 to 2s. 6d.

The donors included shipyard workers who passed the hat round in the tea break, students, manufacturers and ministers. Thirty-five teachers contributed £400.

A ten-year-old girl wrote in, 'Here is $\pounds 2$ 17s. 1d. which I got for the full page by making things and selling them.' This girl has raised $\pounds 25$ for these pages this past year.

The aim now is to get 5,000 people giving £1 a month, to make these full pages a regular feature of British life.

17 countries copy

Abroad, the British pages have been copied in many countries. In France the Paris daily paper *L'Aurore* is giving full pages free of charge for MRA. Hundreds of papers in America have done the same. These pages have set the pattern for similar pages in Switzerland, Germany, Kenya, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Holland, Italy, Brazil, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Morocco, Iran, Japan.

In Britain hundreds of people have written in. Many parents express concern about the future of their children. A mother in Devon, for instance, wrote: 'I read with intense interest the full page in the *Daily Express*. I am sending a small donation of 10s. 6d. As a mother of a teenage boy I often lie awake at night wondering what I can do to help him to have proper values and to guide him through this most difficult period when he is growing up in a world gone mad. I shall be glad to hear more of your work.'

Letters from youth

A large number of letters are received from youth. These show they are looking for purpose, hope and a way to do something about the world.

A boy from Melksham writes: 'Although I am 15 years old I am well aware, perhaps too well aware, of mankind's future, if nothing is done about it. And I have my life to live. I wish to be 100 years old, not 16 or 17 because somebody pushes a switch and the whole world is sent to kingdom come. I believe that Moral Re-Armament can convert and save mankind from its historic path to destruction. I would like to try to do my part in saving the world.'

A trade unionist in the North of England read a full page. He was struck by the reference to an MRA play. He travelled 170 miles to see the play and shortly afterwards attended an MRA Assembly. By this time he had been appointed to a senior position in a large factory in an industry known for costly industrial disputes.

His fight for a constructive policy has led to frictionfree working there over the past eighteen months, ensuring thousands of regular wage packets and saving the national economy millions of pounds.

The following are extracts from letters.

Fish finger find

From Lancashire: 'I have just come across your page in the *Daily Express*—the fish fingers were wrapped in it! But I have found something I have been looking for, for weeks.'

A Staffordshire clergyman wrote: 'I was very impressed by your MRA advertisement in the *Daily Express*. The cartoon was very effective and offset the report in the same paper by Canon Rhymes. Please accept the enclosed cheque, for one guinea, towards the funds.'

From Bristol: 'I have for some time been very impressed with the way you have occupied your space in the *Daily Express*. While I am not a practising Christian, nevertheless everything you say rings true to me and persuades me I can do better. I enclose this small contribution (£2) and hope that in the future I may be able to afford more.'

From Manchester: 'Enclosed is a small contribution in appreciation of your having said so widely and so much better all that I have been saying and hearing from my work-mates for the past year or so. Most of us think this way but have never had such a spokesman to represent us.

'Special hammering'

'As this MRA movement gathers strength and momentum—as it will now, especially—I hope you will reserve a special hammering for those people who make us afraid to turn a television switch on.'

From Kent: 'I was thrilled to read your clarion call in the *Daily Express*. This nation cannot carry on sliding downhill for ever without meeting with disaster. I would like to send you a donation of a guinea each time you use a full page in the national press.'

From Preston: 'Your advertisement "A Big Job for Britain" has a compelling, patriotic message, every word is so true, men at the top should take heed and note this. If all nations were honest with each other peace would be certain.'

The coupon, which is part of the enclosed full page reprint from the *Daily Express*, enables you to be one of the five thousand who are asked to give regularly to these full pages.

Doctors warn Swedish Government

DAGENS NYHETER, the biggest morning paper in Sweden, on its posters on 1 February carried as the main news: '140 Doctors Warn Against Over-Sexualization.' In its front-page headline it added, 'Sound the Alarm with the Government'.

The paper reported: 'Professors, medical superintendents, lecturers and practitioners all over the country, numbering about 140, have sounded the alarm with the Government about increasing promiscuity and over-sexuality. They demand that the character-building activities of schools should be strongly reinforced.

'The signatories represent most disciplines of medical science, such as pediatry, children's psychology, gynaecology, venereology, surgery and dermatology.

Schools' responsibility

'Summing up they say: The character-building activities of schools must have as a foundation clear lines about right and wrong. The upholding of general discipline and of the authority of the school—and indirectly of that of society—is a protection and a support, of which the youth must not be deprived.

'As far as the sexual field is concerned all training and instruction must be based on the fact that the monogamous marriage, aiming at a lifelong partnership with responsibility for each other and common responsibility for the children, is the natural order of life and corresponds to human dignity and to the best for the community.

monogamous 'The marriage, therefore, is the only normal framework for sexual relations. Extramarital relations are from the medical and mental hygienic point of view unsafe, from the personal point of view degrading, and from the social and national point of view harmful. Chastity is not in any way harmful to health, on the contrary it can contribute to giving the personality the inner firmness which is required in order to reach great aims.

'An investigation should be held as to ways in which the community can and should fight the forces which in films, press, theatre, radio and TV, from different motives, not least profit-seeking, encourage oversexuality, confuse feelings of what is right and sound, produce increasing difficulties, especially for youth, and undermine what the community at enormous cost is trying to build up.

'As a background the letter gives a picture of the venereal diseases and the sexual licence among youth, resulting in ever younger mothers, illegitimate children, increasing criminality in ever younger ages and increasing insecurity as to life and property.

'The present unbearable situation has appeared during a period of more extensive sexual information inside and outside schools than ever before. This shows, the signatories say, that information without the simultaneous forming of committing ideals does not solve the problem.'

NEWS IN BRIEF

Seattle, U.S.A.—'The answer for the ugly American is not the lovely American but a new and revolutionary American,' said Mr. Peter Howard on TV. 'What is needed,' he added, 'is Americans with such a revolutionary aim and discipline that Peking and Moscow will both say "That is what we want".'

Ol Kalou, Kenya—The film Freedom was shown to five thousand people at the invitation of the area M.P., Mr. Kariuki, author of Mau Mau Detainee. He himself covered all expenses of the series of showings in his constituency.

Bombay, India—Every performance of the musical *Space Is So Startling* was sold out during a week's run. The extended run of the play was virtually sold out the day after it was announced.

Competition—Winners of the competition for teenagers on 'What I want to achieve with my life' will be announced in the next issue.

Cheers from the 'ranks of Tuscany'

PETER HOWARD'S play, *Through the Garden Wall*, in its Italian production, has been on tour through the government-owned theatres of Italy's central provinces—Tuscany, Emilia and the Marches—following the play's successful three weeks' run in Rome's Teatro delle Arti.

Full houses greeted the play in Ancona and nearby Macerata in the Marches. Many travelled long distances to fill theatres in 'Red' Emilia and in the Tuscan towns of Pisa, Massa, Lucca, Siena and Perugia.

In all these towns the Left-wing trade union federation (C.G.I.L.) and the local educational authorities have given all-out support to the production. The union backing has had the effect of bringing an entirely new public to the theatre alongside the old. The importance of this move lies in the fact that government statistics show that in the last ten years Italian theatre has lost ten million patrons.

Following the acclaim accorded Howard's play by the Roman press, the provincial newspapers have given the production special attention. The Florence newspaper, *La Nazione*, which covers the whole region, wrote in its Massa edition, 'Howard is the writer of the young generation, known throughout the world. He has set out to make a species of revolution in English and world theatre, adhering to the current event that form a popular theatre.'

The paper adds, 'He has left behind the type of drama of Ibsen and Sartre and has begun to use the stage as a mirror in which man can see his true image.'

Telegrafo of Livorno wrote, 'Howard belongs to the new generation which is so full of ideas and creative fervour.'