

Call to ride

'RIDE! RIDE! tells, in entertaining and moving fashion, the story of what one man achieved in an age in many respects not unlike our own. I enjoyed it greatly. I hope it may have a long run in London, for it has a message for our day. Support can be given in two ways: by going to see it and by financial backing to Aldersgate Productions Ltd, the non-profit making body presenting it.'

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
in a statement released this week from the Church Information Office

Aldersgate Productions announce that the run of *Ride! Ride!* at the Westminster Theatre, initially arranged for seven weeks, will now be extended.

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**NEW
WORLD
NEWS**
FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

Building for pacific future

by Christopher Mayor

THE PACIFIC is not always pacific. Typhoons can beat it into foam. In the past, bloody episodes of war stained its coral reefs, while freebooting traders brought ugliness and unknown diseases of body and mind. And yet there is space and grace and the daily benison of clean tides and sun and pregnant soil; food and air and faith for millions of God's children if we can harvest these resources and bury the greeds that pollute the heart.

Dr Hermann Kahn, Director of the Hudson Institute and a noted futurologist, sees the Pacific, after centuries of Mediterranean and Atlantic emphasis, becoming a new centre of power and trade as China, Russia, Japan and the United States flex their muscles. Add to these giants of the Pacific littoral, Canada, Latin America, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand with that newest of old lands Papua New Guinea and her sister islands including Fiji and New Caledonia. This vast ocean laps the shores of more than a score of nations with half the world's population.

Slowly Australia is awakening to this reality and to the responsibilities it brings.

Springboard

Twenty years ago next month, Armagh, a large residence seven kilometres from the heart of Melbourne, with superb reception rooms and set in over two acres of garden, became a springboard in the Pacific area for Moral Re-Armament's bid to create the unselfish society. Since then, teams of men and women — New Zealanders, Papua New Guineans, Fijians and Australians — have gone forth from Armagh to the Pacific and Asia and beyond with drama and music and practical experiences of a change of motive that has affected life in the factory, on the farm, in politics and in families.

Recent events in Asia have emphasised the need to expand this programme and to make

the fullest use of the remarkable facility which Armagh provides.

Men and women in Australia and other Pacific nations have joined in a plan to accomplish this. Construction of a new two-storey wing will add over 4,500 square feet (430m²) to the existing building. New catering areas and meeting facilities will enable the holding of regular conferences and seminars for 150 people. There will be accommodation for 25 people. Added to the spacious grounds with its all-weather tennis court and 50 foot swimming pool, this will increase Armagh's suitability as a training centre for young people also.

• Jim Beggs, President of the Melbourne Branch of Australia's Waterside Workers' Federation, has helped convene regular seminars at Armagh for men in industry to hammer out solutions to some of the toughest human and economic problems. He says, 'At Armagh I saw workers in my industry of the extreme left and the extreme

right find a purpose for their lives and our industry.'

• Mrs Margaret Tucker, President of the United Council of Aboriginal Women, says, 'In the world home of Armagh, I found no prejudice — the lowliest "bush" person is made to feel on a level with the highest in the land. I have received there an education no money can buy.'

• Michael Vertigan, a high school teacher, says, 'Armagh is where I first decided to change my living so radically that it could affect the needs of Asia and the world.'

• The President of New Caledonia's Territorial Assembly, Yann Celene Uregei, says, 'I hope that each country in the Pacific will contribute a brick to the extensions of Armagh, for to each one of us this home signifies light.'

To date 851 individual gifts have been received from Britain, Canada, Japan, New

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Foreman Vin Russell pours foundations watched by Gordon Brown, architect, and assisted by other voluntary workers. Mr Brown donated his architectural services. Photo: Mayor

Captain Standfast

by Francis Goulding

Captain Loudon Hamilton MC died last month in London. It was in his rooms in 1921 that what became known as the Oxford Group came to birth. Alongside Frank Buchman he was a pioneer of Moral Re-Armament for the world. There is a Remembrance Service for him this Tuesday 29 June at St Columba's, Pont Street, London, at noon. We print this tribute by one of his oldest friends.

I FIRST MET LOUDON HAMILTON in 1923 — anonymously, or rather under the name 'Beau Ideal' in Harold Begbie's *Lifechangers*. I had picked out the book by chance from a friend's bookshelves, and my atheistic cynicism of those days thought it a remarkable fantasy of life as it should be.

In 1925 I was invited to a houseparty of Oxford men. Only after a whole week did I realise I was actually with some of the people I had read about. Loudon was precisely as Begbie describes him: 'Conspicuous for good looks, over six feet, with a fresh boyish complexion, clear bright eyes, thick fair hair carefully brushed, clipped moustache, a young Hercules like an officer in the Guards ... once with a difficult temper ... now consumed with an electric enthusiasm.'

The very first day he invited any who cared to join him at 7.30 am for an hour of Bible study, quiet, listening to God, and sharing of thoughts before breakfast! I had never got up so early; and it was not before the Thursday that I joined them, drawn by the evident change into a victorious joy which many showed. By the end of the 10 days everyone there had entered into a new life.

Famous raid

Loudon told us of the strange postwar Oxford he had come to, on demobilisation from the artillery, with his MC for bravery. Half the undergraduates were callow school-boys. The other half were seasoned veterans, sickened, like Loudon, by the slaughter of so many fellow-soldiers, who now found themselves in a world where the traditions they were brought up in seemed to have perished also. Increasing disillusionment had bred hopelessness and boredom.

Loudon took part in the famous Christ Church raid on the Magdalen College cannon. Using their military skills, some ex-officers invaded Magdalen, seized the war-time relic, fought a victorious rearguard

action as they dragged it up the High Street and rushed it down St Aldate's, where it went out of control and burst through Folly Bridge parapet into the river.

Loudon's most constructive activity during his student days was membership of the Beef and Beer Club which, he said, 'drank long beers, smoked long pipes and talked long hours about how to put the world to rights — with no conclusions'. Into this had stepped Frank Buchman saying, 'If you let God change you, He'll use you to change the world.' Thus he opened two windows of hope — personal change and resultant social change. Loudon found an aim and direction for life.

Turn outward

At Oxford at 7.30 am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Loudon came to my rooms in St John's; and to those of a fellow in Wadham on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. His theme was: 'Sin is the disease; Christ the cure; the result's a miracle', as he had learnt from Frank Buchman. And he urged us, after getting ourselves straight, 'to turn outward and pass on the new life to others'. A series of miracles in people followed, and a sizeable force grew up.

The next year Loudon was back again and enlisted large numbers of South African



Loudon Hamilton

Photo: Strong

Rhodes scholars and other leaders of university life.

The young South African students took Loudon and others back home for their summer vacation. In South Africa they were called 'The Oxford Group', a name which the newspapers soon picked up.

A born raconteur, and obviously a lover of people, he had the simple art of creating an atmosphere in which everybody could relax and bring out what lay deepest within them in a fellowship of confidence. He would begin by racily and concisely telling stories of people who had changed, in which a vivid humour flashed light on reality.

One young man, an earnest Christian, brought a friend to see Loudon in his lodgings in Parks Road, saying, 'My friend has intellectual difficulties about the Virgin Birth.' Loudon said, 'Fine! Leave your friend here while you go round to the library of Wycliffe Hall at the end of the road, get some books on the subject and bring them back.' When the young man came back with his load of books, he met his friend coming down the staircase and saying, 'Thanks, old

chap; but I'll not need your books, because Hamilton has helped me to find the solution to my real problem — something I'd never told anybody else before!'

Homes made together

In 1932 he married Beatrice Morton, and, as someone close to both writes, 'It was from the homes they made together that he was able to give so much in every part of the world.'

Because of the strength which Moral Re-Armament had inspired in certain personalities of Denmark's Resistance to the Nazi occupation, after World War II the Danish Army's C-in-C and Chiefs of Staff asked Loudon to run a 10-day training course for a selected group of young officers on 'The ideology of democracy — Moral Re-Armament'. It was a hardworking 10 days of military discipline and sheer application to exacting schedules, which made changes in thinking and living essential and practicable for all the participants.

One evening the General, for a break, asked Loudon to give us an hour of *famous stories*. Dryly and with a straight face, Loudon recounted humorous anecdote after humorous anecdote, and had those Danes rolling in their chairs. Only great clarity of speech and thought could convey to foreigners in English the inwardness of witticisms so that they never missed a point. His training he based on a set of brilliant 'visual aids' he devised.

He was always a loyal Scot. His patriotism was of the type that sees the greatest role his beloved nation could fulfil in the world and which devotes every talent of intellect and effort to raising the spirit of his people to fulfil that role. Not his the exclusive 'my lot first', but the Christian 'my people God's servants for mankind'. The first invitation he ever gave me was to join him in devoting a vacation to Scotland to raise there the force of patriots who could do much for the world.

Amongst his dry comments on life were: 'My respectable upbringing didn't prevent me sinning: it only prevented me enjoying.' or 'So live that you can sell your parrot to the town gossip with an easy mind'. 'Sin,' he said, 'adds to our troubles, subtracts from our energies, multiplies our pains, divides our minds, and discounts our chances of happiness.'

Never forgot

He never forgot anyone with whom he had ever had touch. Literally thousands of friends in every continent waited each Christmas eagerly for the greetings which Bea and he sent out.

The minister at his funeral on June 4th in Richmond most aptly compared Loudon Hamilton to Mr Standfast in *Pilgrim's Progress* for his loyalty to God, to his calling, to his teammates and Frank Buchman over 55 years. His humour, his heart and his humanity, his rocklike devotion and faithful friendship seldom faltered and always returned with fresh energy to the task.

Leyland's new export

by Albert Ingram

Both 'Dear Archbishop' and 'Rebirth of a Nation?', the new books about the Archbishops' Call to the nation (see 'New World News' last week), refer to the work of 'Action 75' to bring a new spirit in British industry. This week we print the convictions of one of its initiators talking to John Lester.

OVER THE LAST WEEKS British Leyland has achieved record output. Great news. If you have to wait for your new Mini just remember it is because exports have gone up by 62 per cent. We are earning the foreign currency the country needs.

I searched the newspapers but could only find that news on the very back page. But if I dropped a spanner and took the men out, that is how you make headlines.

We used to have a strike a week in West-Works, yet in 18 months now we have only stopped once and that was only for three hours. The spirit is different. Take the senior foreman, Smiley. We call him that because he never smiles. Whenever there is a dispute two of the foremen meet two of the shop stewards so that there are no misunderstandings. Recently one of the shop stewards picked up his mate and, in a temper, said to Smiley, 'Get your witness and we will get down to it.' Smiley replied, 'MRA has taught me the meaning of the word trust. I do not need a witness.' That was one dispute which did not halt production.

Blushed like tomato

Then the men brought a bloody great clock in and timed the track, which was going too fast and let Smiley know in no uncertain terms. He blushed like a tomato, opened his mouth, closed it again and then admitted he had speeded it up because it was not running properly. Then he offered to stay behind and put it right. The men were flabbergasted. That is the new spirit we intend to export.

I grew up in the aftermath of the general strike in North Wales. My parents were in the catering business. When the war came I went down the mines as a Bevin boy. That is when I saw the realities of life, the unacceptable face of industry. I became a Socialist and a trade unionist. I was one of the few who started at the top and worked their way down because I founded the Bevin boys'

union and was their first national organising secretary.

I sought a political means of producing a fair and just society. The Communist Party was too right wing so I joined the Trots. Then I was soon drafted into the Navy where I met my wife. After the war I went back to the factories. The Trots had too many internal disagreements and each time they disagreed they split.

At 18 when I joined them I was out to change the world. By 26 I realised that I needed help in the task. By 30 I reckoned I had done my bit. Someone else could have a go. I was disillusioned and moved from job to job.

Swung left

But before long I took more and more part in the unions. It was with the trade union movement that my commitment lay. With three other men I formed the Broad Left Movement. We wanted to break the control of Carron's Law — the control of the engineering union by Carron and his friends who put in as officers all those who were to the right in the Labour Party. So we set up an election machine which swung the union to the left and put in Scanlon, Bob Wright and others.

Later we used that support across the



Albert Ingram

Photo: Howard

country to bring down Barbara Castle's pay policy, 'In Place of Strife', because she intended to bring the unions under Government control.

MRA I had met much earlier when I saw *The Forgotten Factor*, but for 15 years I heard nothing.

Then my daughter was invited by her school teacher to see an MRA play. I intended to stop her, writing to the teacher that as a practising atheist I resented this undue influence. However, she still went and then would talk of nothing else.

Several MRA people tried to see me but I was too busy. But a car accident made me housebound so I had to listen.

I began to feel that if honesty could be really operational trade union work would be much more effective. For me there were no shooting stars, no flashing lights — just a steady development to a realisation that there was a better way.

Moral standards were important and could transform the life of the country but I saw no need for God. I allowed my MRA friends the weakness of mentioning God

because so many of their other ideas were so valid, and even felt that a time for guidance and thinking in the morning was expedient. Certainly inspired thoughts used to come.

It was when my wife, Hazel, developed cancer that I tried prayer for the first time and got certain comfort. But when she died it was a terrible time and I felt the need for a belief in life after death and for a real knowledge of a personal God. Through that time I felt judgement, courage and planning being given to me: a new certainty, a sustaining of these convictions and a development in myself and acceptance of the principles of MRA.

None of this extinguished the fire which was lit in the belly of the lad of 18. But then I was bent on tearing down the fabric of our society; now I wanted to replace it with something and had found what I believed to be the most effective way of doing it.

The great appeal of MRA for me does not lie in any evangelical approach but in its ability to interpret sound Christian ideology into very practical terms: not jam tomorrow but the need for a 24 hours a day, seven days a week contribution to a world that cares about nations and about individuals. We have got to get down among the suds and swarf of the situation, to use a 'Brummy' expression.

Defend evolution

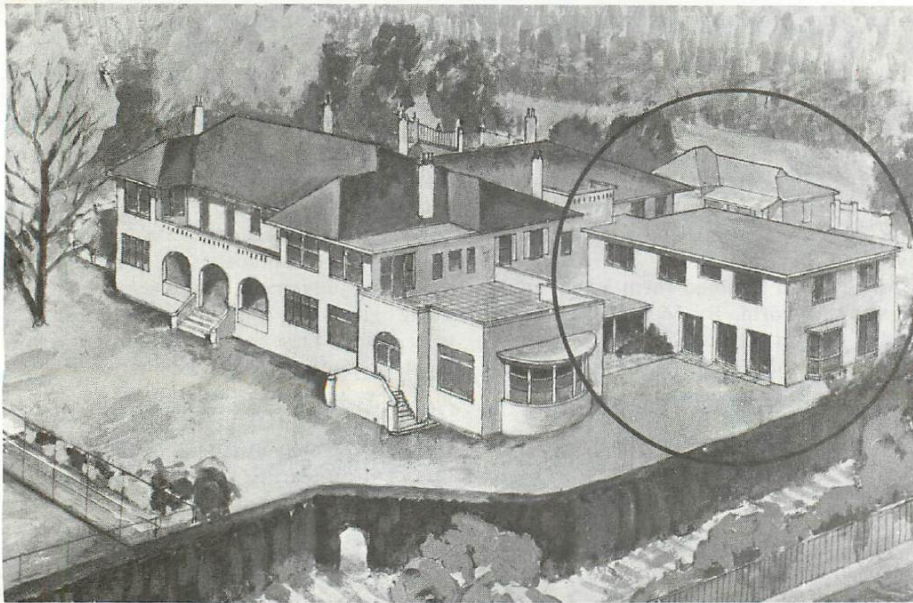
Were the extremists out to smash the motor industry, this would mean three or four million unemployed and would produce the seeds that are necessary for revolution. We must defend this society against the threat that would take from it the ability to evolve into the sort of society we have always envisaged, which encompasses freedom, quality of life and the pursuit of happiness.

My aim is not to prop up a society which I am satisfied with, for I am far from satisfied with it. But we must defend its ability to evolve.

This is why we have launched *Action 75*. It is an initiative which hopefully will help people as individuals, help our nation, and further an ideology that I am convinced can produce a society that ensures that the quality of people's lives will not be a negation of God's great gift of life.



Interest at the MRA book tent in this year's National Elsteddflord of Urdd Gobaith Cymru (The Welsh League of Youth) last month Photo: Browne



Artist's impression of the building and grounds of Armagh showing the new extension (circled) Photo: Mayor

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Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Switzerland, Sweden and the United States as well as from every state of Australia. The estimated cost will be \$200,000 (£138,000) and \$116,671 has been raised. Others have pledged a further \$14,269 which is being raised through the sale of treasured assets and from social occasions throughout the nation.

A doctor sent his tax refund cheque: \$1301.28. A housewife gives \$10 a month from what she goes without. A nurse raised donations from others to match the \$1,000 she had given herself. She wrote 72 letters to 'the most unlikely people'. An industrial chemist is giving 5 per cent of his salary for 18 months.

Firms are giving discounts on building materials and services (worth \$7,000 so far). A foreman carpenter is giving one day's pay each week. People have taken leave from

their jobs or given their weekends in a team of voluntary labour which has provided 2,300 man hours worth \$9,200 to date. The contractor's foreman said, 'Frankly I didn't see how it could work. But I'm amazed how the volunteers put their heart into it.'

Recently a university professor from Western Australia, an architect from South Australia, a school teacher from northern Victoria and a carpenter from Papua New Guinea worked side by side for several days. A Tasmanian who came to give four weeks' labour said, 'My days at Armagh have taken the irk out of work.'

An aged pensioner, who had helped with housekeeping at Armagh one day a week for many years, left \$12,000 in her will. A family have promised the interest earned over a period on part of their late father's estate. This will amount to \$1,990. A committee in New Zealand have taken on to provide 3,300 square feet of quality carpets from their country. Others have given donations to start a permanent investment fund for maintenance of the building.

The construction programme is due for completion by the end of August. Those responsible believe that the faith and prayer and sacrifice of many hundreds will enable every deadline to be met.

However, funds in hand will only meet payments up to the end of June. Nearly \$70,000 is still needed. Those wishing to have a part in this venture may send their contribution to: Armagh Extension Fund, 226 Kooyong Road, Toorak, Victoria 3142, Australia; or MRA, 12 Palace Street, London SW1E 5JF.

Mrs Margaret Tucker MBE, President of the United Council of Aboriginal Women, talks with Mr and Mrs Jim Beggs, under a portrait of Frank Buchman, Initiator of Moral Re-Armament. Jim Beggs is President of the Melbourne Branch, Waterside Workers' Federation. Photo: Mayor

'Historic visit'

headline in 'Die Transvaler' (Johannesburg)

REV ARTHUR KANODEREKA, Deputy Treasurer General of the Muzorewa ANC and Alec Smith, son of the Rhodesian Prime Minister, have just completed a three weeks' visit to South Africa.

Die Transvaler, traditionally the voice of conservative Afrikanerdom, captioned a picture of the two men 'Historic visit'.

Chief Buthelezi, political leader of the four million Zulus, had them as his guests for three hours. He referred to the 'miracle' of their unity.

They spent four days in Mafeking as guests of Chief Minister Mangope of Bophuthatswana for a programme of leadership training.



'Miracle of unity': (r to l) Chief Buthelezi, Alec Smith, Rev Arthur Kanodereka

Others they talked with included members of all political parties in parliament, student groups from Stellenbosch, Cape Town, University of the Western Cape (coloured), Pretoria University and the University of the Witwatersrand. They also met with the faculty of the Theological Seminary in Stellenbosch, where all Dutch Reformed Ministers are trained, and lunched with the government board dealing with the affairs of all the Africans of Johannesburg and environs.

Some of the points Rev Kanodereka and Alec Smith made were:

- Whatever happens in Rhodesia on the political and military front, the land and people will still be there and we will still have to solve the basic problem of how people are going to live together. We are part of a force committed to working this out, no matter how long it takes and no matter what it costs us.
- There is Communism on our borders. But the Rhodesians who have joined the guerrillas did not go out of the country as Communists. Our basic problem is still within our country.
- No problem is too tough for God. We never dreamed we could work together as we are doing.
- Through listening to God and doing what He tells us we have ceased to be prisoners of the white group or prisoners of the black group. We are free men.

