

MRA INFORMATION SERVICE

FOUR HAYS MEWS · BERKELEY SQUARE · LONDON W.1

Vol. 1

Saturday, 7 June, 1952

No. 9

WORLD ASSEMBLY OPENS AT MACKINAC ISLAND

A GERMAN CABINET MINISTER SPEAKS IN LONDON

REPORT FROM TOKYO

NEWS IN BRIEF

WE have reached the critical phase of the cold war in Europe and the Far East. The signing of last week's treaties in Bonn and Paris is evidence of the statesmanship of M. Schuman and Dr. Adenauer. It marks the most determined effort yet made to end the generations of conflict between France and Germany. Without such understanding Europe cannot survive. Yet many fear that its very existence represents a threat to the East which may precipitate catastrophe.

Against this background the World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament meets at Mackinac Island, on the invi-

tation of distinguished leaders of the United States Congress.

Dr. Frank Buchman presided at the opening session on 29 May. He said, "This is a time of decision for America. Events will be on us unless we are prepared and ready." He described the Assembly as "a time of pre-action to demonstrate a revolutionary answer to Communism. Moral Re-Armament is the only other ideology to Communism in the world. It is fundamental to every human being. It is for everyone everywhere."

DELEGATES TO THE WORLD ASSEMBLY

The British delegation of thirty is headed by Professor Sir Douglas Savory, M.P. (South Antrim). It includes James Haworth, Treasurer of the Transport Salaried Staffs Association and Chairman of the Conference Arrangements Committee of the Labour Party; Frank Smith, Member of the National Executive, National Union of Mineworkers; Tom Jones, Member of the Dockers' Executive of the National Amalgamated Stevedores' and Dockers' Union; Miss Saidie Patterson of Belfast, Women's Organiser, textile section, Transport and General Workers Union; Dr. Ernest Claxton, Assistant Secretary of the British Medical Association; and Alderman John Moncrieff, J.P., Mayor of Folkestone, and immediate past President of the Merchant Tailors' Federation.

The eighty delegates from Europe include Dr. Hellwege, Minister of Upper House Affairs in the German Federal Cabinet; Dr. Otto Schmidt, Minister of Reconstruction, North Rhine-Westphalia; Dr. C. Kuhlemann, Deputy President of the National Chambers of Commerce and Chairman of the Foreign Trade Committee of the German Federal Parliament; Maurice Mercier, National Secretary of the Textile Workers' of France (Force Ouvrière); Robert Speyser, Vice-President of the French Confédération des Cadres; Alfred Dupont, Personnel Director of the Solvay Chemical Company, Belgium;

General Lovera di Maria of Italy; and members of parliament, industrialists, radio directors and labour leaders from Scandinavia, Holland and other countries.

From Brazil, 45 delegates came by special plane. They include official representatives of 380,000 port and maritime workers, leaders of 50,000 workers on the Brazilian Central Railway, and prominent figures in industry, the press and education.

Forty-three delegates have come from Tokyo, representing the political and industrial life of Japan.

Thailand is represented by Luang Vichien Patayakorn, Director General of the Department of Culture, who brought greetings from the Prime Minister to the Assembly, and Nai Sang Pathonothai, Secretary General of the Trades Union Congress of Thailand, who said, "Only in the ideology of MRA can East and West meet and bring unity to the world."

SPOKESMEN FROM THE AIRLINES

From the United States, some of the most interesting delegations come from the Airlines where MRA has been actively at work.

Mr. John J. Tigert, Aircraft Service Superintendent at Pan-American World Airways base, Miami, introduced a Pan-American delegation of 56. "Two years ago," he said, "we had 499 grievances. Last year,

during which MRA got started, we had 17. This year we had only 3. We are determined to demonstrate that American industry can give an ideology that can unite the world and put democracy on the offensive."

Mr. Edgar H. Chambers, District Chairman for the Machinists Union (AFL) for Eastern Airlines, who spoke with his Vice-President Mr. J. H. Brock, said, "With more problems to solve than before, we have achieved the best contract in the Airline's history. We have learned how to be honest with each other and now have unity. MRA unites labour too."

FRANCE AND GERMANY

European delegates spoke from their first-hand knowledge of the danger of the present situation. Mme. Irene Laure, former Secretary of the Socialist Women of France, spoke to the hearts of the Americans when she said, "You are a strong country, but children in the war of ideas. You need Europe as we need you. United we can save humanity. Management and labour must both find a new spirit. Class war is no answer to the atom bomb. We need the atomic answer of MRA. Unless we accept the cost of fighting for the moral re-armament of our nations, we shall be forced to accept the far greater cost of war."

Fritz Hirschner, Editor-in-Chief of the Ruhr newspaper *Essener Allgemeine Zeitung*, reminded the 800 delegates of Germany's concern that the Elbe might prove a potential Korean 38th parallel. "Tanks are only of value," he said, "if they are backed by an idea strong enough to give the world a new basis of unity. We are not afraid of being overwhelmed if we can find such an idea. We have come here because we know that Moral Re-Armament is this idea and with it the nations are not doomed."

He concluded, "My paper is determined to make the Ruhr, once the re-armament centre of Europe, a centre for the moral re-armament of Europe."

"A CHANCE TO BREAK THROUGH"

British spokesmen were particularly concerned with the need to create a new united national leadership of

every class. "There is an active force in 300 factories, docks and mines determined that this idea shall become national policy in Britain," said Duncan Corcoran of Clydeside.

Mr. Frank Eden, delegate to the Birmingham Trades Council and for 19 years a member of the Communist Party, said that the materialism of the Right was a major reason for men becoming Communists. "If we want a new world we need an idea where all can fight together, and with the same passion with which men fight the class war," he said. "I thought the class war was the only way, but it is inadequate today, for it can lead to the complete destruction of civilisation. Korea is the ultimate end of the class struggle." The only alternative, he said, is to build together: "Workers cannot do it alone, nor can capitalists. United on the basis of the moral standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love, there is a chance that we can break through."

MESSAGES FROM CIVIC LEADERS AND WORKERS

Among the many messages received by Dr. Buchman for the opening of the Assembly, and for his 74th birthday on 4 June, is one from 230 Mayors and other civic leaders in Britain, in which they say: "We join in sending birthday greetings to you, Dr. Frank Buchman, because we are proud to be associated with you in the great world-transforming work of Moral Re-Armament. As civic leaders in our land, we know the hunger of people's hearts for leadership in the battle of truth against falsehood."

Forty shop-stewards and workers on Merseyside sent the following message: "Moral Re-Armament has illuminated the darkness amid the turbulence of industrial Merseyside. We are men with long experience in the industrial field, with its tribulations and fears. We have been seeking the answer acceptable to all men which will unite all classes and bring everlasting peace, and have found it is Moral Re-Armament.

"We workers of Merseyside from the docks, shipyards, oil refineries and factories, wish you many happy returns, and are proud to co-operate with you in the fight for a world that we workers long for."

GERMANY : THE ROAD OF TEAMWORK

Dr. Heinrich Hellwege, Minister for Upper House Affairs in the German Federal Cabinet, sailed on 28 May in the *Queen Elizabeth* to represent Dr. Adenauer, the German Chancellor, at the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly at Mackinac Island.

At a reception in his honour at Dr. Buchman's house in London, Dr. Hellwege referred to the German Contract which had been signed in Bonn earlier that day. He said that the Federal Chancellor was sending him to Mackinac "because he, with the whole German Cabinet, is of the opinion that treaties alone are not

sufficient. The decisive thing is the spirit in which these treaties are carried out."

"You cannot deal with Communism," said the Minister, "by opening a campaign against it, but only by giving an idea superior to it. I am convinced that the way to achieve this end has been shown to us by Frank Buchman."

The Minister described how he first met MRA in 1947 at a time when there was the most abject misery and depression in Germany: "A delegation came from Caux to visit us—among them Madame Laure from

France. You know what great conflicts there have been in the past between the Germans and the French. It was she who offered a hand to us for the first time since the end of the war. It was Frank Buchman who was able to bring Germans as equal partners to the Conference at Caux, so that the other Germany was offered a chance to speak to the world. In Caux it was possible for us to find our way to the hearts of the people of other nations, around the table.

“In Germany we do not have the great parliamentary traditions you have in this country,” he continued. “The result is that our political conflicts often become very severe. But I can say that on the basis of Moral

Re-Armament it has been possible to create understanding and respect between parties and groups in Parliament at Bonn.”

Minister Hellwege spoke of the many friends from America whom he had welcomed at Bonn in the past year, and how much he looked forward to seeing them. “I believe my main task,” he said, “is to create and ask for confidence in those forces in Germany which are determined to rebuild the country. I can only ask you to believe that there are people in every democratic party who are determined to go the road of teamwork, and build a community of nations that understand each other, right across the world.”

JAPANESE LABOUR : A REPORT FROM TOKYO

Recent weeks in Japan have seen two nation-wide strikes, the official declaration of the nation's independence, followed by a May Day riot organised by Japanese and North Korean Communists. The following report is from a correspondent in Tokyo, a Labour journalist with wide experience of the Trades Union movement.

On May Day, I stood near the steps of the Supreme Commander's Headquarters, opposite the Imperial Palace Plaza and watched the blue and black smoke from the tear-gas bombs and burning automobiles curl skywards, momentarily blacking out the bright afternoon sun, turning down-town Tokyo into a miniature battlefield where 10,000 rioters, part of the 400,000 in the May-day procession, fought blue-steel helmeted police. The casualties announced by Attorney General Kimura were two killed and 200 injured among the rioters ; 12 foreigners attacked, and 761 policemen injured.

The 4,000,000 strong Japan Council of Trade Unions (Sohyo) was the spearhead of the May Day march, flanked by right and left wing Socialists, several thousand university students (men and women), women's organisations, other workers' groups, farmers, Buddhists, and the hard core of Communists who forged them all into a united front against the Government's Anti-Subversive Activities Bill, against re-armament, against America, against most other things, but “for peace”. The dove of peace in white against the background of a red flag looked singularly out of place amidst the nail-studded clubs and bamboo spears !

While it is true that millions of Sohyo's union members, as well as others in the “united front” are against violence by the Communists, the fact remains that the Communist Party minority grasps the leadership, directs the policies, and moves the masses. In an ideological vacuum, the men with the ideology, the men with the philosophy, the passion and the plan, win out over the millions with no ideology.

The trade unions of Japan are facing a crisis of major

ideological significance now, which will decide the future freedom, not only of labour but of their whole country and the other free countries of Asia.

I record here the analysis of a life-long Marxist whom I talked with this week. He is Kanju Kato, former Minister of Labour in the post-war Katayama Cabinet and veteran organiser of the Coal Miners' Union, who was thrown into prison by the military clique before the war.

“Japanese labour is highly ideological because we have been trained in Marxism since the Russian Revolution of 1917,” said Kato. “After the war we were given freedom to organise and the form and framework for democracy was established. But into that framework came the already existing trained marxist organism. No real content had been given to the democratic framework in order to develop a way of life based on moral standards. The No. 1 priority for democracy is to provide a greater ideology than Communism.

“Collective bargaining and paying dues to unions are some of the necessary wheels in the democratic mechanism, but we need the oil to make the mechanism run smoothly, that is, the spirit and the moral basis for decisions to determine what is right. We need the character to make democracy alive and a force.

“The Communists provide an ideology that uses the framework of democracy to convince and capture the masses. This happens because men of goodwill are unable to give content to democracy's ideology—its moral basis, philosophy, and world objectives—and are thereby neutralised and become an unwitting part of the Communist advance. This cannot be stopped by resolutions, laws, legislation, purges, or by being merely anti-Communist, but only by infusing a greater passion into the hearts and minds and lives of men so that they fight fearlessly and courageously for what is right.

“It is an over-simplification to believe that economic and social aid answers Communism. Such aid is part of the answer, but unless we can show that democracy's ideology is superior to Communism by the way we,

as its citizens and leaders, live by absolute moral standards, then democracy may be lost, as in China.

"The greatest hope I have seen in Japan is the inspired ideology of democracy demonstrated in the force of Moral Re-Armament, given to Japan by Dr. Frank Buchman. As a life-long Marxist I have been convinced by the results in bringing opposing elements together on a genuine basis of unity and comradeship stronger than Marxism and effective on a world scale. That is why I am going to attend the World Assembly at Mackinac Island, with high hopes that out of it we can develop the ideological force to turn the tide in

Asia and unite East and West."

Kato's diagnosis that the democratic garment of Japan has been given a Marxist lining by the Communists, is confirmed by many interviews I have had with trade union and Socialist leaders. They, like Kato, are eager to fit a new lining of sound democracy that will stand up to the wear and tear of Japan's first year of independence and ensure a secure future. The dockworkers and textile union leaders have told me they regard MRA as the right kind of democratic society for Japan, and are now studying what they can find of MRA literature translated into Japanese.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Chicago—Merrill C. Meigs, Vice-President of the Hearst Corporation, gave a dinner on 20 May for industrial leaders to hear reports on the world advance of MRA, as a prelude to the Mackinac Assembly. Dr. Buchman was guest of honour, with Peter Howard, author of *The World Rebuilt*, and Edgar H. Chambers, International Machinists Union. The evening included a preview of the new Finnish film *The Answer*.

The Forgotten Factor—Following performances for the coal and steel industries at Workington, the play has been welcomed by crowded audiences in Glasgow in the past ten days. We hope to report on this in the next issue. The play opens in Coventry, at the invitation of leaders of the motor industry, on 9 June.

Coal—A miners' leader in the Midlands said recently of a colliery, "I used to have a lot of trouble with it. I had to be there every month over some dispute. These last five or six years I've never heard of any trouble there." The local Branch Secretary of the NUM commented, "Since the Under-Manager and I saw *The Forgotten Factor* in 1946, we have not lost one single hour's work in any unofficial strike or dispute."

Cricket—The All-India cricket team were guests at Dr. Buchman's London home on 24 May. Their host

was Mr. Lionel Jardine, CIE, who was British Resident at Baroda, and is a brother of the former English captain. Brian Boobyer, the Oxford cricketer and Rugby international, and T. C. (Dickie) Dodds, the Essex opening batsman who had made 81 against the Indians that morning, also received the guests.

Japan—Two Japanese Socialist Senators, Mrs. Fujiwara and Dr. Domori, left London this week. Mrs. Fujiwara said, "I have seen the people in MRA work together beyond all frontiers, beyond classes and nations, to build up the spiritual force which can bring peace and freedom. As I go back through Asia—Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Burma, I am going to apologise for what our country has done through the war. With deep conviction I say that when I go back to Japan I am going to fight for what is right."

Subscriptions—Many readers are receiving the Information Service through the good offices of friends. They may, however, care to contribute towards its running expenses or towards the cost of sending introductory copies to a widening circle of people. The annual subscription is 20s. Subscriptions and gifts may be sent to MRA Information Service, 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1.

THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

International speakers from the docks, mines and factories of Europe and Asia will give evidence of how the world situation is being answered through

THE MORAL RE-ARMAMENT OF THE NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CHORUS

Sunday, 8th June, 1952, at 3.0 p.m.

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE APPLY TO MRA, THE BOX OFFICE, THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, LONDON, S.E.1

WHAT WE NEED IS
SOMETHING ELECTRIC

A World Broadcast

by

DR. FRANK N. D. BUCHMAN

Sending our boys out to die while we blame everybody but ourselves and continue to live as usual, selfishly padding ourselves against reality, only embitters our people and confuses our plans.

The basic struggle is for the wills of men. That is the ideological struggle. It goes on in your heart and mine every day. Armies and pacts and economic assistance are necessary. But the deciding factor is whether as men and nations we are guided by the voice of materialism or the Voice of God.

WHAT WE NEED IS SOMETHING ELECTRIC

A World Broadcast

by

DR. FRANK N. D. BUCHMAN

DR. BUCHMAN'S SPEECHES
ARE PUBLISHED IN 'REMAKING THE WORLD,'
BLANDFORD PRESS 5s., FROM ALL BOOKSELLERS OR
FROM MORAL RE-ARMAMENT, 4 HAYS MEWS, LONDON, W.1

This world broadcast was given by Dr. Buchman from the World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament at Mackinac Island, Michigan, June 1952.

PUBLISHED JUNE 1952 BY MORAL RE-ARMAMENT
FOUR HAYS MEWS, LONDON, W.1
PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN
BY LOWE AND BRYDONE (PRINTERS) LTD.
PRICE 6d. POSTAGE 2d.

WHAT WE NEED is something electric—a shock that brings men and nations to their senses before it is too late. Something powerful enough to weld unity out of the hardest elements.

I remember the first electric light. It revolutionised our living. It altered men's thinking about the future. Is there today a discovery that can go into every home in every nation and unexpectedly bring an answer to our darkest problems?

Our job may be to cure the maelstrom of disorder and have the answer to a panic throughout the lands. Is that your conception of your part in world statesmanship? That is the purpose of Moral Re-Armament. Here is the answer that enables all of us to work together for something really big.

A man from Washington came to see us. At the end of the evening he said, 'I and my experts discuss everything except the point. Moral Re-Armament deals with the point.' Next morning he got up early and telephoned to his superior in Washington. He apologised to him for a resentment against him which he described as the deepest resentment of his life. He said on the telephone, 'What is the use of us talking to the world about unity when we have division right here in our own offices in Washington? I was resentful because I was self-righteous. I have not been fully honest with you. I am sorry.'

A European who heard this said, 'Here is American statesmanship that will win everybody. It's the secret we are looking for.'

Everyone everywhere can make contact with the source of power and illumination that changed the thinking of the man from Washington and told him what to do.

The short circuit is human selfishness. It breaks contact. It is the source of darkness and loss of direction. When selfishness is crossed out, every home and every Cabinet can be power stations radiating an answer that works.

We need to bring the reality of this answer quickly to the eyes and ears of the world.

We have just seen a film—made in Finland—forged from the experience of men 800 yards from the Iron Curtain. Its effect is electric. It is called 'The Answer'. It is industry's answer. It is democracy giving a sure answer with a united voice. An American, whose business it is to show films, said, 'This is the finest film I have ever seen.'

Is that what we need? Something in our movie theatres which gives the answer to a steel strike? This film does. It shows the answer to the self-will in management and labour who are both so right, and so wrong.

The play which inspired this film has been seen by over a million people in sixteen countries around the world. In recent weeks it has been showing in the industrial North of Italy and drawing thousands. In real life one of the two men who played the part of management and labour is the personnel head of 55,000 workers. The other is one of his workers and a former Communist. The change in these two men has electrified Milan. The nation began to realise that when management is ready to change and make sacrifices for an idea that can unite the world, labour responds.

It works in America too. The Personnel Superintendent of one of the great airlines states that three years ago there were 491 grievances outstanding between labour and management in his company. Then Moral Re-Armament went to work. Men changed. Men got honest. Last year there were only 17 grievances in that company. So far this year there have been three.

As the head of the Textile Workers of France, a former Communist who was electrified into a positive force by Moral

Re-Armament, said, 'Honesty in the factory and the government equals prosperity in the nation.'

Take one city. It has a stormy industrial record. Subversive elements have skilfully worked for division and control. Men from the airlines who apply Moral Re-Armament were invited to bring their evidence. The next day the labour leader in the dispute said, 'What has happened to management, they are different? We can negotiate with men like that.' Management said, 'We hardly recognised the labour leader today. He is different. He is a pleasure to do business with. We are ready to agree with him on what's right in this issue.' Two days later a leading financial paper carried the headline, 'Strike Threat resolved after Visit of MRA Employer-Labour Team.'

We need something electric. Something that sparks men's hearts and minds to a new way of doing business. A positive force which can magnetise a whole community. When that happens it makes news for the millions.

I have in my hand an article by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd. It arrived yesterday. It is on the news stands today. It will be read in millions of homes across America and Canada. Its title is 'Preview of a New World,' the story of Moral Re-Armament. Say the editors of the journal which publishes the article, 'It's a great piece of writing. It's authoritative. It reads like the wind.'

Admiral Byrd says, 'MRA is above party, class or point of view. It is not an organisation you join, but an ideology you live. Not a new religion, but a new dynamic force. It starts when you start with yourself to live out the four absolute moral standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love.'

Another Admiral was invited by the Governor of an island to dine at Government House and afterwards to give news of MRA at a public meeting. Introducing him to the audience, which included government officials, mayors, newspaper

editors and trade unionists, the leading figures of the island, the Governor said, 'I have been a scoffer, but I went to an MRA assembly and I have changed my mind. MRA is something of tremendous importance for us all. It is a terrific power for good throughout the world.'

It is amazing how speedily even scoffers get the point. It is split second transmission. It leaps from man to man. It brings unity to classes, races, nations.

Take South Africa. At a pan-African assembly for Moral Re-Armament, all the different communities and races were represented. A member of one of the oldest Boer families in South Africa stood up and said, 'As I grew up I accepted superiority to the African as my right. When I met MRA I knew it was the answer for me and for South Africa. I saw where I needed to change. I lost my superiority and I want to apologise to the African people for my previous attitude.' A young African barrister said in reply, 'It is not easy for a South African or an Englishman to say "sorry" to us. But we Africans have to say "sorry" too. We are prepared to work with anyone who accepts this spirit.'

African leaders summed up the assembly in these words: 'We have seen history being made here as Africans, Asians and Europeans find the secret of unity through change, absolute moral standards and the guidance of God. We believe this to be the only true road for the new Africa, and we pledge ourselves to fight along with you to bring Moral Re-Armament to the whole continent and the world.'

As I speak to you I have beside me representatives from the Far East. The Prime Minister of Siam says, 'MRA is the best thing for Siam. Siam must give its best for MRA.' There has just arrived at our world headquarters in Switzerland five tons of the best Siamese rice. The shipping lines and railways delivered it free to the door. It is a gift from the Prime Minister. He knows the work of Moral Re-Armament in the East. He

has read full page articles of its world effect in his leading newspaper. He knows what the Burmese and Japanese are doing. They and members of the Cabinets of India, Pakistan and Ceylon have invited Moral Re-Armament to bring this answer to their countries. That news is electric. An answer that unites East and West.

A delegation of leading citizens from Siam is with us here in Mackinac to equip themselves to take MRA to their nation.

And men with this answer are answering the needs of the nations. Think of the struggle for South America. Recently 46 trades union men from Brazil went for three months' training to Moscow. That is the problem. What is the answer?

A French Count who served in his country's resistance force during the war; the son of a French Marxist seaman, whose mother was Secretary-General of three million Socialist women; a former football star and FBI man from America, and a young Swiss born in Egypt, have been working together with tremendous effect in Brazil. These four men were responsible for a mass meeting of Santos dockers. There were twenty speakers. The president of the dockers was in the chair. Among the speakers were top management and former Communists who in the force of MRA had found a revolutionary philosophy, a new passion and plan which is the answer to the bitterness of the Left and the hardness of the Right. Men of all classes are here from Brazil to learn together how to give this force to all of South America.

We are in the midst of the breakdown of our civilisation—war in the home, war in industry, war between the nations. What is the future? Further disintegration, chaos, anarchy and dictatorship? Or the birth of a new society brought about by a revolutionary change in human nature? The Holy Spirit is the most powerful Force in the world today. Man can split the atom. The Holy Spirit is uniting humanity through men who listen to Him and obey. It needs to be a daily experience. It is practical. It works.