

# Britain's local government could export democracy

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS can do more than Moscow, Peking, Washington or London for the fulfilment of election pledges in British villages and cities, said Alderman Sir Nicholas Garrow, for 15 years Northumberland City Council Chairman. 'Local government can provide that area of action for rebuilding the world that cannot be done from Westminster,' Garrow told civic leaders from 19 cities and towns meeting last weekend at the Moral Re-Armament Centre, Tirley Garth in Cheshire.

'All that is needed,' he said, 'is men who will seek not just goodwill but God's will in local government.' Such men would begin to realise Britain's role in the world.

In the last five years, he said, over 1300 civic heads and their wives had



The Mayor of Chester, Councillor F Barker (centre), with other civic leaders at the Tirley Garth conference last weekend. Left to right: Alderman Sir Nicholas Garrow, until recently Chairman of the Northumberland County Council; Councillor Mme de Barrau de Muratel from Louveciennes near Paris; Councillor Dr L W Jones, Chairman of the Anglesey County Council; the Mayor of Chester; Mrs Jones; Lady Garrow; Miss Iris Ward, Chairman of the Northwich Rural District Council  
*photo Beall*

## Citizens' role

I HAVE SPENT the weekend at Tirley Garth, where men and women from the civic life of this country have been gathering at a conference entitled 'Local Government's contribution to Britain's world role'.

Alderman Sir Nicholas Garrow, former Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, tackled the grass roots when he said, 'We can do far more for the progress of humanity and the fulfilment of our election pledges in our villages and cities than can be done by Moscow or Peking, Washington or London.' He went on to say, 'You've got to begin at home, with your house, then go to your street, then to the committee room and council chamber.'

This determination to tackle the

gone on his invitation to see plays at the Westminster Theatre, 'a very important factor in the civic life of this country.'

needs of the country was the keynote of the weekend and was shared by all who came, whether teacher, doctor, director or trade unionist.

So far seven of the men and women who came have decided to start by showing the films of MRA in their districts or towns.

In the midst of the depressing news in all our headlines it was heartening to discover a corps of people in our country who believe in fighting for sound family life, service to the community and the part we are meant to play in the world. Local government is very much the heart of this nation. I have seen from this weekend that it could yet pump out new life to the whole country.

MARGARET WILSON

Through the Westminster Theatre's plays and films, Sir Nicholas said, 'Prodigals have come home, broken homes have been mended, new understanding between management and men has been created, and a new illumination has come to heal party factions in Council rooms and board-rooms all over Britain.'

Liverpool's Deputy Town Clerk, Alfred Stocks, described how teamwork was meeting the housing needs of workers. Acknowledging the help of neighbouring counties, Stocks said that in Liverpool the political parties had decided to take housing out of politics. This had only been possible, he said, because they took on housing 'as a crusade and not a political football.'

Stocks said that by carrying this example into other realms of civil life, the whole community can become involved. All would be interested in aims they could understand. 'Then Britain could export not just the form, but the motive power, of her democratic institutions.'

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# PANCHGANI CONFERENCE LAUNCHES SOUTH-EAST ASIAN CAMPAIGN

RAJMOHAN GANDHI'S forthcoming campaign in South East Asia has been launched with the opening of a conference at Panchgani in Maharashtra, India. Delegates from 12 nations, including citizens of Panchgani, are meeting to plan how to produce a positive answer to the following issues:

Is India's break-up inevitable? Or can a united, strong and dynamic India still become a pattern and a leader for Asia?

Can we breathe life into India's economy?

Can Indian Management and Labour together make Indian industry as efficient as the best in the world?

The President of the Ceylon Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Chief Justice of Ceylon are among both Sinhalese and Tamil leaders who have invited Rajmohan Gandhi to bring an international force to their island in November.

They wrote in their letter of invitation, 'We have heard of the Asian Centre for Moral Re-Armament recently opened at Panchgani, Maharashtra, and your vision for it.

'The results already achieved of a new spirit in the surrounding villages through the ending of feuds: of Harijans losing their bitterness and finding a new purpose in fighting for a united India; of changed relationships between management and workers resulting in increased production, are impressive.

'We feel that spiritual and moral force channelled in every avenue of life, quickened right thought and action, individually, nationally and internationally, could help Asia and her peoples find a new purpose, a new dignity and save the world from the destruction that threatens it.

'We understand you are planning taking an international team of *Asia Arise* on invitation to several Asian countries to help statesmen find ways of easing tensions, solving problems and finding together a destiny for Asia.

'We shall, therefore, be very glad if you will bring your MRA international team and hold the first conference in early November, in Ceylon, with meetings, dramatic performances, etc. We hope to arrange visits to several towns in this country during your visit.'

## He plans to give away £750 prize

GLASWEGIAN David Hume has won a £750 share in the Beaverbrook Newspapers 'Place the Ball' Competition in the *Glasgow Evening Citizen* . . . and he plans to give it away.

Hume said last week, 'This is the first time I've tried the contest and I'm thrilled to have won. I had decided to give the money away if I won.'

Hume is giving the money to support Rajmohan Gandhi's campaign to build a new India and Asia. The £750 will go towards the fares and maintenance of people travelling from Britain to India, Ceylon and other countries of Asia, who will be working with Gandhi and his fellow revolutionaries.

## Some mug!

PETER EVERINGTON has sold a George 1 silver christening beaker, made in Newcastle in 1724, to support the work of MRA. £95 from the sale of this family heirloom will go towards the fares of people travelling to Asia for the current international conference at Panchgani in India and the visit of *Asia Arise* to Ceylon in November.

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An invitation to British people to come to France to aid the revolutionary programme of MRA this autumn was extended by Councillor Madame de Barrau de Muratel from Louveciennes, near Paris.

The Mayor of Chester, Councillor F Barker, welcomed the civic leaders to the MRA Conference Centre. Among those attending were the Mayors of Bootle and Wenlock, the Chairmen of 8 Urban and Rural District Councils and councillors from Liverpool, Sheffield and Norwich.

On Saturday night the Mayor of Bootle, Alderman D Ellis, saw the film produced by the dockworkers of Rio de Janeiro, *Men of Brazil*, in his Town Hall. The showing was arranged by a former Mayor of Bootle. Speaking after the showing, Jim Worthington, a member of the National Executive of the National Union of Seamen, said the ideas of MRA were 'the only answer to the problems facing Britain'. Men from the Liverpool docks and Merseyside industries were present.

# PARIS THEATRE CONTRACTS SIGNED

THE THEATRE CONTRACTS were signed last week for the European revue *Anything to Declare?* and the play *Pitié Pour Clémentine*, to run for 41 performances in the heart of Paris.

The six-week season, part of a major campaign of MRA in France this autumn, opens on 10 October with the staging of the European revue. The 19 nation cast, representing five continents, will perform with a simultaneous translation projected on a screen above the stage in French, English, Spanish and Russian. A new version of *Pitié Pour Clémentine*, produced by Michel Tureau with professional French actors taking the main roles, will alternate with the musical revue.

French engineer Michel Sentis said as one of those who invited the two shows: 'The events of May proved that democracy's greatest weakness today is that people do not know what

they are living for. But those events have also proven that people trained in MRA can, because they have a world ideology, redirect the nation in a time of crisis. The significance of this operation is to help France to fulfil her mission in the world.'

The operation is a continuation of the Convention of Responsible Citizens, held last July in Caux.

## Assemblies

As well as the plays in the theatre there will be weekend assemblies tackling different aspects of French life. An industrial conference to be held on 12 and 13 October will be attended by employers and trade unionists from Britain, Germany, Holland, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland and different regions of France. An education weekend has been announced for 9 and 10 November.

# 'HAPPY DEATHDAY' FILMING BEGINS

## ACTION!

Lights blazed in the microscope room of one of London University's most modern colleges. The camera crew and Director Henry Cass were crowded in the confined space. Professor Esteban Zoltan (Clement McCallin) peered into the eye-piece of a powerful £20,000 Electron Microscope, used for viewing matter smaller than the width of light-waves—up to one millionth of a millimetre. He looked up, rubbed his eyes and glanced down at his watch.

Cut!

A babble of voices broke out. The first shot of *Happy Deathday* was 'in the can'.

Meanwhile upstairs, in the biology laboratory of the college, the finishing touches were being made to the next scene. The scientific advisors on the film had prepared instruments and

## ROLAND WILSON TO ADDRESS CLERGY GATHERING IN WESTMINSTER

ROLAND WILSON will speak on the theme 'Let's turn the tide. Faith that remakes nations' to a conference of clergy and ministers in the Westminster Theatre on Wednesday, 16 October at 11 am.

Wilson has recently returned from spending most of the last two and a half years in India, Australia and other parts of Asia and the Pacific.

He has given all his time to working with MRA since he completed seven years at Oxford in 1933.

Other speakers will outline their practical experience in using the plays of the Westminster Theatre in tackling some of the pressing issues in the country in the areas of industry, race, education and homelife.

The first conference in the series on 12 June was addressed by the Most Rev George Appleton, Archbishop of Perth, Western Australia.

gauges, flasks and test-tubes, in this brand-new and hitherto unused laboratory. The professor who had made the laboratory available came to inspect what had been done. 'I like the clutter', he said, remarking that the lab looked 'lived-in'. 'It is exactly right.' Next day he brought his wife and daughter to watch the shooting of scenes between Esteban Zoltan and his assistant Dr John Sylvester (Harry Baird). The professor also came to see the 'rushes' of the first two days' filming and declared himself pleased with the authenticity of these laboratory sequences. Before the production unit left his college after three days' filming, he entertained them to lunch at High Table.

## Three film-sets

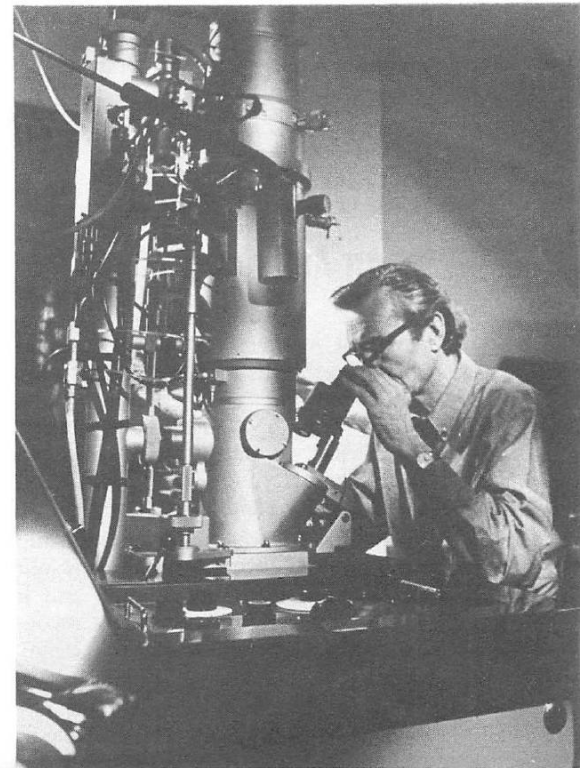
By 8.30 the following morning the entire film unit was at Aston Bury, the beautiful Tudor mansion of Mr and Mrs Paul Petrocokino, who have generously made their home and its spacious grounds available for the remainder of the filming—which will take over four weeks. Heavy power cables run through doors and along passages. Hard-board and druggets cover the polished floors. The entire ground floor has been re-arranged to allow for three different film-sets.

## International Fair aims to raise £6000

FOR ALL WHO LIKE to shop early for Christmas before the rush, an event not to be missed is the International Fair to be held this Tuesday and Wednesday at the Kensington Town Hall.

Handwoven tweeds, Irish linen, antiques, crafts, toys, Christmas cards, home specialities and Cornish jewellery—you can buy all these things and hundreds more original and outstanding items from stalls representing 13 countries.

The fair will be held on 8 October and 9 October from 11 am to 8 pm in aid of the Westminster Theatre Arts



Professor Zoltan (Clement McCallin) looks in the £20,000 Electron Microscope

Meals are being served to the film-unit and actors in the centuries-old barn.

At the end of the first week's work Production Manager Clive Freedman announced that the filming was exactly up to schedule: eighteen minutes of the ninety minute film were completed. HSW

Centre Development Fund and the target is £6,000. Many of the goods on sale have been sent specially from other parts of the world.

It will be opened by Evelyn Laye, a great favourite of the theatre-going public, well-known for her roles at Daly's Theatre, and in *The Merry Widow*, *Lilac Time* and *Paganini*. Mrs Nancy Walters, the honorary secretary, said, 'The fair this year will have a snack bar where food will be quickly and amply provided at reasonable prices. It will also cater for coach parties, if notified in advance.'

VERONICA PHELPS

In my view

## Europe and Us by an American

AMERICA AND EUROPE should work together as equals, not as superior to inferior. This was one of the points which Vice-President Hubert Humphrey stressed as he spoke to Britain and Europe on BBC TV's *Panorama* on 23 September.

The need for a better relationship between Europe and America is felt on both sides of the Atlantic and it is good that the Vice-President recognises it and wants to do something about it.

But then Humphrey in all sincerity went on to outline the kinds of changes which he felt were needed in Europe before collaboration as equals could take place. What he said amounted to telling Britain, France and the rest of Europe how to handle the most difficult and sensitive problems they have before them. He suggested that the European nations should settle their 'family squabbles', and that France in particular should allow Britain into the Common Market.

In my view Americans, no matter how good their intentions, have no business telling the European nations how to conduct their affairs. We can never live and work together as equals on this basis.

When Gaullist Servan-Schreiber asked Humphrey why American foreign policy was so unsuccessful, whether growing American isolationism was serious and whether the surge of support for Wallace of Alabama and 'strong arm' tactics was a reality to be reckoned with, the Vice-President avoided dealing directly with these issues. Like so many of us in America, he preferred to stress the positive side of American life and to attribute much of the negative image to the work of press exaggeration.

I do not believe that glossing over the mistakes and weakness of America and stressing only her good points will contribute to a better work-

ing relationship between the US and Europe, or any other part of the world, for that matter.

As long as we, the US, are right and you, Europe, are wrong—we know best and you should take our advice, we don't need much change, but you certainly do—we will never be 'equals' and we will never really learn how to work together for the world.

What I long to see is a new breed of Americans who have learned to face the realities of their own natures and of their country's life, be honest about the bad as well as the good, and change. This can happen, and has

## CHRISTMAS BOOK FAIRS LAUNCHED

DO YOU EVER WONDER how to get to know the people in your community—the people down your street, the family who have just arrived from overseas, your local librarian, headmistress, or members of the Council? Perhaps they in turn are wondering what to do about their Christmas shopping.

A Christmas Book Fair in your town or village could be the answer to both these questions.

Many people have already adopted this imaginative idea and have plans to hold a Book Fair for one, two or three days, in their Town Hall, or in their home, and to show some of the MRA films. Just released is the 16 mm version of *Decision at Midnight*, starring Walter Fitzgerald, Nora Swinburne and Martin Landau.

Some are inviting the Mayor to open the occasion and enlisting all their friends and the local shopkeepers to publicise it and invite people.

There is a wide range of books available for sale. Any child would be enchanted to receive as a Christmas present a book about the pantomime *Give A Dog A Bone*, whether they have been lucky enough to see the pantomime or not. There are the ever popular *Children's Bible Stories*. The Westminster Theatre set designer, W Cameron Johnson, has imaginatively illustrated the story of each carol in the *Golden Book of Carols*.

New books on sale at the Fairs, already planned, will be Mary Wilson's book *Builders and Destroyers*,

happened when people decide to live by absolute standards and the guidance of God.

When it does Americans discover, as I am discovering, that they can understand and sympathize with another country's point of view and indeed learn from it. They will find that they can work together with people from other nations and enjoy doing it too! They will stop worrying about presenting the best image of America to the world, which is not the point anyway, and start learning how Americans are meant to live and work to meet the needs of all men everywhere.

EVELYN THOMSEN

the most recent volume in her series *God's Hand in History, Modernising Man* by Dr Paul Campbell and the book of the play *Bishop's Move*, published on 1 October.

There are also records available, and new Christmas Cards, both line drawings and in full colour, by Elsie Knebel and Jeanne Sigg of Switzerland.

If one hundred places in Britain held a Book Fair between now and Christmas, think of the number of people who would have the chance this Christmas of both giving and receiving a book which may well change the course of someone's life—the most worthwhile Christmas present anyone could possibly give.

Money will be raised through these Fairs to help finance Rajmohan Gandhi's journey with an international force through South-East Asia, to launch new plays at the Westminster Theatre, to enable children in care to see *Give A Dog A Bone* as a special Christmas treat, and for the advance of Moral Re-Armament in many parts of the world.

Why don't you launch a Christmas Book Fair in your locality? These Fairs could interest hundreds of people throughout Britain, raise hundreds of pounds—and save hundreds of headaches about what to give our friends and relations for Christmas!

JEANNE FABER

For advice or help in arranging a Book Fair please be in touch with Mr and Mrs Faber at 4 Hays Mews, W1.