



# MRA

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IN THIS ISSUE

Experiments in a university

A Nigerian village comes back to life

Brave man's choice

## 'They know where they are going'

BRITISH YOUTH opened 1965 on the attack in eight industrial areas.

'Their aim is to revive patriotism among the people,' said the *Wrexham Leader*, North Wales. 'They feel that if people were more interested in the country's future absenteeism would stop, productivity and exports would increase.'

They visited hundreds of homes, crawled along three-foot coal seams to talk to miners; attended 17 civic receptions, five of them given by Lord Mayors.

In public meetings; in visits to shipyards like John Brown's; at the British Motor Corporation factory at Bathgate; in conferences with educators, youth clubs, shipyard unions and management, they gave their convictions.

Everywhere they used films made by MRA, eight of them produced at a youth conference last year.

In Newcastle Alderman Sir Nicholas Garrow, veteran Socialist knighted in the New Year for his services as Chairman of the Northumberland County Council, urged the Lord Mayor to use these films with the city's youth.

He called for dedication to a 'programme big enough to tackle the problems blighting and blasting the lives of men today'.

Ulster Labour M.P., David Bleakley, receiving an MRA delegation in the Northern Ireland Parliament, said, 'We're all in this fight together'. There was the need, he said, to 'offset the danger of full bellies, empty heads and hollow hearts'.

The President of India, head of one-seventh of the human race, received a delegation of young men and women of India recently.

Greeting them in the Moghul Gardens of his palace, once the seat of British Viceroy, Dr. Radhakrishnan understood their purpose.

Three times he asked them, 'Do you want a revolutionary country?' He continued: 'Then it must be a true revolution, starting with the individual. The one way to rejuvenate India is to change people. That is Moral Re-Armament.'

These and other Indian youth, led by Mahatma Gandhi's grandson, Rajmohan Gandhi, are taking on the task of ending corruption and division by a 'revolution of national character'. A colour film, *A Nation is Marching*, shows hundreds of thousands in schools, colleges, cities and villages rallying to their ranks. Members of the Cabinet regard their action with respect and hope.

*Continued on next page*

## RELEVANT EDUCATION

WHEN Parliament debates education next week the basic question should be not 'What kind of school?' but 'What are our schools for?'

Schools must build character and give youth great goals to live for. 'Moral education is impossible without an habitual vision of greatness,' said the philosopher A. N. Whitehead.

Only a national aim for Britain, embracing all classes, races and ages, will end class war in the classroom—or industry.

Youth with a purpose have no time for delinquency, no need for drugs, no obsession with sex. The same applies to their elders.

Great aims and great character go together.

Churchill said in a broadcast in 1943: 'Religion has been the rock in the life and character of the British people. This fundamental element must never be taken away from our schools.'

The Minister of Education, Mr. Michael Stewart, should say 'No' to the propaganda to ban religion from schools.

Religious education must be improved and extended so that it creates not only 'sound character' but revolutionary Christians whose goal is a remade world.

Britain could pioneer in the future, as in the past, an education relevant to a world in revolution.

We give news in this issue of youth in action on every continent, as a result of training in Moral Re-Armament.

# Experiments in a university

**H**OW FRANK BUCHMAN began his work is filmed for the first time in *Pickle Hill* and released now.\*

This is the story of a 'laboratory experiment' in changing human nature.

The particular human natures belonged to a bootlegger, an agnostic College Dean and a group of cynical undergraduates.

The dialogue is so true to what actually happened at Penn State College back in 1908 that Buchman, when he first saw a preview of *Pickle Hill* as a play, was able to finish some of the sentences for the actors! Peter Howard, the author, spent many hours with Buchman and those who knew him in early days getting the facts.

One sees Buchman arriving at Penn State College, recommended by the Chairman of the National Democratic Committee as the man to cope with the delinquent, decadent students, who seem to be enjoying an early version of the 'new' morality—in those days without benefit of clergy.

Bill Gilliland—alias the bootlegger 'Bill Pickle' to the students—supplies their wants in whisky, and they find their own women. They are losing their football games

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*They know where they are going—cont.*

Father M. M. Balaguer, head of Jesuit education in India and Chairman of the International Eucharistic Congress in Bombay, said: 'These young men and women know where they are going. They are determined and have begun with themselves.'

Young American Indian leaders from 56 tribes meeting in the South-West United States led the most representative gathering in their peoples' history. They had put right cheating, thefts and dishonesty at home and found a great goal—to bring healing between the races of mankind.

English and French Canadians planned for their continent together. The President of 55,000 members of the Quebec General Students' Union promised full co-operation with their programme.

One hundred youth from Australia, New Zealand and other parts of Australasia pledged themselves to take up the Queen's challenge to build a new world where hate, greed and fear are out of date.

Senior students from 57 secondary schools in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda issued a call to their governments, press and fellow students to demonstrate and proclaim Moral Re-Armament to the world.

Japanese youth, who have been campaigning across their nation with plays and demonstrations, held a New Year conference in Odawara. They have written a play *North Star*, attacking corrupt leadership. Some are now joining Rajmohan Gandhi in India. The Prime Minister has paid their fares.

and missing scholarship targets. (The Warden of New College, Oxford, who complained recently of similar lacks among his undergraduates, might find Buchman's revolution of interest.)

Frank has plenty of the 'compassion' modern churchmen advocate. But he has plenty of the cure they often fail to believe in or bring.

The film shows how he leads Blair Buck, the charming 'Confucianist' student, to an experience of the living Christ. As a result, Blair Buck, a Southerner, gave his life to Negro education and in recent years has been a prime mover in settling racial issues in one Southern state without violence.

## Bootlegger and Pharisee

Buchman and Buck with inspired strategy and some worldly *savoir faire* find the way to change the roaring, roystering bootlegger, Bill Pickle, the agnostic Dean and his praying but pharisaical wife.

In the main building a light shines till 1 and 2 a.m. Buchman is talking with students who want to stop their soft, indulgent living and find how to use their lives for world needs. A queue of students is at his door day and night. After a year their work begins to improve and to the Dean's amazement they start winning football games.

The Roman Catholic priest reports many new faces at Mass and works with Buchman.

Bill Pickle's own decision comes at a conference in Toronto to which Buchman, once Pickle's foe but now his friend, takes him. On the train journey Bill's change rests on a knife-edge—will he have a drink at the station bar or not? One of his student ex-customers, the athletic 'Bonehead', decides which way the scale will tip for Bill when he says he has 'not touched a drop' for months. 'Not one drop?' asks Bill. 'Not one drop,' says Bonehead. Clergy, who argue about drinking, should hear Bill say it was that word from Bonehead which laid the foundation stone of his Christian life.

Bill goes with Buchman to the League of Nations at Geneva to speak to the diplomats. They are invited by Carl Hambro, Speaker of the Norwegian Parliament. Bill Pickle reaches straight into the hearts of the sophisticated statesmen.

In the final minutes of this 90-minute film we see a sample of the far-ranging results of that early laboratory work in a largely pagan university. Men and women from many nations speak of Buchman's work. He himself says it was a 'God-led' work. 'I have been wonderfully led.'

*Pickle Hill* also shows that Buchman was wonderfully obedient.

\* To hire apply to Ron Harris Cinema Services Ltd., Glenbuck Studios, Surbiton, Surrey. Fee £4 10s. per screening. For full list of MRA films write to MRA Productions, 4 Hays Mews, W.1.

# A village comes back to life

as young Nigerians show an answer to China's communes

BY ISAAC AMATA

**A**BOH is one of six villages on the escarpment north of Enugu, capital of Eastern Nigeria. It is a village of some five thousand people, once prosperous but now in distress and poverty. The Nigerian Coal Corporation used to employ nearly 1,000 of its men in the coal mines. All their economy depended on the earnings from the coal.

Then came retrenchment and hundreds of the men lost their jobs and livelihood. Agriculture had been neglected and the erosion of the soil equalled the erosion of the spirit of the village, where the unemployed were becoming a palm-wine sodden community. Crops were poor and grew only in the rainy season.

Last month 300 youth from all regions of Nigeria gathered in Enugu for a Moral Re-Armament conference for Tomorrow's Africa. They were practical and down-to-earth. As well as workshops in drama, music,

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**'NIGERIA'S UNITY and destiny lie in the spirit of Moral Re-Armament. "When man listens, God speaks. When man obeys, God acts. When men's motives and character change, nations change." Each regional leader is capable of leading Nigeria efficiently. But before a God-led unity among all the leaders, Nigeria will not only solve her social and economic problems but also lead all Africa to freedom, sanity and peace.'**

*From a message sent from the Conference for Tomorrow's Africa in Enugu to President Azikiwe and the Regional Governors during the recent election crisis.*

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home economics and journalism, they ran a Community Development project which took them every day to Aboh.

Mr. Ukwu, principal of the Catholic high school in Aboh, and the President of the local Farmers' Co-operative, came to address the Community Development Workshop on the situation in his village. The conference delegates suggested that to make the people work on the land again, a new spirit would have to grow in the elders of the village as well as in the youth. The principal invited them to the village to meet the people.

At first there was a tense atmosphere of mistrust against the visitors. The villagers argued that they had been duped several times in the past. But the delegates soon dispelled this by their conviction and sincerity. The villagers then entertained the delegates and thereafter took part in the conference, and their dancers participated in the dramatic presentations.

Together student delegates and villagers undertook to

dam a stream, start a fish industry, drain swamp land and create permanently irrigated market gardens for regular cash crops.

The first day about 12 villagers turned up for work. The next day about 50 came, and thereafter the numbers of villagers and conference delegates grew as more and more people caught the spirit of voluntary service and sacrifice that animated the workers.

An elder of the village told one of the delegates, 'I am very surprised but very happy that future doctors, lawyers, politicians and leaders of our country can agree to work on the land. This has shown a new spirit of hard work and patriotism.'

## Co-operative trebled

A student from the Women's Training College, Umuahia, said, 'I used to refuse to help my parents at home in my village. I thought I was superior to manual labour on the land. I decided to go to work with the women of the Aboh village. We planted pineapples and vegetables together and carried sand on our heads. I enjoyed doing it. This is the service to our country which we students want to give to build tomorrow's Africa.'

Though the conference has ended, work is proceeding full blast on the project. The Co-operative has expanded in membership three times. Funds are coming in. Many more young villagers, including teachers and students on holiday, are giving regular work. The pineapples are already growing and by the New Year, six types of vegetables will be cultivated for sale in Enugu market.

The government has officially sponsored the scheme and government officials from various departments have aided in its development. The Rural Training Centre at Asaba helped with personnel and gifts of pineapple suckers and fish fry.

## 'We mean business'

An overseas expert from Israel who came to help said, 'This is the first time in my stay in Africa that I have seen students working voluntarily with their hands. Given this spirit, such projects are capable of multiplication ten thousand times in Nigeria.'

Dr. M. I. Okpara, Premier of Eastern Nigeria, told the conference delegates when he received them at his Residence, 'You are trying to set an example of what youths ought to do with their heads, hands and feet to help in nation-building.'

John Nchekwube, Senior Prefect of Lagos City College, Yaba, said, 'We students mean business. This is our answer to the forced labour in the communes of China.'



## 'Fun and gallantry'—The Stage

'Give a Dog a Bone at the Westminster,' said *The Stage*, the theatre paper, 7 January, 1965, 'is original; but as it very rightly concerns the adventures and misadventures of a poor but well-meaning youth, his friends and enemies, it will strike no unfamiliar or puzzling note to the young.

"Ringo", the dog of the title, is played by Colin Farrell as a wise

### Brave man's choice . . .

ALAN THORNHILL's new play, *Mr. Wilberforce, M.P.*, opens at the Westminster Theatre on 11 February. He derived the idea for the play from *Brave Men Choose\**, Garth Lean's study of British leaders in the last century. The following extracts are from Mr. Lean's book:

First, he brought a new climate to British political life. . . . Wilberforce and his friends, in particular, pioneered political integrity in an age of corruption and began a tradition, only now being questioned, that self-restraint and the ability to build a sound home are important qualifications for anyone who aspires to lead a nation.

Secondly, Wilberforce and his colleagues did much to shape and inform Britain's main gift to the world,

and delightful comedian. . . . Valerie Hermanni excels in boyish fun and gallantry as his young master, Mickey Merry, and linking material is excellently put over by Barry MacGregor as Mr. Space. . . .

'Bright fairy-book designs by W. Cameron Johnson and Dorothy Phillips delight the eye and George Fraser's music fits Peter Howard's lyrics to perfection.'

parliamentary democracy. For they developed new ways of arousing public opinion and relating it to Parliament, which have been followed by every reformer since then and become an essential part of representative government.

Lastly, there is Wilberforce's legacy to Africa. He lived at the beginning of the European advance into Africa. But for his work the whole of Africa must have been converted into a vast slave Empire. . . .

The timing was more than human. Wilberforce lived that higher statesmanship which consists in executing a divine plan—a plan which is always available for statesmen, as for ordinary men, but which has to be actively sought and obeyed.

\* Blandford paperback, 5s.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Munich, Germany**—The Bavarian State Government sponsored an eleven-day run of Peter Howard's play *Through the Garden Wall* in this cultural centre.

**London**—The *Jewish Chronicle*, 18 December, called *Give a Dog a Bone* 'this wonderful production with 16 bright songs'.

**Roma, Basutoland**—White and black from Zambia, Rhodesia, South Africa, Swaziland and Basutoland took part in an MRA Conference. They gave films, plays and daily broadcasts in Maseru, capital of the territory.

**London**—Mr. Peter Howard's recent address 'The New Type of Commonwealth' is being published in booklet form. Price 1s., available from 4 Hays Mews, W.1. Postage 3d.

### Industry in Britain

THE production of one building team went up 40 per cent. Men increased their bonus earnings from 30 shillings to £14. —Coventry

Because of the new sound industrial relations we have been able to guarantee delivery dates which have brought orders to our yard.

—Clydeside

The firm offered to make a refund if they made more than their normal profit.

—Bristol

In my work logbook for the last nine months there have been more hours of work lost through shortage of barges than hours of work done.

—London

These statements are to be found in the current issue of *New World News* pictorial magazine. Supported by photos, black and white and colour, it is a penetrating and up-to-the-minute analysis of industry, its headaches and hopes.

It answers questions like: Why is the B.M.C. factory at Bathgate booming? Why is the French textile industry a pattern for the continent?

*New World News* is available from 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1, price 2s. 6d., plus postage.



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