

MORE YOUNG BRITONS ABROAD

RAJMOHAN GANDHI has appealed for young Britons to come immediately to India. He is holding a national conference in Bombay from April 25 to May 8 at which are expected Ceylonese, Malaysians, Japanese and nearly 50 from Australia.

Asking for a group of British youth who will join the conference and then stay in India for six months or a year, he writes, 'There are possibilities of most decisive, nation-saving work in different parts of India which require men and women with a sense of daring and adventure, and I know of no better country to which to turn for people of those qualities than Britain.'

In Rajasthan, he says, there is a chance to train the village leaders of the state. 'A few dozen transformed villages would capture the attention of India and the world with its new results in food production, cooperative living and the answer to feuds, hates and violence.' In Maharashtra he has been asked to reach the industrial workers in the factories. There are opportunities too for young people, with film vans, to address colleges and high schools in half a dozen states.

'Britain started something incredible in the affairs of men in India,' Gandhi continues, 'and has a destiny of showing these 500 million people how they are meant to live and what they are meant to do for the world.'

Gandhi's invitation is supported by a letter from five young Britons who are already with him. They say, 'It has been a fascinating experience to work out here and give what we can of Britain's best. People still expect

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SING-OUT 66 ON SUPERCARRIER AND AT WEST POINT

AMERICA, seeking an idea that can give purpose to her youth at home and effectiveness to her policies abroad, is turning more and more to the programme offered by *Sing-Out '66*. There are now twenty-two *Sing-Out* casts in the US.

In the last week the musical was performed before the 3,000 officers and men of the supercarrier USS Independence, just back from South-East Asia, and to 2,200 cadets at West Point, the US Military Academy.

At the end of one West Point performance, the cadet acting brigade commander, addressing both the audience and the cast, said, 'For the career we are embarking on we are going to spend our lives in service to our country. It is not a country in which we make the policies. It is a country in which we have to have faith in our leaders. We do not want to be exploited uselessly. If we are going to die we are proud to die for people like you.'

The cadets applauded *Sing-Out* for twenty-seven minutes during ten encores. Major General Frank J Sackton, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations in Washington, told the cast, 'It is a rare honour that

the corps of cadets accorded you a standing ovation.'

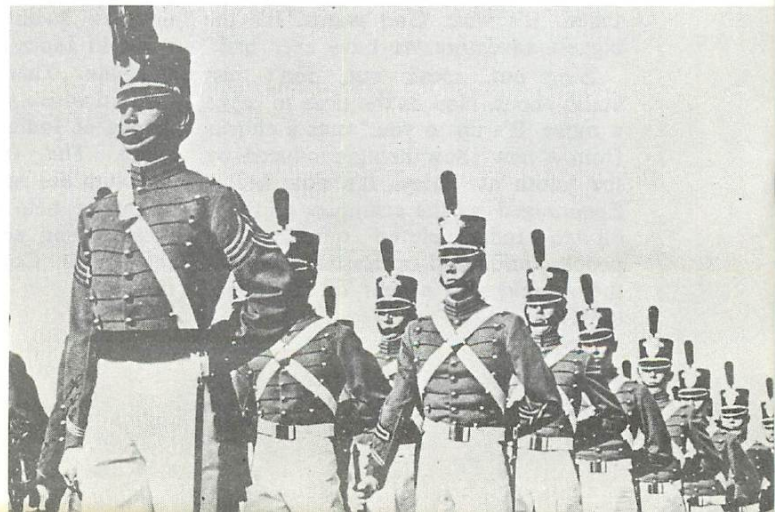
At another performance each member of the cast was presented with a Senior First Class Crest. Officers believe such a presentation to civilians to be unprecedented at West Point.

In Virginia the cast gave the show at the Army Engineering Centre, Fort Belvoir. The Commanding General presented them with a plaque inscribed with an appreciation of their 'unselfish dedication to a better America and a better world for all mankind.'

Governor Clifford Hansen of Wyoming, speaking at a performance of *Sing-Out '66* given by another cast, said that America and the world to survive 'must be founded on the solid bedrock of Moral Re-Armament.'

The Governor was introduced by John Hirsh, President of the Pacific Student Body Presidents' Association, representing 170 universities in the United States, Mexico and Canada. Hirsh, who in 1964 was host to Peter Howard at the University of Wyoming, said that the awakening of American youth was 'the result of what Peter Howard did on his tour.'

Cadets at West Point
Military Academy
photo: USIS





Peter Somers



photos: Huston Tom Jones



Ian Robertson

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leadership from Britain.

These letters, landing in the middle of 160 young people from 18 countries at an Easter Conference at Tirley Garth, Cheshire, were like a time bomb with a short fuse. Within hours costly decisions were being made. Five young people have already made themselves free to go to India.

Ian Robertson, a research botanist in Edinburgh who has just completed his work for a PhD, was born in India and lived there five years. He had longed to go back. 'This is the best possible basis to do so—with a revolutionary approach ready to tackle anything Gandhi sets before me.'

Tom Jones, assistant manager of a Sunderland railway freight depot, will take a year off from British Railways: 'Now is the time for bold decision. Britain's greatness depends on it. I cannot refuse the request.'

Said 17-year-old Peter Somers who left secondary modern school eight months ago. 'I want to work not at my own speed,' he says, 'but at the speed of God's revolution.'

Margaret Wilson, 18, from London says, 'We in Britain are meant to export Moral Re-Armament to the world. Accepting Gandhi's invitation was the biggest decision I have ever taken. It's what God wants. It's the biggest adventure we have ever had.'

'Sing out, speak out, don't just stand about. Now is the time to make a move. It's up to you,' runs a chorus from a new show being produced by the youth at Tirley. It's not theory. Encouraged by the examples of those off to India, eleven more young people announced on Easter Day that they would give a year of their lives to MRA.

After the youth had announced their plans, a 15-year-old boy called for a collection. On the spot the youth gave £69 0s. 4d. Now they are setting out to raise the money for the fares to India—£260 each return.

Money needed

Readers of the Information Service may want to help these youth respond to Gandhi's invitation. Or better, they may know others who would like to have a part in this bold venture. Cheques can be made out to Moral Re-Armament and sent to me at 4 Hays Mews, London W1. They will be forwarded to the youth.

Listening to these young men and women at Tirley announce their decision to go to India was the Nawab Ahmed Husain from Pakistan. He said, 'If you people are typical, Great Britain and the world have nothing to fear. The future of the country is safe in your hands. England is not a spent force. You have to send out men and women in streams to illuminate the earth.'

'You people who go to India will take with you great wealth. The work you do will be a credit to this country.'

'You will be a cementing force between India and Pakistan. You'll work in India first and afterwards in Pakistan. There will be a climate created where you will bring the young people of India and Pakistan together again. The future of India and Pakistan lies in the same direction.'

Let us help make it possible for these young people to bring such a rebirth to Commonwealth cooperation.

THE EDITOR



Margaret Wilson

Rob Pattison



NIHILISM GRIPS EUROPE'S YOUTH

by Gordon Wise

THE PROPRIETOR in the Austrian countryside restaurant was a jovial host. He had just come home after spending a year in a Hungarian prison because he had been caught smuggling raincoats. His puszta-schnitzel was well seasoned with chillies, pure Hungarian. This province of Burgenland had been part of Hungary until 1921.

The nearby Hungarian border of today is the sadly familiar double row of barbed wire with the twenty metres in between heavily mined. This stretches for 240 kilometres with its machine-gun towers every few hundred metres.

Austria has two other Communist neighbours, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. In Vienna I had a conversation with a well-known Catholic about the new alignment he believes is shaping between the Communist and non-Communist worlds. He says the old dividing line between the Communist and non-Communist is being superseded now by that of the Communist authorities plus the Christian and Western leadership on one side; on the other is the nihilistic younger generation of both camps.

Twenty years on

This man related a recent conversation he had had with a Communist diplomat. The Catholic said, 'It is true that we have lost our youth. But you have lost yours too. They may hate us now, but they will hate and destroy you in twenty years' time.' Both men agreed that the gravest threat to the world was a new nihilistic generation who believed in nothing and would destroy out of sheer frustration and aimlessness.

Such cynicism among youth is the inevitable result of the betrayed ideals of Christendom and Communism.

At the recently concluded twenty-third Soviet Communist Party Congress in the Russian capital, the same point was bluntly stated by N G Yegorychev, described by *The New York Times* as 'the rising young Communist boss of Moscow'.

Yegorychev talked of 'difficulties in the ideological education of the workers'. He said that there are Soviet citizens who exhibit 'elements of nihilism and scepticism'.

These problems are most acute among the young, he indicated.

A Roumanian priest told me the other day of the aching vacuum in East Europe. He said it was for three reasons. The leaders of these revolutions had promised a life of plenty, but the masses often still had ration cards. They had talked of 'the unbreakable Socialist unity' but the two leading Communist powers were bitterly opposed to each other. And the leaders, whom the people had been taught to revere, had become defamed by their own comrades, first Trotsky, then Stalin, followed by Khrushchev—they were all demoted from the saintly to the satanic. So now any proclamations of faith are greeted with extreme scepticism.

The Mods and Rockers and beatniks of the West are similarly in rebellion against hypocrisy and a society which makes too small a demand on them.

Austria, a neutral state, too small to threaten anyone, is ideally placed to develop a compelling way forward for both East and West. The young

Socialists and trade unionists with whom I met declared their enthusiasm for such a role.

The Socialist Foreign Minister, Dr Bruno Kreisky, who addressed an MRA conference in Caux, Switzerland, last January, holds this belief. He brought with him to Caux two of Austria's outstanding young Socialists. Last month with an American Rhodes Scholar from Lincoln College, Oxford, I conferred with them and their colleagues in Vienna.

'What you have said would be the way to give content and aim to our young generation,' said one. Said another, 'It is not enough to improve living standards unless we offer a purpose, our members become bourgeois and we do not hold them.'

They felt that the labour movements of the West had succeeded in reaching most of their original objectives, like toiling up a long hill, 'but unless we find another peak to mount, we begin to slide down the other side.'

'Our job now is to find a practical way to develop a common will for humanity,' was the Chairman's conclusion.

CAUX CONFERENCE POINTS TO REMEDY

WAYS OF MEETING the cynicism and nihilism in West and East Europe were sought at an MRA Easter conference in Caux, Switzerland.

Dick Ruffin, a US Rhodes Scholar, referring to the coming of *Sing-Out '66* to Europe said the American youth in the musical had undertaken to bring a remedy to the contradictions in the Western way of life—poverty amidst wealth and racial prejudice despite just laws. They challenged youth to live for the entire world, Ruffin said.

Spokesmen from Italy, Austria and France said they planned to bring the US patriotic revue to their countries. Last month Chancellor Erhard and the West German Government invited *Sing-Out '66* to come to the Federal Republic.

Three hundred delegates from twenty-two countries attended the conference, including educators from Britain, Scandinavia, Austria and Switzerland.

The Swiss Department of Technical Aid to Developing Countries sent at their expense a delegation of Tunisian aid development trainees, presently studying in Geneva. The spokesman for the twenty-three Tunisians said at Caux, 'Our time here has strengthened our determination to build up a new country.'

A qualified observer, who lives in a Communist country, reported on a recent interview given by Mr Pavlov, head of the Soviet youth organisation, saying that there are now 70 million Soviet citizens born after

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KENYA: *Home Minister's support*

KENYA'S MINISTER of Home Affairs promised to give all the help he could to the 150-strong cast of the new African musical *Harambee Africa* (Pull Together Africa). Mr Daniel Arap Moi was visiting the farm of Mr and Mrs Michael Low at Narosurra, a training centre for MRA where the musical is being rehearsed. A thirty-minute extract was performed for the Home Minister.

Africa's greatness

He said the ideas in *Harambee Africa* must penetrate the minds and hearts of Kenya's people. It was the thinking which would make Africa grow and become great. He was encouraged to see young people from all parts of the continent working together for the good of Africa.

'Africa has great wealth which can only develop if people are united with this purpose,' he said. 'I will help you as much as I possibly can in this task of moulding the minds of our people. God means us to be great in our souls, minds and in all we do.'

The Minister expressed appreciation of the electric guitars and amplification equipment loaned to *Harambee Africa* by Vox.

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World War II 'who know nothing about the war and still less about the class struggle'. The same observer quoted a recent speech by Marshal Tito calling for 'a regeneration among us Communists which will revive our force and conscience'. Corruption and selfishness in the West, stressed this observer, are however no match for the growing awareness in the East of values hitherto disregarded. If the West wanted to be ideologically on the offensive it had to undergo a serious moral clean-up, he said.

Gifts to MRA Tax-Deductible

DANISH GOVERNMENT DECISION

MORAL RE-ARMAMENT in Denmark has been recognised by the Minister of Finance as a public utility with the right to receive tax-deductible gifts.

Under existing tax-laws in this country gifts from 100 to 1,000 kroner given to charities and foundations of public utility can be deducted on income returns if the foundations are recognised by the Minister of Finance as eligible for this

privilege.

According to the law such recognition is given to foundations of public utility whose funds are used for the benefit of larger sections of the population. Foundations for the benefit of individuals, smaller groups or particular areas are not recognised.

This privilege comes in addition to MRA's exemption from tax on gifts and the privilege confirmed last year of tax-deductibility for covenants.

Sheffield business leader calls for national aim

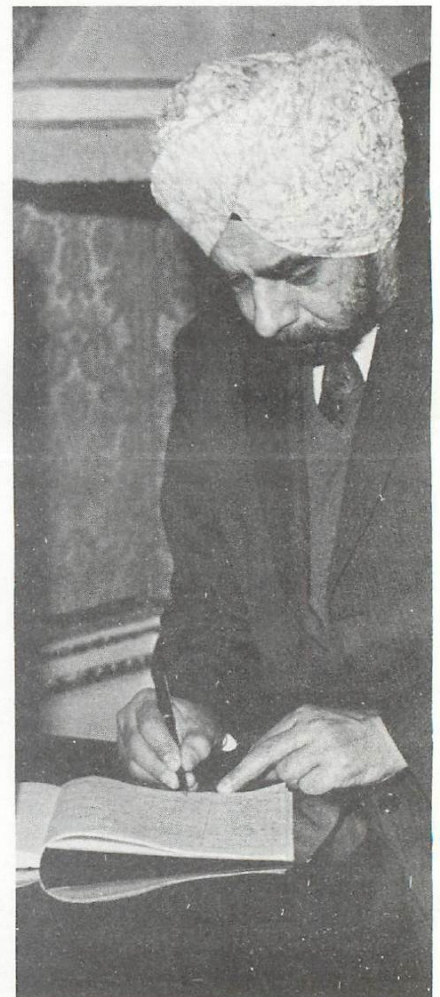
THE NEWLY ELECTED President of the Sheffield and District Chamber of Trade said that a great national aim would cure Britain's present slipshod ways, her faulty workmanship and poor service.

Eric G Priestley, director of a chain of clothing stores in the North, said in his presidential address, 'We must find how to draw out the fine qualities that are so often lying dormant in people. Britain has always been at its best when it has been fighting for some great aim and this is what we need today,' he said.

New levels

'Men sacrifice and work hard when they feel there is a good enough reason. A debt of £900 million may seem a good reason, but the human heart responds more to people and their needs than to profits and losses.

'If we as a nation took on, with the rest of the world, seriously to plan to provide food, clothing and housing for everyone, everywhere, I believe we would not only deal with our debt but also would give our people an inspired sense of purpose and reach new levels of productivity.'



People from fifteen Commonwealth nations attended a supper in Clive House, MRA headquarters in London, on Easter Sunday. Here H S Kalra, President of the Punjabi Society of the British Isles, signs his name requesting to be kept in touch with MRA. photo: Strong