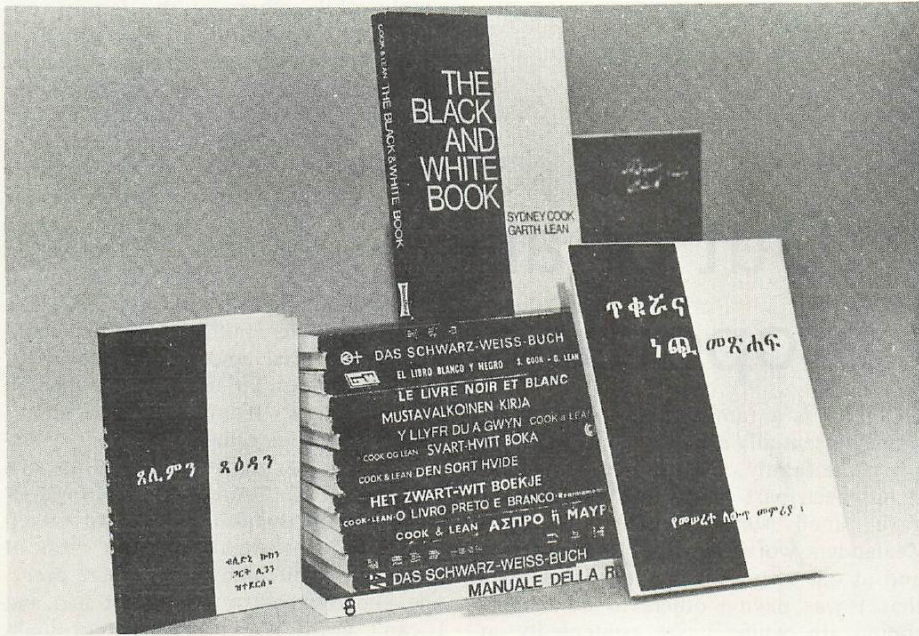


# NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

ETHIOPIA see page 3

The Amharic (right) edition of 'The Black and White Book'



## On a time of inflation...

# A Christmas gift

by Roland Wilson

EVERYONE IS TALKING about money. It can and often does dominate men's and women's lives. This is understandable when you see in a shop, as I did, two packets of the same envelopes, one labelled 42p and the other, a later delivery, 60p.

There is the other side also. A friend of mine travelling in the Underground heard a young couple freely discussing expenditure of £30 each week on new clothes. Millions have cash in their pockets they never had before. It can have a dangerous effect on character.

MRA aims to bring to birth the moral recovery which is at the heart of economic recovery and national prosperity. If everyone cares enough and everyone shares enough, everyone will have enough. There is enough for everyone's need but not for their greed.

MRA creates an unshakeable framework of actively selfless and self-giving citizens.

This spirit spreading through the nation inevitably brings a wave of economic health, and would also reveal to men and women what they can do at their best. The motivation of money is never final or lastingly effective. It does

not satisfy. Incentive schemes are suspect not just as a result of prejudice but because ordinary men feel instinctively that they touch the wrong springs in character. A deeper motive has to be enlisted, and can be.

I was at a meeting in Calcutta of the Harijans, that vast class of men and women in India who are the poorest of the poor. Hungrily they devoured the truths of MRA. Then the Indian who was leading the meeting did a daring thing. He told them about the finances of MRA, and the need for money to

press forward with the campaign for an honest and healthy India.

It was raining and I remember wondering how many of these men and women in Calcutta had any place to sleep that night except the pavement. A collection was taken and from perhaps two hundred who were present some 60 rupees were given. Everyone who gave must have decided to go without some vital daily necessity.

Yet each felt they had a part in the Moral Re-Armament of India.

## Frontiers pushed forward

Wherever MRA is at work in the world those whose hearts are invested in it face the challenge of increasing opportunities and rising prices. What I now write about the finances of Britain could in its own way apply equally in many

GIFT continued on page 2

## RHODESIA see page 4

At the world première of the film 'Cross Road' the theme song is sung by John Burrell (England), Eva Westling (Sweden), Theres Bietenholz (Switzerland), Violet Sithole and William Munanyi (Rhodesia). Three of the Rhodesian cast of 'Cross Road' were interviewed on television.



countries. The miracle is that a year of almost universal financial stresses has also been one in which people have had the faith to undertake bold actions that have pushed forward the frontiers of MRA in every continent.

Here is the present financial position of MRA in this country. £132,000 has come in in gifts and legacies throughout the year so far. Current expenditure has gone up through inflation by about £1,200 a month bringing the gap between regular income and normal expenditure to £3,000 a month.

There have been additional costs at 12 Palace Street, due to the need to provide air conditioning for the Sanderson Room, 44 Charles Street, a home which has enlisted many new people in the advance of MRA in Britain and in the world, had reached the point when extensive repairs, re-wiring and redecoration were needed, work that could no longer be left if the house was to be rightly used.

### Inner satisfaction

Economies have also been launched. The lease of 12a Charles Street ends this Christmas and it has been decided to absorb the valuable work done there through 35 years in the remaining homes and centres. The freehold of 26 Catherine Place has been obtained at a low cost.

Also we have done our best to play a worthy part in the world advance of MRA by contributions in one form or another to the work in many lands.

But in spite of many gifts, all the more remarkable in a time of inflation, we still have to find some £25,000 by the end of the year.

Those responsible for MRA's administration in this country do not press people for money. If anyone has done that they are out of accord with the spirit of this work. MRA's aim is to stimulate in all a voluntary and thoughtful use of resources, as a result of which ordinary people enjoy the inner satisfaction of using what they have rightly.

### Unobtrusive giving

At the same time it has been our practice, in the spirit of fellowship, to inform friends everywhere of the needs and ask for their prayers.

A considerable part of our regular income comes from seven year covenants on which tax is recovered. I cannot adequately express enough gratitude to those who through many long years have quietly and unobtrusively given in this regular way. It may be that now many who have more money each week coming in could sign covenants, so that tax is recovered in addition to the gift. There is a certain satisfaction in using the facilities successive Governments

# Out of all proportion

GIVING is a family affair. And giving money essentially a family concern. Since I met the family of Moral Re-Armament it has been part of my life; for years I gave small sums regularly to New Zealanders working with MRA overseas and at one stage I had doubts and fears that I was paying others to do what I should do while I sat contentedly at home working at my chosen job in comfort. I am very blind to very much and like to put things and people into categories so I put my giving money as something essential, a need I could

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have provided for the support of charities.

In writing these notes for *New World News*, I do so as one who has witnessed the miracle of God's provision for this work for over 40 years. During that entire time, in spite of vast expansion and despite many difficulties and battles, no real need has been un-met. It has been a pageant of triumphant giving, and also a story of sacrifice which stirs the blood. Men and women have stepped forward to give in a measure that has often meant re-thinking the way they run their lives.

I think of some striking examples of giving in recent days: an employee in a nationalized industry has sent a cheque for £1,000, a pensioner £500 and a nurse has taken out a deed of covenant for £10 a month from the pay increase just granted to her.

### Free of bills

If there are any people who read *New World News* who would like to help meet the needs that face us before our financial year ends on 31 December, would they think of this as a Christmas gift to God's work, so that we are free of every bill when Christmas Day dawns?

Never was MRA more needed in this land. Also millions are more ready than they have ever been for it. It is the appointed time for a daring advance, for which God will provide the men and the women and the resources. I am persuaded that it is His will to clear the decks first, and we ask your thought and your prayers that this be done in the way and in the spirit He wants it done. ●

supply while others of the family supplied other things.

One day when the time was nearing for a delegation to leave for the World Assembly at Caux, I asked how the money was coming in for their fares and was told it was many hundreds short. A friend with completely serene face said, 'Don't worry, it will come.' Unknown to my friend I had received a legacy which was the nucleus of a reserve fund which I had built to \$2,000. Inspired by her faith I felt this could answer the need, and gave \$1,000 of it to two people. To have had a part in all that grew from that delegation's travels is awe-inspiring.

About a year ago the idea to go to a conference in Sydney came to me—money to be spent for my own travelling. I thought, 'But I couldn't speak at meetings, frightening things where everyone knows what to say except me, and I can't grasp world problems or build teams or change people.' I went. There I met old friends and made new ones and found a world family who cared about the needs of all nations.

### Meeting a need

There we heard that Caux was short of food, or meat. The need for money again, but not just mine. New Zealand had meat which Caux needed. When my blood relations were hungry in Britain during the war we sent food parcels. So now I tried to send meat but there were many difficulties. I decided to send money for them to buy it in Switzerland.

I started by talking to my friends who were interested in the work Moral Re-Armament was doing. Their generosity encouraged me to write people from north to south of New Zealand. Some responded, some didn't. Altogether twelve people contributed. In actual dollars it was a small amount and my own contribution was not the largest. In asking for money I had to be clear about my motives and learned some pleasant facts about relationships.

### Never dull

The latest step in this money business came from the need of the work in our own country where the income was not meeting rising costs. My thought is to use the whole of my salary for the next few months instead of always putting some away as reserve. I will add it to my regular contribution to our work. It is a new step in faith.

I work in a boarding school hostel. Life is frustrating, rewarding, always surprising and never dull. Allowing God to use the money I earn for His family is faith-building, humbling and deeply satisfying out of all proportion to its economic value.

**Peggy Davis**

Marsden Collegiate School, Karori, Wellington, New Zealand

AT THIS CRITICAL TIME for Ethiopia the Amharic edition of *The Black and White Book* has hit the shops and stalls of Addis Ababa. This follows the recent Tigrinya edition for the Northern Provinces.

Already over a thousand Amharic copies have been sold, with its seven-point theme 'What kind of country do we want to build?' boldly featured on the inside front cover. At the request of the Director of Education for Addis Ababa it has gone out in quantity to many of his headmasters who are selling it to students and staff. A senior Foreign Office official bought ten. A personnel manager bought 160 for his company.

As a nationally respected journalist put it, 'This book is exactly what is needed to show people how we can make practical the nation building spirit of "us" rather than "me", starting with the change needed in ourselves.'

Judging by the effect in the printing press where it was published, this conviction seems justified. 'It works like a spiritual hand-grenade,' declared the vice-president of the labour union. 'One manager to whom I gave it said it was what he had been looking for all his life. Shortly after reading it he spent a lot of time and money in helping one worker who was in difficulty. The other managers could not at first understand him. I have given it to many of my fellow-workers, too. One came and repaid me money he had long owed, saying he wanted to be honest from now on. Another, near to divorce, said he had started to recognize his own faults. The marriage has since been remade.'

The book has been translated by two brothers, whose story is told in this article.

**JB-S**

I have seen posters advertising 'Give a Dog a Bone' everywhere, and I wondered if you had any spare ones which I could stick up at school? I will be very grateful if you would be so kind as to send me one or two.

I will certainly come and see 'Give a Dog a Bone' this year with my friends and family because I know Tony Jackson from seeing him 26 times in 'Godspell'. I have only one regret: that 'Give a Dog . . .' is on for such a short run. December 5th to February 1st, not even two months, is certainly not long enough! We will just have to make the most of it while it lasts! ♪

Letter from a schoolgirl to the Manager of the Westminster Theatre

## Two miracles

by Negussie Asseressie

I AM A technical worker in a Government Corporation. Some years ago one of my family gave me some MRA books to read. I told no one about it then, but those books set me on a new course for my life. In the last two years I have experienced some miracles for which I shall always be grateful.

One was the discovery of my brother, Mengistie. He had a good job in government service, but he turned to drink and gambling, dropped out of his job and out of the family. He spent his nights in the bars. None of us knew where he lived.

### Found in the bar

One day as I was praying for him I had the thought to start looking for him. I searched the bars. I took the decision to keep on searching. One morning at 5.45 I found him in a bar, where he was still awake after gambling all night. With the help of my sister and a friend, we kept in touch with him and gave him all the care we could. Mengistie changed and came back into the family. Now he is doing a responsible job as a farm manager for a big plantation. Last year he set to work to translate *The Black and White Book* into Amharic and I helped him.

Another miracle happened in my job. I had a very uncomfortable thought that I should go to my boss and be honest with him about certain things and about some expensive equipment which I had broken. I hesitated for some time, but finally I decided that this was God's guidance and I must obey. I wrote him a short letter asking him for a brief interview. He answered me through the telephone that he would see me but I must make it very short.

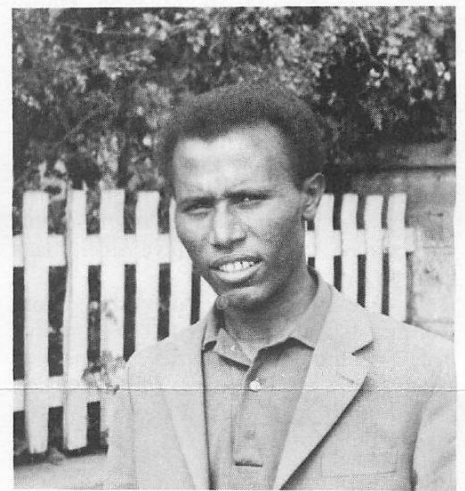
### His methods changed

I apologised for about eight points, one of which was absence from work giving false reasons and leaving the office whenever those in charge were not present. We had a long talk. He was a harsh man in his dealings with the workers, but after this he began to change his attitude and methods.

Then a series of strikes began in nearly all the industries in Addis Ababa. We had a militant union official who wanted us all to agree to present some extreme demands. I said that I would like to think about them first and discuss them with my fellow-workers. To my surprise I was chosen to be the representative of the men in my station.

### Majority support

We discussed what our approach should be. There was much unrest. At one union meeting this man stood up and said that this was the chance to have unpopular managers, including my boss, arrested and removed. I stood up and said that my section would oppose this unless there was some proof of wrongdoing. He and other union militants shouted, 'Arrest them first - we will find



Negussie Asseressie

out later.' We were attacked, but the majority of the meeting supported us. One reason was that so many of the workers had noticed the change in my boss.

### Beyond what we asked

But there were injustices, and we had a number of reasonable demands. I was able to see the General Manager. I told him about MRA and what the workers felt about the things that were wrong. He responded. Now the management has presented new conditions of service which deal with the injustices and at some points exceed even what we had asked for. Most of the workers are fully satisfied. So far there has been no strike in my industry.

Before these changes happened, my brother and I continued to work on *The Black and White Book* and the family helped. Often we would all gather in the evening and work on it together. At last it was ready. But the censors turned it down. It was too challenging.

Then came the revolutionary turn of events of the last months. In the new freedom the book was passed. Now it is going out to the country.

# Waiho Ko Te Pepeha Mangopare - Uroroa Te Wero

The challenge is the authority of God and our tenacious obedience to him

THE PRIME MINISTERS of the Pacific nations met earlier this year to work out 'the Pacific way' of helping each other with development.

Last month seventy people from the Pacific Islands and from the different races of New Zealand spent a weekend together in the Maori Meeting House at Takitimu Marae, Wairoa, as a step towards building closer Pacific unity.

Opening the occasion, J R Harrison, MP for Hawkes Bay, said that he had a long association with people of Moral Re-Armament. Their purpose was to remove the causes of division. Their labours were essential and 'more important today than they have ever been before'.

At one session a Polynesian from Rotuma Island apologized to Fijians for her resentment towards them as Melanesians and a young office worker, part Maori and part Pakeha (white), asked the forgiveness of Maori and



J R Harrison MP (right) with Peter Wood and Talbot Lovering



Canon and Mrs Huata

Pacific people for her attitude of superiority.

Chinese and Malay representatives from Malaysia and Singapore, studying in New Zealand, found a new basis for working together. One of them said, 'I have been working here for ten months, this weekend I have learnt most.'

A farmer gained a new concern for feeding the world. Responding to the need outlined at the recent UN Food Conference he decided to put in a further paddock of wheat when he got home. 'It will inevitably be lower yielding than early October plantings,' he said. 'So be it. Thirty bushels per acre will be better than unwanted beef.'

## Best qualities

The weekend was initiated by Canon W T T Huata. A feature of it was the reading by Maori and Pakeha of Peter Howard's play *The Ladder* and an even-

ing of Maori action songs given by fifty men, women and children of Canon Huata's multi-racial and multi-denominational He Toa Takitini Concert Party. 'The best qualities of the Maori lie in their community spirit,' said Canon Huata, 'and the best quality of the Pakeha is his ability to fight for what is right. We need both.'

An Elder commented, 'Canon Huata has united the races, united the churches and restored our culture.'

'As New Zealanders we are meant to take a lead in being the peace-makers and pacemakers of the Pacific,' said Witurora Duff, a Member of the New Zealand Maori Council. In 1350 the ancestors of the Ngati Kahungunu, the host tribe for the weekend, had been carried to New Zealand in the sacred canoe Takitimu. In 1974, said Mr Duff, a new canoe of the spirit, a new concept for all the peoples of the Pacific could be launched from Takitimu Marae.

# World première in Rhodesia

THE MULTI-RACIAL UNIVERSITY of Rhodesia was the setting for the world première of the film version of *Cross Road* on 22 November. This was the day that Dr Elliott Gaballah, Vice-President of the African National Council, told a meeting of the Rhodesian National Affairs Association: 'Rhodesia is at the crossroads... at this desperate eleventh hour Rhodesia needs men of vision. This is not a question of colour... we may set an example in Rhodesia for the world of how men of all races can live together peacefully.'

The University of Rhodesia maintains equal rights and opportunities for all races attending it. But, says the President of the Student Representative Council, aspirations to make the university a pattern for the country often end in disillusionment and bitterness. 'Instead of being a beacon of light for Rhodesia, it has become a mirror of Rhodesian character.'

In this context, and with continuous fighting on Rhodesia's borders, *Cross*

*Road's* message of an alternative to violence and an answer to hatred and fear struck chords in many hearts.

The audience of public figures and students of all races came in response to personal invitations from Professor Robert Craig, Principal of the University, and a door-to-door leaflet campaign in the residences.

Professor Craig introduced the performance and spoke of 'the importance I attach to what is being attempted in the name of Moral Re-Armament'. 'Let there be peace on earth and peace in Rhodesia—and let it begin with me. Everything great begins with you and me,' he said.

*Cross Road's* university performances were initiated by Alec Smith, a young white Rhodesian, and Stephen Moyo, an African, who as a student had led riots on the campus and was well known to the authorities.

Smith told the audience, 'Stephen and I carry a common burden on our hearts. Our country has great problems and

great potential. God can show us how to solve the problems and utilise the potential.'

Moyo, who was unable to attend because of family illness, asked Smith to read from *The Black and White I* as his message to the evening. 'A famous Black American educator said: "Nobody shall drag me down so low as to make me hate him." The truth is that if we hate anybody, even one person, we cannot love humanity.'

An African dance with drum and song accompaniment reverberated round the theatre during the interval when the cast from eight countries spoke and sang. Violet Sithole, who had met the cast only a week before, told how she had asked God into her life after first seeing *Cross Road*. 'It's really worth a try,' she said.

Many of the audience stayed behind afterwards to discuss the ideas raised in the show. The campaign continues in two other major Rhodesian towns, Gwelo and Bulawayo. **Mary Lean**