

ON THE JOB

4

Tea-breaks

'SURE, I love the work, and there's a great spirit in the yard. I was the only coloured person here when I started,' said the shunter.

'Mind you, it was tough at the start. Back in Barbados I was recommended for railway work, but over here my mates warned me the skilled men would never accept me. What to do? I determined to stick it out and show them what a coloured man could do. I decided to go for teamwork and a spirit of ice.

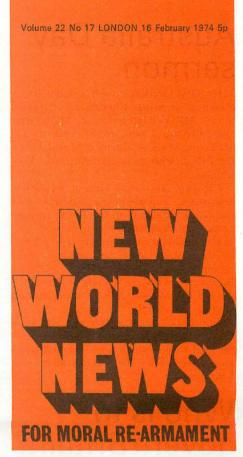
It's such simple things that count really. Take tea, for instance. The men used to come into the shed for a break and each

would brew his own tea. One day I made a big pot and poured it out for everyone. Nowadays that always happens, and we take it in turn. Then the shed was dirty and messy. I swept it out and cleaned it. Nobody said anything, but they just did it too after that.

'Then there's another thing. A yard's a dangerous place and there can be nasty accidents. You need some teamwork. A great change seemed to come as time went on, and cleaners, greasers, shunters and examiners all pitch in together now.

'I remember one chap. He came from East Europe and he never said a word or worked with anyone else. Well, every day I said "Good morning" to him, as we do in Barbados. After a long time he said to me, "Why do you say 'Good morning' all the time although I ignore you?" I told him I wanted to be friends with everyone in the yard. I don't know what happened, but he was quite different after that.

'No doubt about it. There's come a big change in this yard. We're a good team. I have to laugh sometimes when I think I was told a coloured man would never be accepted.'



A time for harvesting by Gordon Wise SEE INSIDE

'The miners changed my life'

Report from South Wales

'WE NEED the miners today in Britain not just for their coal, but for their qualities as people,' said Mrs Michael Barrett, grand-daughter of David Lloyd George (Prime Minister 1916–22), in Cardiff last week.

Chairing a public meeting at the Temple of Peace, Cathays Park, Mrs Barrett told the miners that not only Britain but the world needed them. 'I leading the life of a socialite in London at the end of the war, often seeing hundreds of pounds spent each night in clubs and parties. Meeting miners in South Wales who were applying the ideas of Moral Re-Armament in their jobs and in their homes changed my life. I have worked without salary for Moral Re-Armament ever since.'

From Wales to world

The meeting entitled, 'The World in Crisis: The Answer Wales can Give' climaxed the South Wales tour of *Cross Road*, the multi-media production on the life and work of Frank Buchman.

Reporting the event with the headline, 'Selfishness gets blame', the Western Mail quoted Norman Green-Price, a former High Sheriff of Radnorshire, as saying that the real cause of the present crisis was the selfish way we had lived as a nation for the last 20 years. The paper went on to quote Mr Green-Price, 'The selfish get-rich-quick attitude of myself

and thousands like me forged the bitterness we see today. For this I am deeply sorry. As a farmer I have decided to put the national interest before my sectional farming interest, whatever the cost.'

In the past three weeks Cross Road has been shown in places varying from a brand new civic theatre to the living room of a private home, from a college lecture theatre to a Rhondda hall. 'I was utterly depressed with what is happening, but you brought hope,' said a Cwmbran housewife. 'Outstanding,' commented a former Rhondda miner now living in Cardiff. 'It contains the answer to the crisis in the country.' 'It underlines that money is not enough to satisfy our deepest needs,' said a union official from a Newbridge colliery.

From Westminster to Wales

Welcoming the cast of Cross Road to Cwmbran, Councillor D G Price, Chairman of the Council, told the audience in the Congress Theatre, 'I have seen these MRA shows at the Westminster Theatre in London. I was one of a host of councillors from all over the country who signed a message urging them to bring their shows into the provinces and into Wales.'

On the day before the first of the two shows in Cwmbran, members of the cast sang songs from *Cross Road* from a bandstand in the shopping precinct

adjacent to the theatre while announcements were made about the showings over a loud-speaker and leaflets distributed to passing shoppers.

The visit of German miners Hubert Eggemann and Richard Bladeck to South Wales was front-page news in the Rhondda Leader which also carried a large picture of the cast of Cross Road with the Mayor and Mayoress of the Rhondda. The paper quotes the words of Hubert Eggemann speaking after the play in Trealaw, 'We are grateful for the miners of Wales who came to Germany after the war and brought us German miners the idea of Moral ReArmament.'

Come back soon

Besides the German miners over 60 people from different parts of Britain and overseas joined *Cross Road* for its tour in Wales. Coming for a week or a weekend, they stayed in local homes and visited scores more in connection with the show.

The statement 'Who is to govern Britain?' issued by Moral Re-Armament appeared last week in the Rhondda Leader, Pontypridd Observer and Llantrisant Observer.

Already invitations are coming in for Cross Road to return to Wales. Its next engagement is 22 Feb in Bristol in the Tyndale Church Hall.

Australia Day sermon

THE REV Gordon Powell welcomed the presence, in Scots' Church, of delegates to an MRA conference in Melbourne and introduced one of the visitors, Dr Malcolm Mackay, former Minister for the Navy, who gave the Australia Day sermon.

The Sun, Australia's largest circulation newspaper, reported the address and quoted Dr Mackay on the threat to parliamentary democracy: 'There is a tendency to discard all concern for others, or the nation as a whole in a wild scramble for individual or sectional advantage. This selfishness is not restricted to any one class or economic or political grouping.

"The only hope for freedom lies in a national return to those moral and spiritual values which give incentives and imperatives above the dictates of human selfishness."

Who is to govern Britain?

A NATIONAL rising of ordinary people—this was both the aim and the expression of a London assembly for Moral Re-Armament last weekend. It took place two days after the dissolution of Parliament and the beginning of the shortest and possibly the bitterest election campaign ever. It came at the end of a week The Times predicted would be 'one of the most fateful' in modern British history. It followed the publication of halfpage advertisements in The Times and The Guardian entitled 'Who is to govern Britain?'

Last week the same statement was reproduced in other papers in England, Scotland and Wales. Many more papers will have it in the next weeks. BBC Radio 4 broadcast an interview in which it was made clear that this was just the start of a major campaign. Local radio stations have similarly had broadcasts. Dr Ernest Claxton speaking on Radio Medway said that he and other people from his area were giving money to put the statement in local papers because 'it puts over the ideas that we want to live by, of a nation governed by men governed by God'.

Churchmen, Anglican and Roman Catholic, have read it out from their pulpits instead of giving their Sunday sermons. Hundreds of people have sent in requests for books or commented upon its significance. 'A ray of sunshine and a breath of fresh air,' said the head of a building firm. 'In this materialistic age this is just what is required to help people to start thinking in the right way and inspire people to give up the selfish,

Republic Day show

AT THE INVITATION of ten firms employing about one fifth of the work force in Poona, the Rotary Club of North Bombay presented *Jo Bhool Gaye Hai*, the Hindi version of the industrial play *The Forgotten Factor*, in Poona on Indian Republic Day.

R D Aga, managing director of a company, introduced the show. He said, 'Many of us are concerned at food scarcity, soaring prices, corruption, riots, industrial unrest. They spring from a loss of faith in ourselves and in our fellow beings. We are offering this play as a humble start to a new era in human relations.'

Rotarian Shri Raman Patel, General Manager of the Bhor Industries, Bombay, described how the play had helped settle a strike in his factory last year.

Shri Satya Banerjee, militant trade union leader for 25 years in Calcutta, said, 'In 1953 I saw The Forgotten Factor when Dr Frank Buchman visited Calcutta. It changed the course of my life. I became united with my family, with trade union opponents and with the management. We reached a settlement in my railway company which was not only advantageous to the workers but saved our company from liquidation. In 1971 through this new spirit we were able to negotiate alternative jobs with the Union Government for 3000 workers made redundant by the closure of the company.'

All grades of management and 1300 workers from these ten firms saw the two performances of the show. Inspired by the response of the lively audience the organisers expressed the hope that they could arrange further showings in Hindi and Marathi, the language of the workers.

wholly materialistic life that all of us seem to be living.' A motor executive said, 'This will be a rallying point for Britain.'

'It is wonderful, just right,' said a national trade union figure. And a Socialist leader: 'This is a page we Socialists ought to have written ourselves. It is exactly what we feel.' 'It is excellent and I have commended it to many,' said an Anglican Bishop. And a Catholic priest: 'You really give out truth and name the child by its real name.' A former Governor-General wrote, 'It is high time that this was said.'

Over 10,000 reprints of the statement have already been distributed. Hundreds of MPs received copies on the first day of the election campaign. Rank and file trade unionists have sent it to their executives, businessmen to their trade organisations, ordinary citizens to their WHO IS TO GOVERN? continued on page 4

Iranian Police learn how to change motives

from our correspondent

LAST MONTH the Chief of Iran's National Police, General Samadianpour, inaugurated a week of training in moral re-armament at the Police College in Tehran.

Speaking on the first day General M R Ne'emati declared that the most valuable part of the training of police officers in our country might well prove to be the moral re-armament instruction given in this week. He based this assessment on his own experience at Caux in Switzerland.

Colonel Dr Ansari gave a review the world situation and of the conflict of ideologies. Communist nations, non-Communist nations and non-aligned nations had to find a superior ideology, he said, if humanity was not to doom itself to destruction by internecine strife. The problem might look complicated: but the fact that it was all due to one universal factor – human nature's greeds and dishonesties and the consequent decline of faith – meant that the answer was likewise simple, even if not easy to apply.

This lay, he said, in the production of a change in human motives, first in individuals and so in society. Moral Re-Armament provided both the ideology required and also its effective practical application.

Use of films

The sessions consisted of four an half hours each day. Five of us gave our convictions and our experiences of the application of these principles. This was followed by an interval, after which an MRA film was shown, followed by a question and answer session. Most powerful was the showing of the Farsi version of the film The Crowning Experience.

Several hundred sets of MRA literature were sold. The Police College Chancellor was present from the beginning to end of every day. When the week was over, as a mark of gratitude, he presented a copy of the AryaMehr edition of the Qur'an to the team which had conducted the sessions.

It was requested that two days of extra sessions should be arranged for the entire cadre of active police officers in the Police Great Hall. The annual programme of the Police College is to include similar training sessions in the future.

GABRIEL MARCEL, the late, great Catholic philosopher of France, once described Moral Re-Armament as 'a leaven or a seed'. Echoing his words, the Catholic Archbishop Copas of Port Moresby said to some of us who were visiting Papua New Guinea recently, 'As members of Christ's mystical Body. He is using you to sow some seeds in our country before you pass on. With the process of sowing it is done in an instant and the sower passes on. I can assure you people He will use you to sow these seeds, His seeds of love, service, dedication. We do not take it for granted. It will bring forth a harvest.'

Evidence of the relevance of both of these statements was abundant when we visited the Philippines, South Viet Nam, Laos, Thailand and Burma, over recent

Before leaving India for South-East Asia, my wife Marjory and I stayed with the Laotian Ambassador to Delhi, Tianethone Chantharasy. We had known

ch other in the late fifties, during my four visits to Laos. At that time, he was a young civil servant working in the Ministry of Finance. Following my first visit there, he accompanied his uncle, Oun Sananikone, hero of the Independence war against the French, to a Moral Re-Armament conference in America. Tianethone Chantharasy decided to change. He had the conviction that he should leave the Finance Ministry and go into the Ministry of External Affairs. Within a short time, he was Chargé d'Affaires in Washington, then Ambassador in Canberra, and now is Ambassador in New Delhi. Over all of those years, he has had an active participation in the work of Moral Re-Armament. He and his wife have seven children and their oldest daughter, Rothay, takes a leading part in Song of Asia.

Mr Chantharasy urged us to visit Laos I to meet the Prime Minister, His Highness Prince Souvanna Phouma. This we did. The Prime Minister told us that he had 'watched the progress of Moral Re-Armament over many years.' There were many who had been in touch with this work while outside Laos. For example, when addressing a group of Laotian graduates who had studied abroad, we noticed one man, a military officer, with a copy of the Caux Report in his hand. We discovered he had attended the session of the International Labour Office in Geneva in 1973, had been to Caux, and had been sent a report.

In Burma, one of our hosts was a young mining engineer who had studied in Australia. Though from a devout Buddhist family, the young Burmese had abandoned in Australia his traditional faith and had absorbed many of the less reputable characteristics of our way of life. In Broken Hill he had met Moral Re-Armament, had decided to be

A time for harvesting

by Gordon Wise

different and to return to Burma with the philosophy of life which would benefit his country. Despite many difficulties and setbacks in the current situation in Burma, this mining engineer was determined to serve his country by obeying his conscience as well as imparting his knowledge and training.



Gordon Wise

In 1957, I had the honour of accompanying fifteen Vietnamese to a conference when Frank Buchman was taking part. On returning to Viet Nam this time I found a number of these people in influential posts. One had built up some powerful and effective trade unions. Another was in the President's office. Yet another who had been in the President's office was now working in the American Embassy, responsible for Foreign Aid, a trusted post. Sadly, one of the party who had been the representative of President Diem's regime in Hué had been murdered by the Viet Cong when they occupied Hué in 1968.

One of these men who has a responsible post in the present administration had also had a responsible position in the Diem administration. He said that because he knew about the absolute moral standards and the guidance of God his own record and his own hands were clean. Therefore he had been able to retain the trust of those running the

A similar delegation came from the Philippines to Moral Re-Armament conferences abroad in 1957 and 1958. Among them was a brother and sister, Met and Nancy Palaypay. Nancy is now a senior Nursing Sister and Met is a doctor. They have gathered around them hundreds of young Filipinos. As well as

training them in singing and music, they give them training in the ideology of MRA. We met for four hours with these young men and women. The Palaypays, with other senior people in the Philippines, have conducted a number of MRA conferences over recent years. At one MRA camp at Baguio, the summer resort in the mountains, Dr Palaypay shared a room with a Moslem. There is a sizeable minority of Moslems in the Philippines, which is otherwise a largely Catholic country. After some days, the Moslem boy became obviously restless and uncomfortable. He wanted to leave. Then he told Met that as a boy. his father had died. His mother had said it was through disease, but he had learned later that a Christian had killed him. When the boy found out the truth, he swore revenge, either by taking the life of the man who had killed his father. or of any other Christian. Met put it to him to 'drop his hatred and thirst for revenge in a nearby lake'. This man struggled in his spirit and then decided to do so. Later on, a Catholic Convent asked for a teacher trained in MRA. Met recommended this Moslem, who got the job, and then wrote for material to be used in training the students in MRA.

Not waiting for government

Dr Palaypay has a 'project' in one of the worst housing areas of Manila. He took us to this area, which is divided into fifteen 'barangays' or villages, in each of which live three hundred families. In one building alone, one hundred and ten families live, if that is the word. This area was considered so tough that taxi drivers would not drive in for fear of having their cabs smashed up and their wallets taken. Now the area is safe. Met has been training the leaders of the barangays to work as a committee and to be responsible for their own welfare, rather than waiting for the government to do everything. He takes the young undergraduates from the Philippine Women's University who are doing social studies to see these conditions and to learn to serve these people.

Nancy Palaypay, in addition to her hospital work, teaches and trains nurses at the Philippine Women's University. She takes them on tour throughout the Philippines, sometimes in naval vessels, hundreds of miles to remote islands, where otherwise people receive no

medical treatment.

Obviously, there is insufficient space to give more than a sample of the 'fallout' from decisions made by people in these lands, five, ten, and fifteen years ago, decisions which are affecting their nations and certainly their immediate environment, in 1974.

The seed of which Gabriel Marcel wrote and Archbishop Copas spoke has taken root in all kinds of soil and there is a harvest being gathered in.

Have play, will travel

LAST WEEKEND an unusual party travelled through the night by bus from London for a swift trip to Durham and back. They were 12 men and women of different races, from different continents, all living in one south London borough. What was unusual was not the variety of people, which is now normal in many English boroughs. But that they were the cast of a play *Britain 2000* which dramatises the way members of different racial groups have overcome bitterness and discrimination. And they were presenting not theory but experience.

Meanwhile another cast of Scots were travelling from Edinburgh to present Peter Howard's play *The Ladder*.

Both groups were in Durham for a weekend conference for Moral Re-Armament with the theme 'Life changing as the answer to crisis'. It brought together people from the Lake District, Scotland, London, Sheffield, the North East and from other countries.

The guests were welcomed by Mr and Mrs Rex Gray and by Lady Chapman. Lady Chapman said, 'We are here to see how we can redirect Britain so that Britain can be effective in remaking the world. We must not be so overwhelmed with our own troubles that we forget troubles in others parts of the world.'

Britain 2000 traces the experiences of two British families, one of West Indian origin, the other English, over a period of 20 years. It deals with job discrimination and the feelings on both sides about racial issues. It includes violence and gang warfare as well as the power of genuine apology to transform both families. 'It was written out of my own life story,' the play's author, Marie Embleton, told the conference.

A New Zealander present commented, 'It gave a vision of what Britain could be with her many races each giving their distinct contribution.'

The Chairman of the Shildon Urban District Council, Councillor Carnan, spoke of the economic troubles of Britain in the '30s and of his life in Jarrow when fifty per cent of the town was out of work and you could not get a job. 'It is no good having bitterness in your heart,' he said, 'there is a new world to be built.'

The conference followed a three week campaign in the North East of England by an international MRA force that included Conrad Hunte, former vice-captain of the West Indies Cricket team. They were received for lunch by the Chairman and members of the Durham County Council.

WHO IS TO GOVERN? continued from page 2 city councils. 'This message is a lifeline for the future of our country,' said one businessman.

At the London assembly there was a queue of people wanting to speak and say what ordinary people were doing and could do at this time of crisis—housewife and post office worker, actress and news editor, author and car dealer, docker and economist.

Frank Abbott, a shop steward at London airport, said that the greatest danger to the country was any sense that one group of people didn't need the others. The manifesto 'Who is to govern Britain?' was timely for the Confederation of British Industry, the trade unions and the Government. He added, 'In time of economic crisis we also tend to be driven inwards. We need to think and live outwards. I have decided to give my services to other countries.'

Peter George, a London bank manager, made the same point. Next week he was leaving for India to help with the Moral Re-Armament of that country. 'God is calling us to a greater revolution,' he said. 'Going to India is not in itself revolutionary. But living at home as God says is. If we have any weapon it is that we know God can speak. If any truth is to save the world it is not bright ideas and activity but the mighty power of God working in the hearts of men.'

What can the ordinary man do? Many were asking this question, said the Rev Arthur Burrell. 'One thing we can do,' he said, 'We can send a copy of "Who is to govern Britain?" to each person who is inviting us to vote for them and say to them that we are interested in their being candidates, but that we are even more interested to know their attitude to the statement when we cast our vote.'

Vital statistics

14,750 items of literature about *Give a Dog a Bone* were sold during the 1973–4 run of Peter Howard's pantomime. This included 8,750 colouring books, 3,500 story books, 294 scripts and 697 records. In addition children bought more than 5,000 badges.

In the last eight weeks over 11,500 children along with 450 teachers from 189 schools attended the Westminster's 'Day of London Theatre' in school time.

At the Milton Road Junior School, Gravesend, enthusiasm was so great following a day at the theatre that in one class children wrote their own plays on the theme 'I couldn't care less' and the magic words 'Please, Thank You and Sorry'. When the Headmaster saw them he had four of the playlets acted out at

80 ans dans la mêleé de l'histoire



As a young girl with Prince Metternich in Hungary—a photograph from Le Fil Conducteur.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY of Diane de Watteville-Berckheim has just been published in France. Her lovely home in Boulogne has for many years served as an 'embassy' for Moral Re-Armament. Entitled Le Fil Conducteur, the book has 235 pages including 21 photographs. It is available at £2.20 (postage 13p) from MRA Books, 54 Lyford Road, London SW18 3JJ.

The publishers, Editions Alsatia, write about the Baroness de Watteville, 'As a child she used to join in the great hunts at Prince Metternich's castle in Hungary; as a nurse she lived through the hell of the 1914–18 war; she has scaled Mont Blanc; and spoken to the mothers of America alongside Mrs Roosevelt; she has criss-crossed continents; her full and active life has taken her to the dockers of Brazil and the miners of the Ruhr as well as to contemporary statesmen.

'Through all her memoirs, packed with unexpected ups and downs, one can discern the guiding thread which has linked her life.

'A moving testament which will interest those who dare to ask themselves "What am I living for?".'

morning assemblies.

The Lewisham Borough News, in a review of the pantomime, said that its message was 'one that gives new hope for a world in which materialism is the objective upon which so many have set their sights.'

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