

## AUSTRALIA'S ROLE EAST OF SUEZ

AUSTRALIA TODAY FACES THE challenge of Asia. Is she to maintain old ties with Britain and the United States but live in isolation from the neighbouring continent, or should she find a new "East of Suez" role which commits her to meeting the military, economic and ideological needs of her Asian neighbours?

The recent visit to Canberra by British Defence Secretary Denis Healey for talks with Prime Minister Harold Holt emphasised the pressure being brought on the country to take greater responsibility in the Far East: and there are signs within Australia of a new awareness of what she can give to Asia and the world.

External Affairs Minister Paul Hasluck told an MRA conference in Canberra last month that Australia could not live selfishly or in isolation. 'We have to join in and pay a price for our freedom,' he said. 'We can't live unto ourselves alone.'

Allan Fraser, Chairman of the Australian Labour (Opposition) Party Foreign Relations Committee, told the 300 youth from Australasia at this conference: 'We must launch on our neighbours an offensive of friendship. There is an offensive continued over

### Nation-building in Guiana

HM THE QUEEN last week received a tumultuous and joyous welcome in British Guiana. 'The Queen felt Guiana's heart throb as the devotion, loyalty and enthusiasm of her people burst the floodgates of restraint and gushed forth in a torrent of spontaneous glee,' reported one local newspaper.

British Guiana was the first stop in the Queen's five-week West Indian tour. Referring to Guiana's Independence scheduled for 26 May, the Queen said, 'I am confident that the peoples of Guiana—working with tolerance and concord can build a prosperous and united nation in the years ahead.'

To strengthen the confidence of the Queen in the nation-building ability of the Guianese, an action programme of MRA has been launched.

In charge is Conrad Hunte, Vice-Captain, West Indies cricket XI. He has just returned from a world tour

conferring with Cabinet Ministers in Kenya, Ceylon, Australia and New Zealand. '1966', Hunte told me in Georgetown, 'is the year for the Caribbean. The Queen is visiting us. We are cricket champions of the world. Guiana gets her Independence this year. Her destiny is great and her greatest asset are her many peoples and races.'

For this MRA programme in Guiana, Hunte has invited young men from Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Guiana to work with him. They have started their campaign through film shows, lectures, radio interviews and weekend conferences.

They say, 'We are out to demonstrate that (1) hard work alone ensures prosperity. (2) Race war is as out of date as class war. A new society can be built without resort to violence and dictatorship. (3) Absolute moral standards are the price of freedom. (4) Our many races are our greatest asset. Together we can pattern a multi-racial society that the Commonwealth and the world will follow.'

*Björn Ryman*

Australian External Affairs Minister Paul Hasluck (left) said of 'Sing-Out Australia', 'If we could have this sort of thing every Monday morning for the whole Cabinet, the country might be better governed.' Maoris (right) perform a 'Haka'—war dance—in the show.



Rajmohan Gandhi is greeted by Charles Perkins (centre), first aborigine to gain a university degree, and Princess Lilardia



to be waged and a struggle for the minds of men everywhere. You are the front-line troops in the battle.'

Chief Asian representative in Canberra was Rajmohan Gandhi, editor of the Indian weekly *Himmat*. 'Asia needs Australia,' he said. 'Supposing Australia were to become a pattern of unselfish living with families united, workers and management bound together in a common aim and students living to put right what is wrong in the world and not just living for their immediate pleasure.'

'Asia will need Australian men and women resolved to extend that pattern to their continent. Australians like that could assure a new future for Asia's millions who have lived for centuries in suffering, but who have a great destiny.'

Addressing the same conference, Dr T B Millar, a lecturer in International Relations, criticised the 'woefully inadequate' coverage of South-East

Asia affairs in Australian newspapers. 'Australia is anchored to this continent that is seething with concurrent revolutions in such things as technical progress, economics, politics, education, national aspirations and Communist domination,' he said. Australia, he added, was committed to filling the hungry bellies of Asia and to making food available at a price they could afford.

### Snowy Mountains

A project designed to increase Australia's food production is the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Scheme which, when completed, will help irrigate and provide power for a large area.

Sir William Hudson, Commissioner of the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority, has urged the development of big irrigation projects in Northern Australia. 'It is only when we fully develop our resources that

we will be able to justify our ownership of this vast continent,' he told the MRA conference in Canberra.

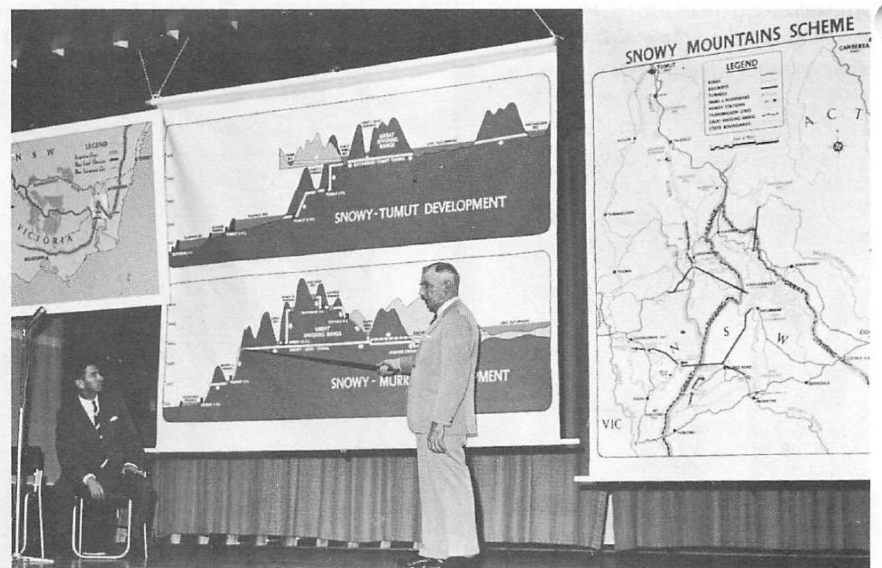
Australia must increase her food production to meet rapidly-growing world needs, he said.

One outcome of the conference was the musical *Sing-Out Australia* with a cast that includes eighteen Maoris. Last week it went to the Snowy Mountains at the invitation of Sir William Hudson.

Fifty-five young men and women have taken time off from their jobs and studies to take the show wherever needed in Australia, New Zealand and Asia.

One of the cast, John Mills from Melbourne, said: 'We are out to build a country that has guts, purpose and backbone. If it takes all our talents and energy we will give them, if it takes our money and comfort we will give them. For liberty is something we have to fight and sacrifice for.'

Sir William Hudson outlines the Snowy Mountain Hydro-Electric Scheme at the Canberra conference. Australia must increase food production to meet a world threat of hunger, he told the delegates.



# NEW TREND IN GERMAN THEATRE

PETER HOWARD, through his play *Mr Brown Comes Down the Hill* which has just toured Germany, has set a new trend in German theatre. Scores of critics comment that the so-called 'committed' theatre—theatre with a message—does not have to be negative, Marxist or nihilist, but can leave audiences with something positive.

*Katholische Kirchenzeitung* of the Archdiocese of Köln called its review, 'God forces us to make a decision'. The critic wrote, 'Mr Brown disturbs this world, even those who try to find God. He does it through the simplicity of his words which demand decisions

from men. Many become insecure, some feel shaken, but very many feel threatened in their very existence. That is why Mr Brown has to die as he did two thousand years ago. And those who should love him most, unwillingly become his hangmen.

'Howard's play has a clear message in the best sense of the word. What it wants to say is simple, clear and to the point. That is why the setting is as straight-forward as the acting. The cast of *Moral Re-Armament* must be thanked for this performance. They created a meeting place where all men of goodwill can find a field of action to serve humanity.'

In Heidelberg the *Rhein-Neckar Zeitung* said that Howard's play 'goes far beyond all the hopelessness that today's stages have to offer. It was amazing the elegance and brilliance with which the most fundamental issues were handled. The audience may have left the civic theatre with some mixed feelings and discomfort, but that may have been the point of the play and the performance.' Many other newspapers made similar points.

Four Catholic bishops gave money to help the tour of the play. From the Protestant Church, funds were given in several cities.

*From our correspondent*

## Bombay box office besieged

THE ROVING COLLEGE for a New India staged last week five performances of Peter Howard's *Through the Garden Wall* in the main downtown theatre of Bombay. The *Indian Express* wrote, 'Peter Howard's crisp dialogue, his sparkling humour and sense of drama combine to make every moment full of fun and purpose.'

'The presentation was striking, the cast uniformly good, but the real star of the show, of course, was the late author.'

On the final night the curtain had to be held while a busy staff attended to crowds besieging the box office. One of the theatre staff commented, 'We have never seen audiences like this for English drama.'

A man who had publicly attacked MRA earlier saw the play and wrote, 'Congratulations. The impression of the play on thinking minds will be lasting and profound. Each of us has a wall separating conscience and worldly self. It appears stronger than steel but truly speaking it is imaginary and can be removed if one makes a sincere and bold effort. In this world, torn between conflicting ideologies, there is always a way through the wall.'

Among the audiences last week were branch secretaries and officials of India's railway and banking unions

and editors of leading daily and weekly newspapers. From the Pope Plus Seminary, visited by Pope Paul VI when he came to Bombay, came 124 priests. India's merchant navy training ship *Dufferin* sent 75 cadets.

A senior executive of a world-wide company commented on the play, 'If this is the calibre of the young people which MRA's Roving College is training, then there is a great hope for the future of India.'

## 21st CENTURY EDUCATION

AUSTRIAN educational leaders met in Salzburg last weekend at an MRA conference to discuss and plan for 'Education in the Twenty-First Century'. Dr Lairaiter, President of the Salzburg Education Board, convened this conference attended by ninety educators, among them the presidents and members of the boards of education of Salzburg, Carinthia, Tyrol and Upper and Lower Austria.

The Chancellor of Austria, Dr Josef Klaus, and the Foreign Minister, Dr Bruno Kreisky, sent messages of support to the conference. The Federal Minister of Education was represented by his ministerial colleague Dr Kolbabeck. The Ministry of the Interior in Vienna and the Salzburg provincial and city authorities paid all expenses.

Among the participants were professors of Salzburg and Munich Universities, official representatives of the Austrian Army, of the Archdiocese of Salzburg and the

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## African musical to Tanzania

HARAMBEE AFRICA, the all-Africa 200-voice musical demonstration, will go to Tanzania in April. This is the next stage in the plan of the thousand young Africans who met at the MRA conference in December in Nairobi. They intend to give a common aim to the many tribes and peoples of East Africa, provide an incentive for hard work and stimulate Africans to speak to the world with a fresh appeal.

Last week the Commissioner of the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania summoned Moshi's town clerk, the police commissioner and senior regional government officers to meet members of the cast. The young Africans outlined their plans. Their spokesman said, 'We are out to create men and women who live straight, cannot be corrupted and have something to offer Washington and Peking.'

The Regional Commissioner, Dantes Mgua, said MRA could bring unity to the people of East Africa. 'It will close the gap between what we think and how we live.'

The Regional Commissioner and other leaders are arranging showings of the MRA film *Freedom* in Swahili. They have invited *Harambee Africa* to their area in April. Earlier Mgua arranged a performance of *Freedom* for the heads of regional departments.

# HE CUT THROUGH CLASS

'THE MOST FEARLESS MAN I ever met' was the way a brother officer described the Reverend Harold Taylor who won the OBE and was mentioned in despatches in World War I.

For twenty-seven years Mr Taylor was headmaster of Cheam School—and it was the boys, headmaster and old boys who largely conducted the Memorial Service to him last week in the Royal Parish Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields.

Twenty years ago the challenge of MRA brought him out of retirement, away from the comfortable country life he once described as 'a mixture of shooting, fishing and preaching'. 'I must get into the fight,' he said.

Patrick Wolrige Gordon MP, in an address at the service, said, 'He understood so well the crushing seriousness of the times in which we live. He longed for our country to accept its heritage and rise to meet the crisis of this age. He believed that the lasting values of Christian education should be effective everywhere.'

As is the custom at Cheam School, the congregation was sung out of the church—in this case by the Ystradgynlais Male Voice Choir from South Wales.

Mrs Taylor has received many messages of tribute to her husband's life from all over Britain and the world—from the places where he went with Dr Frank Buchman and with Moral Re-Armament forces. A former Communist, a plumber from Coventry, who stayed in the Taylor's home, wrote, 'The source of his strength was his humility and caring: it cut through our blind class-conscious reservations. He gave us a glimpse of the mature men we were meant to be. His life was Christ-centred.'

For Christmas 1965 Harold Taylor prepared a message for his friends. He was too weak to send it out. It was printed on the service sheet at the Memorial: 'Grateful thanks for kind enquiries and prayers on my behalf during my serious illness. I believe

## EDUCATION cont

Governor of Salzburg. Both Government parties were represented.

It was decided at the conference to put the MRA films into national distribution with special emphasis on showings in all schools and colleges. The conference also decided to prepare a delegation of 200 young Austrians to take part in this summer's world assembly in Caux.

## RUIN AND RESURGENCE MOWAT'S NEW BOOK

THIS FINAL VOLUME OF THE Blandford European History Series, covering the years 1939-65, maintains the series' fine standards of scholarship, but has a racy sweep all its own. Those who have lived through the war and its aftermath will find much in this book that they did not know, and will marvel at the way R C Mowat has condensed these eventful years into 400 exciting pages. Those who have grown up since the war could find no better guide through the history of the immediate past.

Mr Mowat's Europe is set between the two super-states of Russia and the United States, and he outlines the part played by Britain, Germany and France in the struggle between them. He describes the move towards European integration, giving due credit to Moral Re-Armament, which he lists in his final chapter as one of the motivating influences of the period.

Special attention is given to the Resistance Movement in Germany during the Hitler time and to the evolution of Russian power in Eastern Europe. There are vivid pen pictures of the principal personalities involved, and a clear exposition of the ideological factors at work in each situation.

The book (published 14 February at 30s) is admirably produced with 39 pictures and 14 maps.

**GDL**

in miracles. As Saint Augustine said, "I never have any difficulty in believing in miracles, since I experienced the miracle of change in my own heart."

## Around Britain

**WESTMINSTER** Members of Parliament attended a luncheon in Clive House, MRA headquarters, last week to hear James Baynard-Smith speak on his recent visit to the Sudan at the invitation of El Imam El Hadi El Mahdi, and Gordon Wise, Australian journalist, on the Asian situation.

One MP said afterwards, 'This is the first positive news we have had from Africa in weeks.' Said another: 'You must push ahead with this work in Africa. The alternative is too terrible to contemplate.'

**WORCESTER** 'MRA is the talk of the college,' commented a student of Worcester College of Education, following a three-hour session of brisk discussion between students and the crew of an MRA film van. 'Some of us came with the express intention of attacking you. But we find we agree with a lot of what you say,' said one Young Socialist.

The blue and white Ford film van with its young British crew of six left London for the Worcester area where it has been travelling this week.

'You are the first to have given us something to think about,' and 'When can we come to your training centre at Tirley Garth?' has been the response from college, school and Church groups where films have been shown on invitations from youth and local authorities. At a village show last week dozens crowded round giving their addresses for information on MRA and working out transport to get to another show next week.

**LONDON** Mr Henry Cass, the West End director, will watch a musical talent fiesta being held in the Westminster Theatre on 13 February.

**DEVONSHIRE** Three Devonshire papers, *The Express and Echo*, *North Devon Journal* and *Bideford and North Devon Gazette* have carried reports and pictures of the MRA 'Race for Tomorrow' conference in Switzerland at the New Year. They were sent in by a young Devonshire delegate, Joy Leach, who has arranged a film show and conference following her return from Caux.