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Re-makers of the World

A WORLD BROADCAST ON MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

WITH A FOREWORD BY
THE EARL OF ATHLONE, K.G.

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ALL THIS IS OUR HISTORY
AND A RECORD IN
MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

One Hundred Million Listening

A World Broadcast on
MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

From Station WRUL Boston

October 29th, 1939

BY

SENATOR HARRY S. TRUMAN

REAR-ADMIRAL RICHARD BYRD, U.S.N.

DR. FRANK N. D. BUCHMAN

with a Foreword by

THE EARL OF ATHLONE, K.G.

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FOREWORD

By

Major-General

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Athlone, K.G.

“Throughout her long history this country never failed, and has not failed now, to meet recurrent crises with the courage which each demanded. But the spiritual crisis remains, and calls for action. Nation and Empire must stand or fall by our response to that call. The choice is moral re-armament or national decay. That choice will decide whether ours is ultimately to go the way of other dead kingdoms and empires, or whether our Commonwealth, led by God, may become a leader of the world towards sanity and peace.”

A year ago on Armistice Day I was one of those who subscribed to these words. They remain as true as ever to-day, and the call for action is even more urgent.

It is my firm conviction that these messages, broadcast to the world, should be read by all those who, in Senator Truman's words, long for “a new world, united, strong and free as never before.”

Athlone.

OUR PEOPLE ARE ANSWERING

THE BATTLE FOR A NEW WORLD

BY SENATOR HARRY S. TRUMAN

On the day Their Majesties the King and Queen entered Washington, Senator Truman, who represents the Middle West State of Missouri, laid before the Senate of the United States messages of support sent to the National Assembly for Moral Re-Armament. Among these were messages from distinguished Members of the House of Lords, from 242 Members of the House of Commons and from leaders of British Labour, Industry and Commerce.

IT is an honour and privilege to speak to you in this world broadcast on Moral Re-Armament. I speak from the nation's capital at Washington, where four months ago I first met Dr. Buchman at the great National Meeting for M.R.A. at the Constitution Hall. This great hall was thronged with leaders of Washington's civic, political and diplomatic life on that occasion.

We were stirred as we had never been before by the evidence from men and women representing nations all over the world, and from every walk of life, who had found in this new yet old way a satisfying and constructive answer for themselves and for their nations.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S SUPPORT

I had the honour at that time to present the following message from the President of the United States, which opened that great Assembly :

"The underlying strength of the world must consist in the moral fibre of her citizens. A programme of moral re-armament for the world cannot fail, therefore, to lessen the danger of armed conflict. Such moral re-armament, to be most highly effective, must receive support on a world-wide basis."

This great gathering was sponsored by Cabinet Ministers and Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The invitation to the meeting contained messages from former President Hoover, the Secretary of State, the Secretary for War, the Attorney General, the Hon. William B. Bankhead, Speaker of the House of Representatives ; the Hon. Alben W. Barkley, Majority Leader of the Senate ; the Hon. Joseph W. Martin Jr., Minority Leader of the House of Representatives ; Senator Capper of Kansas and Senator Wagner of New York. A message was also received from General John J. Pershing, Commander of the Armies of the United States in the last war, which I quote :

"This moral re-armament should enlist the support of all thinking people. There is a spiritual emotion which underlies all true patriotism, and good citizenship itself is dependent upon the high sense of moral obligation of the people. To-day, confronted by conditions so threatening to world peace, we must re-dedicate ourselves to the faith of our forefathers if we are to be worthy of our heritage."

There was a message from the House of Lords of Great Britain, signed by twenty-five members of that body, and a message from the House of Commons, signed by 242 members of that body. Messages also came from the parliaments of eight other countries, from British Industry, and Labour, from great diplomats the world over.

FROM COAST TO COAST

During the last four months we have seen our people from the farms, in the cities, from the workshop, and in the homes answering this call for M.R.A. The hope of a new world, united, strong and free as never before, has come to the hearts of Americans from coast to coast as they have watched this new spirit unite husband and wife, parents and children, employer and employee, statesman and citizen.

The battle is for a new world, a world of peace and love. We have been gratified to see this nationwide response in America to the challenge of M.R.A. In every walk of life our citizens are awakening to those Christian virtues of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love which form the bedrock of national character and which enlist the citizens of a democracy in constructive national service.

The World Assembly for Moral Re-Armament which took place on the West Coast began with gathering some 25,000 people to the Hollywood Bowl, Los Angeles, in July. It brought leading representatives from over twenty nations to its deliberations, and closed with a day for M.R.A. at the Golden Gate International Exposition at San Francisco. That Assembly marked a great contribution to the life of America and all the world.

A RESPONSE SO REMARKABLE

The essential condition for any lasting world peace is a new spirit among the nations. Without such a new spirit no general settlement will be possible. With it there might be achieved a realistic re-ordering of world affairs which would endure. A well-known statesman who, with others, has taken an active part in furthering the spirit of Moral Re-Armament in his own nation, has said :

"The battle for peace must be fought in the heart of the individual and thus throughout the community, if it is to be won in the world. Victory in this battle is the one thing needful for the world in which we live. It implies first of all a change of heart. Experience has proved that such a change can take place, and that it comes to those who turn from judging others and their systems to a sense of their own faults and a determination to live under the guidance of God. The strength of a nation is shown in the courage to admit her own faults. The glory of a nation is to have a creative message for the world."

It is rare in these days to find something which will unite men and nations on a plane above conflict of party, class or political philosophy. I am sure that I voice the sentiment of all those who are listening to me when I express gratification at a response so remarkable to a need so urgent; and I am confident that America will play her full part in this great cause.

I believe that the future of civilisation must largely depend upon the success of Moral Re-Armament.

WHEN I BEGAN TO LISTEN

PIONEERING IN THE REALM OF THE SPIRIT

By REAR-ADMIRAL RICHARD E. BYRD, U.S.N.

Rear-Admiral Richard Byrd, the great explorer and Commanding Officer of the United States Antarctic Service Expedition, took part in this broadcast on the eve of his departure for the Antarctic.

I SPEAK from Boston. Greetings to all you who are listening, no matter what country you may be in. It was on my lonely vigil during the long Polar night that I learnt the power of silence, of quiet times. The values and the problems of life sorted out when I began to listen.

I went exploring because I was fired by those pioneers of history who felt the urge of charting uncharted seas and discovering unknown places. However, to-day in the crisis which threatens to destroy freedom and civilisation, the most important pioneering to be done is in the realm of the spirit.

A country's first line of defence is the character of her citizens. Character cannot be taken for granted. If we are going to preserve freedom, it has to be battled for by every man, woman and child—every day and every generation. Without character man does not deserve freedom, so he loses it. A man of character has a deep sympathy for his

fellow man. He wishes his neighbour well. We are all neighbours to-day.

The building of character is Moral Re-Armament. That is the fight of America and of the world. That is the only armament that can stop armament for destruction.

On the eve of my departure for the Antarctic I want to say that I believe that this way lies the hope for peace.

Moral Re-Armament, the fight for a new world, strong, clean, united, should fire the hearts of all red-blooded citizens and stir their wills to action.

MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

A WORLD PHILOSOPHY ADEQUATE FOR A WORLD CRISIS

BY DR. FRANK N. D. BUCHMAN

This speech, together with those by Senator Truman and Rear-Admiral Richard Byrd, and an address on Moral Re-Armament by Mr. Herbert Elvin, former Chairman of the Trades Union Congress, were included in the official Congressional Record at Washington, on October 31, on the motion of Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah.

I AM speaking to-day to the millions across the world who in these anxious days are increasingly looking to Moral Re-Armament as the one hope for the future. Especially as I speak, I am thinking of the men in the front line trenches, the men faced with the hard realities, the men who know what war is.

Yet where are the front line trenches to-day? To-day in many countries every civilian carries a gas-mask, every garden has its air raid shelter. It is a new phase in war, where everybody is responsible and every home is a front line trench.

Our arts of reconciliation have not kept pace with the arts of war. The art of destruction is beginning to outpace the art of living.

BEYOND CRISIS TO CURE

To-day we have reached the parting of the ways. Civilisation man-controlled is faced with collapse. The long-

endured cycle of moving from crisis to crisis must end. Nations must move beyond crisis to cure.

A new world philosophy is needed, a world philosophy capable of creating a new era of constructive relationships between men and nations. A new statesmanship and a new leadership will ensue from this heightened quality of thinking and living.

A nation's first line of defence is the character of her people. As Maurice Browne, the producer of that war-time drama "Journey's End," so compellingly reminds us: "Never in the known history of mankind has there been such general, clear and instant need for the application by each one of us to our hourly lives of the four cardinal principles of honesty, purity, selflessness and love." Here we have the touchstone of Moral Re-Armament.

This world philosophy will emerge as people begin to get their direction from the Living God. It will be within the framework of a hate-free, fear-free, greed-free quality of living.

THE COST OF HATE

Think of the cost of hate, fear and greed. Millions of men and women must carry gas-masks to-day because men the world over have been living behind masks for years. Millions of men and women must grope through darkened cities because the nations have been living in a spiritual black-out. Millions of men and women to-day must listen to air raid warnings because nations have not listened to the Voice of God in days gone by.

Yet dark nights of waiting may prove a blessing in disguise, for guidance is a staple necessity that is not rationed.

Man to-day is ready to believe that human wisdom has failed. A situation is growing up in which people will want God to speak to them. They will have nothing else between themselves and desperation, as they read the changing, chimerical headlines that no one wants. Men need some adequate voice to interpret and mould events. All our values are slipping as currencies slipped after the last war.

As my friend the great Oxford philosopher Dr. Streeter said, "A race that has grown up intellectually must grow up morally or perish." Times of crisis reveal the bankruptcy of our thought and action. Then we resort to feverish improvisations and expediency. Sheer economy of time and energy and ultimate bankruptcy may force us to God-control. Expediency must be supplanted by guidance. These days will see a change in all of us, in every nation, a change which will bring a new realisation of our need. We cannot permanently go on expecting other nations to repent first.

THE AIM OF M.R.A.

Moral Re-Armament was never more urgently needed than to-day. It stands for a prejudice-free level of living. It stands for a common denominator of immediate constructive action for everyone, above party, race, class, creed, point of view or personal advantage.

The morally re-armed have learned to live under a crisis-proof, fear-free discipline. They are a panic-proof, single-minded and intelligent trained force at the disposal of all who put their country before selfish interest.

A word of gratitude must go to the men in every nation who have met M.R.A., for what has been accomplished, and for the far-reaching service they have been able to render. These people, far-visioned and sagacious, see that M.R.A. is the highest patriotism.

The aim of M.R.A. is two-fold. First, to restore God to leadership as the directing force in the life of nations, and then to work for the strengthening of morale within a country and so build a healthful national life.

In the words of a statement by Lord Baldwin, Lord Salisbury and Chiefs of the Armed Forces, which has become historic :

“Were we, together with our fellowmen everywhere, to put the energy and resourcefulness into this task that we now find ourselves obliged to expend on national defence, the peace of the world would be assured.”

Moral Re-Armament will be the focal point for the new national unity where God is the constant and final arbiter in every conflict. This philosophy will become the main-spring of the spirit of the nation, the magnet that will draw all positive forces together. It will give a new unity to capital and labour, and bring the answer to industrial conflict and unrest. It will give the answer to war in the home and to war in the world. It will train that leadership which is adequate for the gigantic work of reconstruction, to rebuild a world on the brink of ruin. As a statesman has said :

“What are needed are God-guided personalities to make God-guided nationalities to make a new world. All other ideas of economic adjustment are too small really to touch the centre of the evil.”

WHO MAKES PEACE ?

The chief sin is that we have no adequate philosophy for life. Our conception of living is wrong—easy, soft, protective, indulgent. We need a whole new content and conception of life. The brains and the thinking of the world must have been sabotaged and squandered for a very long time to create such destruction of men and

nations. We need a whole new level of thinking about peace. If peace had demanded as much of us as war, war would have been outlawed long ago.

But someone must always make peace. Peace is not an idea. It is people becoming different. You know what it is like at home when there has been a quarrel. You don't just get the idea that peace would be a good thing. Someone pockets his pride and says “I'm sorry.” But most of us want to make peace by repenting of the other fellow's sins. That is how the world would like to do it. The M.R.A. way is to start by being different yourself. Honest apology is the highroad of lasting peace.

An army general said to me recently :

“Either I sacrifice my selfishness for the sake of my nation or I sacrifice my nation for the sake of my selfishness ; and either we sacrifice our national selfishness for the sake of the world or we sacrifice the world for the sake of our national selfishness.”

War is the price of the selfishness of nations. Most people are selfish enough to want a peace that permits them to wage their own private wars and foster their own petty indulgences, but we pay heavily for this selfishness. Taxes do and will overtake us. We grumble and pay because we would rather pay than pray. To-day men share whether they want to or not. We cannot make peace between the nations when the people in the nations are in a state of permanent personal warfare. Strikes, labour difficulties and war are inevitable until we change our whole thought and quality of living

WORK FOR ALL

We need a national mobilisation for unemployment on the same scale and carried out with the same personal care that the warring nations have given to everyone who needed to be taken to a place of safety. The unemployed must

have the safety and security which comes from knowing that they are needed and that there is a job for them to do. Our aim should be that everyone has not only enough of the necessities of life, but that he has a legitimate part in bringing about this Moral Re-Armament and so safeguarding the peace of his nation and the peace of the world.

God has a nation-wide programme that provides inspiration and liberty for all and anticipates all other political programmes. A labour leader says :

"I have seen the labour movement triumph, and felt in the midst of triumph an emptiness. Moral Re-Armament gave my life new content. I see in its message the only key to the future of the labour movement and of industry the world over."

INDUSTRY THE PIONEER

Industry can be the pioneer of a new order when national service replaces selfishness and where industrial planning is based upon the guidance of God. When labour, management and capital become partners under God's guidance, then industry takes its true place in the national life. New men, new homes, new industry, new nations, a new world.

Here I wish to bring a message which has just arrived from Mr. Joseph Hallsworth, till recently Chairman of the Trades Union Congress, representing some five million workers. He makes this striking statement :

"The need for Moral Re-Armament is more urgent than ever. I promise you all the support in my power."

Mr. Hallsworth and Mr. Herbert Elvin, his predecessor, both joined in a statement signed by seventeen leaders of British Labour. They said :

"Basically, the world unrest is to be found in the root disease of materialism showing itself in widespread selfishness, fear and greed, not in this nation or in that, but in all."

The Catholic Workers' Union of a European state met recently in response to the call for Moral and Spiritual Re-Armament made by the ruler of that country.

"In the whole world," they declared, "and in our own country, we are glad to note a leaning towards new spiritual life. This must strengthen in us the consciousness that we have to lead the way to a new and better and solid community, not only with words but with deeds."

And then these workers reached this striking conclusion which I would ask you especially to note :

"In the new community there is no room for class war or racial war. In the new community there is no room for strikes and lockouts ; in the new community neither personal interests nor desire for gain have the upper hand ; social justice and social love shall be the pillars on which the community of the future will rest."

THE NEW PEACE

The world must declare a moratorium on hate and fear, personally and nationally. The new peace pact must have as its preamble that all contracting parties, all nations, live on the basis of no hate, no fear, no greed ; and the necessary prelude to this happier pact is that every individual in every nation begins that new quality of living now and does not postpone it for some future armistice. Then we shall be true patriots ; then there will be law and order in Europe and the world, within your hearts and within the boundary of your nation ; then we shall be able to say, "Behold how these nations love one another."

As I am speaking here, within a fraction of a second I can reach my friends in many countries—my friends in the front line trenches, the men in the lonely outposts whose only touch with the outside world is through the friendly

radio beam which meets all alike—my friends in the far Nordic North, on India's North-West frontier, on the African veldt, in far off Australia and New Zealand, in the Dutch East Indies and the farthest corners of the earth.

We accept as a commonplace a man's voice carried by radio to the uttermost parts of the earth. Why not the Voice of the Living God as an active, creative force in every home, every business, every parliament?

Men listen to a King when he speaks to his people over the air. Why not also to the King of Kings?

A MIRACLE OF THE SPIRIT

An all-powerful God is the most intelligent source of information in the world to-day. He has the answer to every problem. Everywhere, when men and nations will let Him, He is teaching them how to live.

The world needs a miracle. Miracles of science have been the wonder of the age. But all those miracles have not brought peace and happiness to our homes and nations. A miracle of the spirit is what we need.

There must come a spiritual dynamic which will change human nature and re-make men and nations. There must come a spiritual authority which will be accepted everywhere by everyone, the adequate authority that does not have to resort to war. Only so will order come out of chaos in national and world affairs.

This miracle is undoubtedly the divinely-appointed destiny of mankind. Who can believe less than that? Its advent depends on and awaits the emergence in every country of firm and resolute God-guided men, with all the conviction, fire and fervour of early Christians. Their ever-widening influence would be invincible. A new national

spirit would soon be born, a new co-operative relationship between the nations, if in every country there would arise a new leadership, free from the bondage of fear, rising above personal and national ambition and responsive to the direction of God's Will.

LIVING AS GOD WANTS

Such a philosophy has been stated as the historic basis for nationhood by the prophets of old and has withstood the test of centuries. The prophet Isaiah says:

“And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord and great shall be the peace of thy children. Nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God.”

The man charged with the foreign affairs of a great nation said: “What we need to-day are men of the type of the prophet Amos.” British Labour leaders in conference sent their message to the American capital with these words: “We need men who will make real the vision of the prophet Micah.”

Moral Re-Armament is recapturing, revitalising, reliving the message of the prophets. It is tried. It is true. It is tested.

God calling the world is becoming a daily experience in the lives of hundreds of thousands. Now the call is to every man in every last place to be guided by God. We have tried thinking and living as we want. Now try thinking and living as God wants.

Try living as we want the other fellow to live. Try living as we want the other nation to live. Then our nation will be the spearhead of the new world order. We must now think what God can do through an army of a hundred million men mobilised, taking their daily orders and direction from Him.

A HUNDRED MILLION LISTENING

God has a programme adequate for the world and for each nation. Thus each individual who has enlisted in that programme can find a job he can do that will affect the civic, industrial and national welfare. Thus each nation can use all its resources and find its truest security.

The programme now is for a hundred million people listening to God during the week-end of December 1st, 2nd and 3rd, a programme which is being prepared in each country as the circumstances in that country permit.

M.R.A. has this in its favour, that during the last year it has gone with lightning speed throughout the world. It has made friends everywhere, in every nation, among every class. Think of the vast forces available—Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile—think of the spiritually re-armed everywhere who may be the pacemakers for the peacemakers of to-morrow. M.R.A. is open to all creeds and bars none. It is a quality of life. You don't register with M.R.A. ; M.R.A. registers with you. You don't join and you can't resign. You live a life. In the words of a miners' leader : "M.R.A. provides all men everywhere with an open line to God for guidance."

The world is awaiting an answer. A hundred million people listening to God can give the answer. We must have some simple, workable basis available for everyone and one that can be applied by all. We need people trained not only to make an adequate peace but also to keep it.

THE SECRET OF A UNITED NATION

Now is the time to enlist for the duration in this world war against selfishness. We must be "Fighters ever in the battle for peace." The secret lies in listening to God. A truly united nation comes from a directing God. Man, unaided, cannot make peace. Men and nations must

be trained to make and maintain peace. We must begin to develop the framers of the just and lasting peace of the future. We need to live a quality of life that will change masses of people. The united mind of a hundred million people listening to God will give a new fund of information and source of inspiration that will provide the secret of united action.

The Oxford Group has been in action since the last war training men for the Moral Re-Armament of the nations. It is bringing a new force into play, an indispensable force necessary for the life-blood of every nation. Through lack of this quality nations sell their birthright.

WHAT IS GUIDANCE ?

A general, after a Disarmament Conference, sent me this programme on a postcard. It was in the form of a picture of a man's face and underneath was written, "God gave man two ears and one mouth. Why doesn't he listen twice as much as he talks?" This is the first step in re-orientating our minds to God—listen twice as much as you talk. This is a simple programme of how to begin. Here lies the strategy to win the world from her egocentric ways. Immediately self is the centre of the picture, there war has begun, whether in individuals or in nations.

Guidance is when we are in communication with God. Guidance is an absolute necessity and the irreducible minimum to keep millions spiritually and physically alive. It is the nation's life-blood; without it nations perish.

Television points to a great truth. The ordinary man, everyman and the statesman, must discover the counterpart on the spiritual plane. Guidance is this counterpart. Just as television is that space-conquering vision on the material plane, guidance is the far-seeing perception on the spiritual. It is limited only by our capacity for disciplined

obedience. At one time there was one incandescent bulb and now infinitely more than a hundred millions enjoy the gift of light. The next great discoveries must lie in the realm of the spiritual. Statesmen living this quality of life will make it possible for the Mind of God to become the mind of nations.

Fear is another kind of guidance. People are afraid and so they will not daily fight the battle for peace. I am reminded of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forceful phrase, "If we perspired more in times of peace, we should bleed less in times of war." The programme for the hundred million listening over the week-end of December 1st, 2nd and 3rd is that we perspire in peace, that we learn truly how to sacrifice for our country.

EVERY MAN TO HIS GUNS

We are waging the greatest battle of history in this world war against selfishness. Every man to his guns. We must call out the moral and spiritual forces. It is because we had no such adequate action during the last decades that we are compelled to make the costly sacrifice of war. The way to outlive the forces of destruction is to build better and more wisely than we are building now.

"If we are not governed by God, we will be ruled by tyrants," said William Penn. The lack of such a programme in peace-time has meant that a hundred million and more are engaged in a programme that no one really wants.

A REVOLUTIONARY FORCE

M.R.A. is the great central revolutionary force. I was personally at war. An experience of the Cross made me

a new type of revolutionary. M.R.A. teaches us to sacrifice for our country. Its immediate aim is a hundred million mobilised in the battle for peace, everyone disciplined, everyone taking part. A national Labour leader in San Francisco had a vision for an American membership of his organisation of ten million.

Surely the united forces of reconstruction in the world can think in terms of a hundred million taking their orders from the Living God. They will be an incomparable, unconquerable, irresistible army with advanced knowledge of tactics and a programme that will make men's hearts radically alter their thinking and living.

Within the limits of one broadcast it is not possible to give a complete answer, convincing and satisfying to everyone. It may, however, cast a light on your path and furnish you with information and direction that will be ready in a time of crisis and put the torch that is available to all within your grasp.

Our instant need is a hundred million planning for the new world peace; not only a few statesmen meeting, but the united forces of the world backed by daily living and action that will support them in waging the eternal war against selfishness. Then we can begin to approximate to what is needed.

The call is to every man, the ordinary man and the statesman, unitedly to carry the burdens of their country. Responsibility has too often been delegated to the few in the belief that the statesman is expected to do the thinking, planning and living that must become the concern of every man, the ordinary man.

RE-MAKERS OF THE WORLD

We must re-make the world. The task is nothing less than that. "We the re-makers of the world"—is that not the thinking and willing of the ordinary man? Every man, woman and child must be enlisted, every home become a fort.

A world philosophy will be brought to power through the cumulative effect of millions of people beginning the experience of listening to God. True it may be only an initial experience. Enlistment does not immediately make the trained soldier, but we can all begin.

We stand at zero hour on the threshold of a new world order. We need unitedly to recapture the world once again for a programme of sanity and security. Events are focussing for us the only programme of sane control, God-control. The only sane people in an insane world are those guided by God. We have not yet tapped the great creative sources in the mind of God. God has a plan, and the combined moral and spiritual forces of the nations can find that philosophy adequate for world crisis.

"A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon.
He helps us free from every ill
That hath us now o'ertaken."

Additional copies of "One Hundred Million Listening," together with further information on Moral Re-Armament and how to listen to God, can be obtained from

M.R.A., 4, Hay's Mews, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.