

MRA INFORMATION SERVICE



'I UNDERSTAND THIS REVOLUTION'
SAYS ITALIAN COMMUNIST

WANTED—A NEW NATIONAL PURPOSE FOR BRITAIN

'THIS IS WHAT WE NEED IN DENMARK'

'SPACE IS SO STARTLING' TO OPEN IN LONDON

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Japanese Socialists seek unity at Odawara

FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOURS thousands of coalminers and students demonstrated in the streets of Tokyo protesting against the dismissal through redundancy of 70,000 coalminers. The students were flanked by battalions of police armed with batons, tear gas and heavy water-guns. The Socialist Party, which controls nearly a third of the Japanese Diet, at its annual congress had just passed a significant resolution condemning the use of parliamentary methods as advocated by its General Secretary, Mr. Saburo Eda, and recommending mass action on the streets to oppose redundancy and the normalization of Korean-Japanese relations.

As those events took place last week-end, political leaders whose action could avert bloodshed and civil disorder came to the Moral Re-Armament Assembly at Odawara which opened on 1 December. The opening session was chaired by Socialist Senator Shidzue Kato, who had with her on the platform six Socialist trade union leaders and party officials who had just come from the party conference. They said they had come to Odawara to find unity and to build that unity into the ranks of world labour and the Japanese nation.

Senator Kato told the assembly, 'The Japanese Socialist Party will achieve its destiny when we change from violence, ambition and class-war to unity and moral straightness inside the party and the nation. Some Socialists use hate as a political weapon. Others are softened by prosperity and want to keep things as they

are. But we Diet members and labour leaders need to be the new type of Socialists who can unite the nation.'

The Senator said she agreed with Prime Minister Ikeda when he said on his return from Europe that European nations had become united because of a faith in God.

Mr. Shigeru Kobayashi, for 14 years an official of the Communist-dominated Teachers' Union, said, 'We Socialists are clinging to class-war. But in today's world it will bring about nuclear war—the one thing we say we want to avoid.' He was followed by the President of the Ishikawajima Shipyard Workers Branch Union, Mr. Yanagisawa, who told of his bitterness not only against the employers but against his comrades in the Socialist Party. 'Bitter men will never remake Japan,' he said.

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I BELIEVE that there are three eternal principles that any man concerned in governing a country must observe, whatever the age, be he from East or West. They are these: first, he should maintain strict integrity in his personal life and habits and discretion in all his actions. Second, he should secure the trust and approval of the people in his measures; invariably tell the truth; and unflinchingly observe the democratic principle of decision by the majority. And third, he should be a man of profound faith who constantly seeks divine guidance.'

MR. HAYATO IKEDA, *Prime Minister of Japan*

Kenya settler: 'I will stay on and help you'

WILL KENYA go the way of Algeria? Will there be violence between the races as well as between the indigenous groups, with a resultant breakdown in the economy and millions jobless?

Kenya today stands close to the threshold of disintegration. Jomo Kenyatta's party, KANU, has suffered a severe setback with the defection from its ranks of one of the largest tribes, the Kambas, and the recent loss of one of the Luo tribe leaders. The Kamba leader, Mr.

Paul Ngei, openly promises his people after freedom the land now in European hands. And his tribe make up half the King's African Rifles, which could give them a power out of all proportion to their numbers (750,000).

Racial bitterness is growing and even a man like Mr. Tom Mboya is reported to have recently made a speech extolling Mau Mau. There has been a new crop of Mau Mau pattern oath-taking as a means of recruitment into the revolutionary Land Freedom Army. Three

hundred and fifty European settler families have left and others are going. Much-needed foreign investment is being scared away and unemployment is rising.

Yet it is not so much the departure of the white man that most Africans want to see as the end of the old type of European, motivated by self-interest and superiority. Recently, reports the *Kenya Weekly News*, a large African audience in Naivasha Stadium enthusiastically applauded a white settler when he told of his determination to remain in Kenya and do all in his power to make the country free from hate and self-interest. Naivasha is an area where the Land Freedom Army is especially strong.

Mr. Wilfrid Hopcraft, who was speaking before a showing of the all-African film *Uhuru* (Freedom), stood together with Mr. Michael Low and Colonel Alan Knight, two other life-long settlers, and said, 'I was born and raised here in Naivasha and mean to stay here together

with you all. We settlers are determined to build a new nation. We have seen bloodshed in this country. I saw it in the Congo. Only through drastic change in each of us, answering self-interest and hatred, can further bloodshed be averted. For this continent there is no other way.'

Mr. Hopcraft was followed by Mr. Dedan Mugo, President of the Kerinyaga Welfare Association, who lost six of his family during the Mau Mau Emergency. He declared, 'There is room for everyone in this country who is prepared to leave behind the old ways.' Mugo asked, 'Who will benefit if "uhuru" comes to a divided people? Everyone who thinks his tribe better than another tribe is increasing division. We must all change our ways. I challenge the settlers to change. I challenge you Africans to change. It is the only basis on which to unite and achieve independence peacefully and build a prosperous nation.'

'I understand this revolution,' says Italian Communist

THE PROS AND CONS of Britain's entry into the Common Market are said to have occupied more time and space in TV and radio broadcasts, in speeches and newspaper articles in this country than any other single political issue this century.

Much has been written about 'a choice between the Common Market and the Commonwealth.' Much about what Britain would give up by 'entering Europe'. Much about what Britain would gain.

What of the other European nations concerned? France? Germany? Italy?

M. Jean Monnet, the 'Father of the Common Market', is realist enough to say: 'You won't get political union until you have common interest.' Dr. Haver, legal director of Standard Elektrik Lorenz, Stuttgart, addressing an audience of 600 in London last week-end, clarified this point further when he said that teamwork in the field of economics and politics must be accompanied by teamwork 'in the ideological field'. General Bethlem, former Brazilian Ambassador to Bolivia and Pakistan, told the same audience: 'More than a Common Market we need a common humanity—people united under God.'

General Bethlem flew to London from Italy, where he has been leading the Latin American force with the play *El Condor*. Italy, he said, despite her economic miracle, despite her enthusiastic membership of the Common Market, despite her historic role as the cradle of Christianity, still has the largest Communist Party membership outside the Iron Curtain. The Treaties of Rome and Paris and all the economic promises of the Common Market looked well on paper—but a swing of 1 per cent in the popular vote at the next election could put this flourishing nation behind the Iron Curtain.

Yet a new unity is being born as the *Condor* force moves through the country. A group of Franciscans from a monastery near Sorrento, in the Bay of Naples, came to

a showing of the film *The Crowning Experience*. One of them, who was two years in a Peking prison and has now taken on a parish in a Marxist town, came out exclaiming: 'This is a revolution.' Behind him a Communist said: 'I understand this because I am a revolutionary.' Another Franciscan commented: 'Isn't this the way St. Francis did it?'

From all over the famed Sorrento Peninsula, crowds poured in for the showings of *El Condor*. One night, nobility and Communists sat side by side in the front row of the theatre, which was filled from wall to wall. The Secretary of the local Communist Party was there with a party. The Director of Education brought groups of schoolchildren.

After a special morning performance for convent schools, nuns and students, one Mother Superior said: 'This work will succeed, because it is based on two fundamental virtues—humility and charity.' At a reception given for the cast later that day the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the Secretary of the Communist Party and U.S. naval officers and their families were among those present.

The four drivers of the buses given free by the Naples Municipality for the past forty days spoke. 'You have changed Italian workers,' said one of them, a director of the Communist unions for the Naples area. 'We will change and keep fighting for change in our colleagues, in the company and in the city.'

A delegation of the *Condor* force were special guests at Mass in the crypt of the cathedral church at Amalfi. In this crypt lie the bones of St. Anthony, brought there in the 12th century from Constantinople by the Cardinal of the then Republic of Amalfi, oldest of the maritime republics of Italy. After the Mass, the auxiliary bishop took the force through the cathedral. He said, 'I wish you all and your work an abundant harvest.'

WANTED—A NEW NATIONAL PURPOSE FOR BRITAIN

THE NEWS of the launching of Productivity Year passed comparatively unnoticed beside the fearsome headlines on the rising unemployment figures. Unemployment, which now seems certain to reach a post-war peak of over 600,000 in the New Year, has, as the *Sunday Times* puts it, 'thrown off the trivialising adjective "local" and revealed itself as the symptom of serious and persistent national malaise.'

What is that malaise and how can it be cured?

The surface problems are well-known. Automation—tens of thousands made redundant by the brilliance of Man's own technical achievements. Concentration—such as the huge modern steelworks which often mean the closing down of ten smaller ones. Dying or contracting industries—shipbuilding, shipping, coalmining. (In Belfast, the labour force at the Harland and Wolff shipyards has been reduced from 24,000 to 11,000 in the last few years.) Competition—sometimes from subsidised industries abroad, sometimes from far more modern and streamlined production in other countries.

The root problem lies deeper. For, whether we like it or not, the surface problems named above may remain and others may follow. Our real problem is to find (1) an answer to the class-war and bitter divisions which are tearing the heart out of industry and the nation, and (2) an answer to what a *Times* correspondent, after six weeks' study of conditions in these islands, called 'lack of a national purpose.' With unity and a national purpose big enough to include everybody, redundancy, dying industries and all our other problems will be tackled and solved.

Jobs for four hundred kept open

At a national assembly of 600 from all parts of the country in London last Sunday, a group of 115 from all sides of industry reported progress in the creation of a spirit which, developed and applied on a large enough scale, will solve the most difficult situations.

Mr. Brian Hewitt, an architect from Northern Ireland, said that last summer 12 special plane-loads flew from Belfast to see *Music at Midnight* in the Westminster Theatre, among them 300 men and wives from the shipyards. They brought back with them a new spirit which was beginning to spread to other industries. The spirit was caught by a convenor of shop stewards in a factory which was on the verge of closing down. There were two trade unions in the factory. The convenor for the other union had declared his intention of breaking the firm and closing the factory, no matter what the consequences for the families involved. The new spirit won, the other convenor gave way, management also changed their attitude, with the result that the firm is now on a sound basis, and in that factory alone, 400 jobs have been saved.

Mr. Donald Fraser, from the Clydeside shipyards, reported that in the last two weeks in one firm, where the idea 'Not who's right but what's right' had been applied, a plating department and a welding department had been successful both in raising production and in negotiating an increase of wages for the men with no loss of time whatsoever.

Saving a pit from closure

Mr. Alec Cleough, a miner and former County Councillor from Northumberland, reported some startling results from the north-east. One pit which was scheduled for closure had been put on to a new basis through men finding a new attitude.

It began when one miner, a Communist for 26 years, decided to take on the greater task of changing the world by changing human nature, beginning with himself. He began by apologizing to the colliery manager for his hatred through the years, then asked the manager if he would tackle afresh with him and the other men the task of making the colliery pay. A new teamwork spread through the whole mine. Absenteeism, instead of being a cause of friction and bitterness, was tackled by management, union and men together. The tonnage of saleable coal rose from 1,800 to 2,500 tons a day. 'Now that pit,' said Mr. Cleough, 'is striking even—not yet showing a profit, but we hope it will by the end of the year.'

Mr. Geoffrey Sanders, director of a Bristol building firm, said that recently the company went through a difficult period. The chairman of the company felt that men would have to be dismissed. 'I told him,' said Mr. Sanders, 'that I had once been unemployed myself and knew what it meant. As the men had stood by us in good times, could we not stand by them now? We were responsible for seeing they had work. I suggested that we should extend our works, so that when a difficult period came again the men could have alternative employment in making pre-cast units for buildings.' The chairman said: 'You speak to the men.' I told them what we had decided. They said little at the time, but a new relationship of trust sprang up. The turnover in our labour force ceased. Within a few weeks we had so much work that, had we laid off men in the difficult period, we should not have had enough workers.'

'There is talk about industrial capacity and there is unemployment,' said Mr. Stanley Hoar, Managing Director of the Commonwealth Development Finance Company. 'This is unreal and intolerable. With the tremendous want in the world we must find a way to enable our surplus capacity to meet the needs of people. We must create men with new motives, and build a new type of industry which can be the basis of the new world we all long to see.'

'This is what we need in Denmark'

THE LINK between subversion and moral perversion has been given glaring publicity by the Vassall case. But years ago the Kremlin sent an ambassador to Scandinavia with orders not to mention Communism, but to proceed with the undermining of the morals of the youth. Only some time later, when word came that this mission had been successfully performed, did the communisation programme go ahead in top gear. Today one-third of all marriages in Sweden end in the divorce court and the police report 100,000 active homosexuals in Denmark.

Invited by civic and community leaders, two ideological plays, *The Ladder* and *The Wind is Turning*, have penetrated deep into Danish life.

'In my ten years of experience in the theatre I have never seen such queues,' said the box office manager of one theatre in Hjoerring. 'You had all the cream of the city here' commented a theatre critic.

A group of youth who had announced that they were going to demonstrate against the play in

Hjoerring decided they would go in and see it instead. They were so engrossed in their discussions with the cast afterwards that they stayed on and on until after their last train.

The mayor brought twenty prominent citizens to see the play in Randers. The President of the Arts Society, said afterwards, 'The conviction I saw in these plays is the conviction I always longed to see.'

The idea that prosperity would solve men's problems was exploded by the headmaster of the technical school in Randers, Mr. Jensen, who first heard of MRA when he read the recent full page *To Every Communist*. He referred to the abundant work, food and security for all in Scandinavia and said, 'Today I meet more dissatisfied people than ever, and we are more divided than ever. I am fully behind what you have said. This is what we need.' Another headmaster brought three-quarters of his pupils to the play and then invited the MRA force back to speak to his school for an hour in school time.

'Space is so Startling' to open in London

SPACE IS SO STARTLING, the modern musical fantasy by Peter and Anthony Howard, will open at the Westminster Theatre, London, on Wednesday, 19 December. It will have a six-week London season before fulfilling engagements abroad.

The play has just come from an overwhelming reception in Japan, where it played to capacity audiences in Tokyo, Sapporo and Osaka, and was filmed for nation-wide television.

'Setting Theatrical Precedent' headlined the national daily, *Mainichi*, with its circulation of four million. The paper writes: 'The play shows the road which humanity should choose. The staging, solos, choruses and dances are unique and terrific. The audience was stunned and shaken.'

'Scene after scene,' *Mainichi Daily News* writes, 'unfolded boisterous clashes between man and wife, be-

tween beatniks and squatters and between cosmonauts of the East and astronauts of the West, until finally the curtain went down with their thunderous call to "waken the conscience that's dead".'

Asahi, the great national daily, comments: 'The glorious music, dancing, twist, squat, spaceships and international cast were a joy to the audience.'

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Music at Midnight will close its popular run at the Westminster Theatre on Saturday, 15 December, in order to begin its American tour in the New Year. Its first engagement is in Palm Springs, California, on 11 January. Seen by 100,000 people in 211 performances, *Music at Midnight* has been universally acclaimed as great theatre as well as excellent entertainment.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sweden—Bishop Arvid Runestam, who died in Uppsala recently, was one of many Scandinavian churchmen who welcomed Dr. Frank Buchman to the Nordic countries in the 1930's, and one of nine Swedish Bishops who wrote in February, 1954, in *The Times*: 'In a world threatened by divisive forces and inner disintegration, Moral Re-Armament's work—that of re-introducing firm moral standards and spiritual inspiration, and thereby of creating unity and new positive possibilities in personal, social, industrial and political spheres—must be followed with gratitude and lively interest by all right-thinking people, and above all by the Church.' A year later, Bishop Runestam told an Assembly of three thousand people in Westminster, 'For or against Moral Re-Armament? That is not the right way of putting the question. The real question is: for Christianity with morals or for Christianity without morals. There are different tendencies in the Churches now, and we have to take part on one side or the other.'

Germany—The head of Germany's naval cadet school, in Flensburg, Admiral Erdman, arranged a special performance of *The Crowning Experience* for his whole school during training hours. Three showings of the film were given for army units.

Australia—On the final day of the Commonwealth Games in Perth, visitors and sportsmen from thirty-five countries read the full page *To Every Communist* in the only morning newspaper, *The West Australian*. During the week many of the athletes saw the all-African film, *Freedom*, in the Games Village.

Oklahoma City, U.S.A.—Sales of *Frank Buchman's Secret* have set a new record. The manager of a leading bookstore reports: 'It's the first time a book we have advertised has sold over half the stock in two weeks.'