

Kenya minister's world of the future

DR JULIA OJIAMBO, Kenya's Assistant Minister of Health and Social Services, quoted from *The Black and White Book* at a session of the Fifth Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Nairobi.

She said in her speech on 'Women in a changing world': 'I should like to end with a few sentences from *The Black and White Book* written by Sydney Cook and Garth Lean, as they ask, like myself, what kind of world?

'It goes like this:

We want to see a world —

Where everyone has work, food and a home,

Where a man's character matters more than his colour,

Where industry aims to answer the

needs of humanity, and is not an endless battle for control, profit and wages,

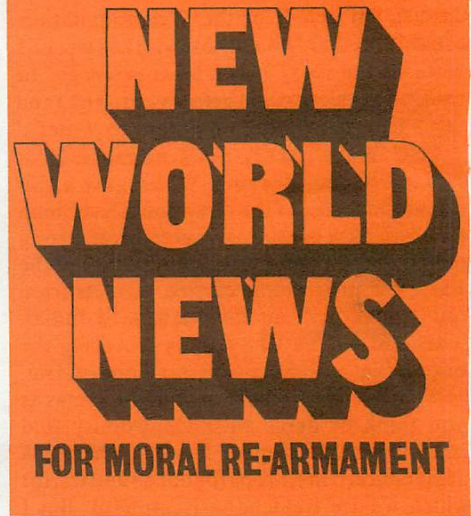
Where schools and universities have freedom without chaos and discipline without dictatorship,

Where no man or woman is exploited — or worshipped,

Where rich nations help and respect developing ones and big nations do not bully small ones,

Where communist and non-communist countries face what they have done wrong and take on together the shaping of a just society.'

The film *Voice of the Hurricane* was shown earlier this month, following the news, on Voice of Kenya Television.



National recovery Graham Hill style

ONE OF THE LAST LETTERS of Graham Hill was written on 26 November to Albert Ingram, Chairman of Action '75, of which Hill was a strong supporter.

Action '75 is described by its initiators as 'a serious attempt by rank and file trade unionists to generate a nationwide response to the Prime Minister's conception of "not a year for self but a year for Britain".'

In his letter the former world motor racing champion, killed three days later when his private plane crashed, affirmed his faith in the British car industry and suggested people who might help to make the 'Year for Britain' a reality.

Dick Cosens, Vice-Chairman of Action '75 and AUEW member working at Hawker Siddeley Aviation, Hatfield, says that when he went with the campaign's secretary two weeks ago to ask Graham Hill to speak at their next national meeting, the racing ac-

'readily agreed' and said: 'A year for Britain is exactly what we need.'

Graham Gauld, press officer of the Scottish Motor Trade Association, told a *New World News* reporter that Graham Hill, speaking at the Scottish Motor Show dinner of the Association, had tried to restore the determination to overcome all obstacles in the British motor industry. Hill had pointed those present at the dinner to Action '75 as a good example of what ordinary men with guts and drive can undertake instead of sitting down in despair.

Mr Gauld, a former editor of *Motor World*, said it was one thing to 'pay lip-service to the kind of guts Graham Hill had, but if we all put the same kind of effort into national recovery as he put into recovery from two broken legs to winning again on the race track, we could restore our broken-legged nation to a winning status'.

CAPITAL IDEA

'My accountant told me I am paying too much in taxes and that my best remedy is to shed some capital,' said a successful craftsman, who was in London last week to record a TV programme about his work. 'So I would like to invest £1,000 in Moral Re-Armament. I feel this is one way to tackle the real need of our society.'

BOX OFFICE PAST

There was an average 94.4 per cent attendance during the three-week London run of *Song of Asia*.

BOX OFFICE FUTURE

150,000 seats are available during the professional tour of Alan Thornhill and Penelope Thwaites's musical *Ride! Ride!* It will be performed in 11 provincial cities in Britain starting 2 March in Nottingham.

'Croeso i Gymru'

THE LORD MAYOR OF CARDIFF, Sir Charles Hallinan, the Mayor and Mayoress of the Vale of Glamorgan, the Mayor and Mayoress of Penarth, the Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Cardiff, the Dean of Llandaff Cathedral and the Chief Executive of the City Council were among the 130 who welcomed the cast of *Song of Asia* at the start of their week's visit to Wales.

The magnificently painted and carved hall of Cardiff Castle which dates back to Roman times provided the setting for councillors of Cardiff and the Rhondda, trade unionists, leaders of Cardiff's minority communities and students to meet the Asian visitors.

Speaking as a hereditary Freeman of the city, Arthur Clark, supported by his wife and daughter, who had been in India with *Song of Asia*, welcomed the cast on behalf of the guests. The welcome also included songs by a Welsh folk singer, Hawys James of Ferndale, wife of Plaid Cymru County Councillor Glyn James, and solos on the harp by Rhian

Morgan, a student at the Welsh medium school at Rhydfelen.

Replying on behalf of the cast Rina Sailo from Mizoram in North East India said that nine of the 14-nation cast came from Nagaland and the Khasi and Lushi Hills of India: 'We would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest thanks and gratitude for the selfless sacrifice and service Wales has given to the people of our area through her missionaries. It is because of the seeds which you have sown that some of us are here today.'

He was followed by Michael Syngkon from Meghalaya, who said that he had been given the middle name Wellyn after a respected doctor in the Welsh mission hospital where his father still works. He said, 'We believe that with your experience, history and Christian faith the Welsh people have a vital part to play in healing the hurts of the world.'

Bishop Mullins, Auxiliary Bishop of

CARDIFF contd p2



Reception for 'Song of Asia' in Cardiff Castle. Photo: Rengfelt

CARDIFF contd from p1

Cardiff, on behalf of the Welsh invitation committee, thanked all those who had worked towards the visit. 'It is a great privilege,' he said, 'to be able to stand before you tonight and say "Croeso i Gymru, Welcome to Wales".'

BBC Wales' daily news magazine programme 'Good Morning, Wales' gave a six-minute coverage of the reception. Describing the show as 'a multi-national musical setting out to change our views and opinions of the East', the programme carried extracts from four songs with an interview with Indian journalist Neerja Chowdhury, covering the origin, aims and effectiveness of *Song of Asia*.

'We have got to think of your dilemmas as you think of ours,' Miss Chowdhury told interviewer Christopher Powell. 'There is a great concern in Europe for our countries, for which we are tremendously grateful. But I think that if we in our part of the world think of your dilemmas, then together we can plan in partnership for the development of the whole of man and the whole of society. We must not allow the links between East and West to be broken if our big problems are to be solved.'

An intensely appreciative full-house audience took what a prominent Welsh trade unionist called 'the warmth and magic of *Song of Asia*' to its heart with waves of applause at Cardiff's Sherman Theatre.

Meeting the cast at the interval, Gwynfor

Evans MP, President of Plaid Cymru, with his wife, brother and a niece, expressed his personal belief in the theme and message of the show. 'Some of us are trying to do for our country of Wales what you from so many different backgrounds are doing for yours,' he said. 'What you are saying is needed in Wales at this time.'

Mr Evans, who was one of those who invited the cast to Wales, was especially appreciative of how the cast had learned 'so word perfectly' the Welsh National Anthem, 'Hen wlad fy nhadau'. Two others who had joined in inviting *Song of Asia* to Wales, Bishop Mullins and Carwyn James, internationally famous rugby coach and radio and TV commentator, were in the audience.

Mrs E Joy Davies, JP, Chairman of South Glamorgan County Council, told members of the cast at a reception in County Hall, 'It's an inspiration to see people from 14 different nations working together as you do. There cannot be a better aim for young people of your age, or indeed for people of any age — and it cannot be at a more important time.'

A further performance of 'Song of Asia' in Britain has been announced. It will be on Wednesday, 14 January at 7.30pm in the Wythenshawe Town Centre, Simonsway, Manchester 22.

Behind 'Song of Asia'

Six days in the rebel hide-out

by Genis Ibot



IN THE SOUTH of my country, the Philippines, we have a civil war between Muslims and Christians which has been raging for the last 15 years. With thirty-nine million Christians in the Philippines, the four million Muslims have been in a minority, and have often been badly exploited by the more educated people.

The Muslim population is concentrated on the island of Mindanao. Many have wanted complete separation from the Philippines. The conflict can be traced through history since the sixteenth century when the Spanish tried to Christianise the Philippines. Ferdinand Magellan, who discovered the Philippines in 1521, killed there by a Muslim king. Since then, Muslims have been referred to as 'Moors' which means 'killers' or 'warriors'.

Taught to kill

My family was involved in the war. My mother was a Muslim and my father a Christian. During the fighting, our house was burned and two of my uncles, who were Muslims, were tortured badly and killed. These things created a lot of bitterness among the Muslims.

As a result, my parents separated and the family broke up. I hated my father very much because he was unfaithful towards my mother. I was 16 at the time and decided to stay in a Muslim refugee camp where we were taught to kill and to take revenge against the government and the Christians. I saw a lot of suffering in the camp. We went without food for many days. Many people died because of sickness.

In that same camp I met some Christians

Extra performance needed in Oxford

'BY POPULAR DEMAND an extra show' ran the posters heralding *Song of Asia* in Oxford. Two weeks before the musical arrived the Newman Rooms were sold out for the performance. It looked as if many would be turned away disappointed until Elizabeth Tooms, director of the play billed for the following night, decided to postpone it to allow *Song of Asia* a second performance.

She said afterwards, 'The visit of *Song of Asia* was a tremendous experience for people in Oxford. It is a message people are looking for. It challenged us to be forthright about what we believe.'

Make motto real

Miss Tooms was one of the group of students from Oxford who saw *Song of Asia* at the MRA conference in Caux, Switzerland, this summer. 'It really struck us that if they could bring their outlook to Oxford it would be such a help,' said another of them, Mary Nowlan of St Hugh's College, quoted in the *Oxford Mail*. Her brother, Denis Nowlan, from Balliol College, told the cast on their arrival in Oxford, 'The motto of this university is "Deus Illuminatio Mea" — "God is my light". You can help us to make this a reality.'

The students undertook, with Oxford townspeople, to raise the money to maintain the company of *Song of Asia* in Oxford and to find them accommodation.

Many of the cast were the guests of students in their colleges and rooms. Others

stayed with local families. Two Malaysian students, Kok Swee Mei, from Oxford Polytechnic, and Lim Chuan Po, from Balliol College, raised over £100 — much of it from Chinese restaurant owners who provided a Chinese meal for the cast. Another meal was given by the Oxford Committee for Racial Integration and cooked by ladies from India, Pakistan and South Africa.

Many students and residents from the different Asian communities in Oxford came to *Song of Asia*. 'You bring new hope not only to Oxford people but also to the Asian community,' Lim Chuan Po told the cast.

Specially interested to meet the young Asians were students from all over Africa. On the day that news came of the agreement of Rhodesian leaders Ian Smith and Joshua Nkomo to negotiate, black and white students from South Africa and Rhodesia stayed long to talk with members of the *Song of Asia* company. 'Many come overseas to study and return to our country to fight,' commented one Rhodesian. '*Song of Asia*'s theme of reconciliation had a message for me.'

The first night was attended by the Lord and Lady Mayoress and by farmers' leaders, students from Warwick University, boys from a local public school and parties from all over the neighbourhood as well as senior and junior members of the university. Radio Oxford broadcast an interview with Te Rangī Huata, Maori co-director of the musical.

who had the courage to come into the camp and try to care for us. They did not mention anything about religion. One of them spent a lot of time with me, and told me about the 'inner voice' — that every person has a conscience and the free will to choose either for good or evil. He told me that if I wanted to find an answer to the problem of my family I must learn to follow my 'inner voice'.

I became convinced that real change and peace can only be achieved through a radical change in the hearts of men and their motives, and not by guns alone. I had seen violence operating for many years and saw that it did not bring progress or satisfaction to my people. I was searching for something more.

Gun returned

This brought me to the point of trying to listen to my 'inner voice'. As a result, I went to find my parents and apologised to each of them for my bitterness towards them, particularly my father. It was a radical step for me to be honest with them about my mistakes and not just blame them for theirs. But I did it. I returned the gun and some bullets I had stolen from my father which I had used fighting against his people.

This honest apology brought unity and reconciliation in my family. It took many weeks, but now my parents are together again. My father apologised for his arrogance and irresponsibility. My mother had wanted to take revenge against him. But she forgave him and they were reunited.

In recent months, my parents have been used together by the Almighty to bring change and reconciliation in our province. It started when my mother was invited by a Muslim leader to visit the camp of the Muslim rebels in the mountains. This leader said he trusted my mother because he had seen how my family was united. He asked the help of my mother to bring their ways of living into order again.

Through my experience, my mother had begun to live by listening to her 'inner voice'. My mother felt it was the guidance of the Almighty to accept the invitation and to take my father, who is a retired army officer, with her. Together, they decided to go and



The entrance to the market in the resettlement camp supervised by Genis' mother.

not to take any gun or bladed weapons with them. It meant risking their lives. Fighting was still in progress on the other side of the mountain. But they believed it was the will of God and He would protect them.

When they arrived at the rebel hideout, 140 rebels were waiting for them, and welcomed them. My parents spent six days and nights with them, discussing what had happened in our family and challenging them to face the change in the heart of man needed to bring personal and social order to our country.

The Muslim people were very open to this idea. They had been living through misery and wars for many years. A mother of a Muslim leader said to my mother: 'Five years in the jungle running away from bombs and machine-guns had planted bitterness in the hearts of our people. But after hearing from you we feel that we are healed.' They discussed together the dangers of other ideologies using the minority problem to invade the Philippines.

On the fourth day my father went down to the city to invite the military officer in charge of the whole area to come to the mountain camp. The military officer accepted to come with my father. Together with the Muslim rebels they worked out an agreement based on a change of heart and the inspiration of the inner voice. This agreement includes unity between Muslims and Christians, and protects the rights of my people.

The military officer said afterwards that if he had not seen it with his two eyes, he could not have believed that this reconciliation could happen, and that Christians could be accepted in this way by Muslims in their camp.

On the sixth day the officer, my parents and some of the rebels went down to the city of Cotahato where a conference was to take place between Muslims and Christians. The Governor of the island of Mindanao, the Commissioner and representatives from the Government, the Ambassador from Saudi Arabia (some Arab countries have been involved in attempts to resolve this conflict), and leaders of both groups were there. At the conference my mother was asked to take the agreement they had worked out in the jungle and present it to the Acting Vice-President of the Philippines in Manila.

Challenge to Christians

On 6 June this year my mother presented the agreement to the Acting Vice-President. It guarantees the rights of the Moslem people and the unity between Muslims and Christians, but also includes provision of food, housing materials, medical aid, farming equipment through loans and the rebuilding of schools and mosques. This agreement covers only our province. But many people in Mindanao have seen this miracle, and were given the challenge of a new alternative they could try.

Religion is not the root of the war in my country — it is man's exploitation of man, his selfishness and greed. Our hatred and bitterness are being used by other people to gain power for themselves and to further their ideology.

If we Muslims had lived our faith effectively, then we might have turned rebellion into a challenge to the Christian people to live their faith effectively also. If we can find this answer to the minority problems in our country, then we can give an answer to minority problems elsewhere in the world.

I am very grateful that the Almighty has chosen our family to be His fighters in this revolution. This miracle gives me real hope that a personal change can lead to social change.



Muslim and Christian 'returnees' with the parents (arrowed) of Genis Ibot.

At a glance

NEEDED IN NEW YORK

'The spirit of reconciliation' is the headline in an article in the November issue of *Middle East International*. Written by Dr Charis Waddy, it describes how the Arab nations found unity in the Middle East crisis of 1958. She records the part played by Abdel Khalek Hassouna, then Secretary of the Arab League.

She writes, 'A clear compelling thought — "You are needed in New York" — had brought him from Cairo, much against his will. In New York he set to work to bridge the gulf of bitter division between the great powers ranged in hostile confrontation. He sought to raise the discussion above the claims and counter claims as to who was right, to an objective search for what was right. As he pursued this line, unity began to emerge. His persistence was born of his habit of listening to thoughts that come when attuned to God in prayer — an attitude that can bring inspiration into even the most difficult affairs in life, he said. It may have been this habit that attracted him to Moral Re-Armament, whose assemblies he several times attended. Indeed this movement seems to have exercised a considerable influence on Arab statesmen at one time, for the Prime Minister of the Sudan, Abdullah Khalil, once stated, "If the West accepted the spirit of Moral Re-Armament, she would discover an immediate response from the Arab world. With that spirit the West would cure bitterness and heal hatred."'

45 MINUTES ON TV

Conrad Hunte, the former Vice-Captain of the West Indies cricket team, appeared for 45 minutes on Scottish Television two weeks ago. It was in a series of programmes where personalities had to choose and discuss passages from the Bible which mean most to them.

Hunte told listeners that it was the people in the world who had suffered and been wronged who had the greatest opportunity to be the first to put things right. He had started life with what he felt were three handicaps — being born black, poor and in a Colony. In overcoming these he had created barriers in his own heart towards other people and, at the height of his success, God had asked him to give everything back and put Him first.

Asked about the relationship between the 'inner liberation' he had found and the political action which Christians should take, he replied, 'By being liberated inside, by putting right the wrong things I do to others, I have a chance to encourage them to accept the wrongs they have done to others also and to put these right. In a strange way the rightness of our cause is strengthened by the fact that we have clean hands and a pure heart in trying to put things right.'

Hunte said that he was not out to reverse the scales, where black would now be on top of white and poor on top of rich. He wanted 'a total transformation' in black and white, rich and poor, where all changed in their attitudes not just in terms of each other, but in terms of Christ's absolute standards.

FILMS FOR PARLIAMENT

On the invitation of the Speaker of the Queensland Parliament, James Houghton, 11 MPs last month saw the two films, *A Man For All People* and *Belfast Report*, in the parliamentary caucus room. The MPs represented the three main parties in the State Parliament — National, Liberal and Australian Labor.

CHAPEL PERFORMANCE

A dramatised reading of Nancy Ruthven's play about St Augustine, *Late Have I Loved Thee*, was performed in the Chapel of the Roman Catholic Chaplaincy in Oxford. Those in the production included students and a nurse. Post-graduate student Peter Nowlan played Augustine and Philip Boobbyer, aged 12, did a spirited part as his son Adeodatus. The audience included priests, an historian doing Augustine as his special subject, and other senior and junior members of the university.

BORROWED LAND

One week before the New Zealand General Election an MRA conference was held in Arana Hall, Dunedin. 'The theme of your conference, "Which way New Zealand?", could not have a better title,' the Mayor, J G Barnes, told the participants.

Delegates came from many parts of New Zealand and included a Maori-Pakeha delegation from Wairoa, Hawkes Bay, as well as overseas visitors. Local Maoris gave a traditional welcome especially to the visitors from the north.

Speakers at the conference, which was reported in provincial papers and on local and national radio, included John Kennedy, Editor of the *Tablet*, and the TV personality, Rev Barrie Hibbert.

Eleven men from the farming industry and their wives were present from six provinces. Industrial problems, particularly those affecting this industry which is vital to New Zealand's economy, were considered. A farm adviser who had recently attended a

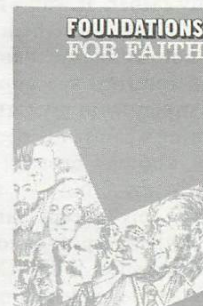
number of conferences said, 'I find a strong element of hope that comes through here. This I do not find in other areas. This hope is a very important thing.' Referring to the need to farm not for profit alone but for posterity, a farmer said, 'We do not inherit the land from our parents, we borrow it from our children.'

A delegation of Maori and Pakeha will represent New Zealand at an international MRA conference at Canberra in January 1976.

DIFFERENT MANIFESTO

The British Housewives' Declaration featured in *New World News* is now circulating in German. It has been reproduced in the *Stuttgarter Wochenblatt*. The paper describes it as 'a manifesto that differs from others because instead of alarming or frightening people it makes them think and leads to improvement'.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED



A new booklet *Foundations for Faith* by Harry Almond has just been published by Moral Re-Armament.

'Many people seek a faith,' writes the author, 'many others would like to find more reality and effectiveness in the faith they have. They ask, "What is God like?", "How can I live the way I should?", "I try to read the Bible in the morning, and I know many people get so much from it; but, honestly, I often fall asleep trying to understand." "What can I do?" This book is offered to help in finding answers to such questions.'

The 57-page booklet is available price 50p (p+p 10p anywhere in the world) from MRA Books, 54 Lyford Road, London SW18 3JJ.

AVOIDING THE ROCKS

The Director of the Patent office of Cameroon, Rabel Ossono, told a London audience last week, 'If we had not met Moral Re-Armament, the situation in our country would be just like Angola. Thanks to this contact, we have avoided those rocks and the ship has arrived safely in port. But we have not yet solved all our problems. We would like to make our country a country where a great action would happen to bring unity to Africa. Perhaps it begins as we share our experience of Moral Re-Armament. It is with this hope I leave London this time.'