

NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

Earlier this month the Prime Minister of South Africa, B J Vorster, declared, 'I say: give South Africa six months chance by not making our road harder than it is already . . . You will be surprised where we will then stand.'

Britain's 'Sunday Times' comments, 'We are surely about to witness the most momentous struggle for a country's conscience that modern Africa has ever known.'

We reprint here the statement made recently at the Dutch Reformed Church Synod by one of the delegates, Ds George Daneel.

It is not a political statement. It is moral and spiritual truth.

It is spoken to his own people. Acceptance by us of its challenge would alter social, economic and political attitudes in Britain.

We, too, could then surprise the world.

THE EDITOR

South Africa's choice Voluntary change or violent change



George Daneel with Dr Cedric Phatudi, Chief Minister of Lebowa, in London earlier this year
Photo: Almond

George Daneel, addressing the Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church, said:

IN ITS REPORT to the Synod the Commission for Racial and Ecumenical Affairs states: "In calling people to repentance and sanctification, the church wants to create a new philosophy of life and a new world outlook which will be a strong tie between people across national barriers."

This is the time that such a call should go forth from the church. The future of our country is in the balance. Changes are inevitable. The question is what kind of a change it is going to be; a voluntary change as the result of repentance or a violent change by force.

Fear, however, should never be the main motive to put right what's wrong. We must do it because God wants it and because we are followers of Christ.

Our relationship as whites towards blacks must be based on God's command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." That applies not only to individuals but also to society.

If we are honest we will admit that we fall far short of this command. The result is estrangement, misunderstandings, prejudice and friction between the different racial groups. To be reborn and to obey the first command of loving God, is no guarantee that we will love our neighbour, especially if he is black.

Take the case of the apostle Peter. He had advanced a long way in his Christian experience, a man filled with the Holy Spirit, yet as a Jew he was in the grip of prejudice and superiority in his attitude to people of other races. He

was still bound by Jewish tradition. In that state God could not use him to bring Christ's message to the Roman captain, Cornelius. A radical change had to take place in his attitude. That change did take place as the result of a vision God gave him and he went into Cornelius's house having learned that God is no respecter of persons.

Prejudice and an attitude of superiority towards black people is also something with which we as whites have grown up in this country. It has become part of our thinking and living, for which we cannot be blamed. This, however, does not make us less guilty before God, because it creates division and bitterness and prevents us from treating them with the love that God demands.

Many of us may feel that we are free from race prejudice. But what about our fellow citizens of whom we often read in the newspapers that they ill-treat the blacks. They are our flesh and blood. As Christians we are called to identify ourselves with them as if we are equally guilty ourselves and need God's forgiveness.

Of course Africans need to change as much as we do. But scripture teaches us first to remove the plank from our own eyes, then we will see properly how to take the splinter out of our brother's eyes.

The future of South Africa largely depends to what extent we are able to create friendship, mutual trust and co-operation between the various racial groups in this country. This is of vital importance. We cannot allow our Afrikaner pride to prevent us from searching our own hearts and asking God to bring about the transformation in human relations which our society needs.

If we obey God as St Peter did, even when it clashes with our traditional way of life, we can trust Him with our own future and the future of all racial groups in this country. 9

Our correspondents report

from Salisbury

Rhodesian Television interviewed people from Britain, Holland and Sweden who are in the country with the show *Cross Road*.

The interview, which was broadcast after the news, was on the principles and practice of MRA, and covered a wide spectrum: the guidance of God and absolute moral standards; change in human nature; finance and families; scepticism and idealism, terrorism and pacifism.

from Vancouver

The first news to come from the Rome Food Conference was that Canada is taking the initiative in contributing emergency wheat for the famine stricken lands.

Recently a strike by the grain handlers' union in Vancouver prevented any wheat leaving Canada over a six week period. During that time as many as twenty-four ships were waiting in line in the harbour for their cargo.

An Irish industrial delegation from Belfast visited Vancouver November 6-7. They brought with them *Belfast Report*, a recent documentary film of changing attitudes presented by men and women of that city.

They showed their film for the head of the port employers and his director for industrial relations, and for the President and Vice-President of the grain handlers' union. A wheat producer from Alberta, John Bocock, Chairman of Moral Re-Armament in Canada, was present together with Fred Mathers, a past President of the National Association of Manufacturers of Canada.

Mr Bocock told the grain handlers that as a grain producer he had often joined in the chorus of criticism directed at the Vancouver men. This was the first time he had taken the trouble to come to see them. He invited them to Alberta to speak to the farmers in his area and to be guests in his own home.

Mr Mathers spoke of the need to humanize managerial attitudes. He is the founder of a food canning company in British Columbia.

The President of the grain handlers

spoke of the frustration and negative attitudes created in himself when at the negotiating table he was faced not with his opposite number but with three corporation lawyers. 'Unless we find a new level of trust in industry, we will tear this country apart within the next five to fifteen years,' he said.

He was so deeply interested in the industrial philosophy and practice expressed through the Irish film *Belfast Report*, and by the men themselves that he stayed to confer for three and a half hours.

from Nairobi

Kenya's National Television, the Voice of Kenya, has presented the film *A Man For All People*. This documentary about 'a great South African', the late Dr William Nkomo, was screened at peak viewing time.

The programme was commented on widely around the country. At a secondary school in Western Kenya, for instance, students gathered in the assembly hall to view it. They stayed for more than an hour afterwards to ask questions and to discuss what they had seen.

In Western Kenya a second workshop for students of university and secondary schools, for farmers and farm labourers, will take place 28 November-11 December. It will be held at the same place as the last one in August, on a farm outside the town of Kitale.

The invitation states:

WE ARE GOING TO DEMONSTRATE
-that ordinary people have a decisive part to play in shaping the Kenya of tomorrow,
-that difference of age, tribe and race need not divide us. They can become an asset, the basis of unity for the whole country,
-that the future depends not on talk but on those who are ready to match the needs of the country with a new quality of life, starting with themselves,
-that God is at work as a practical, 'down to earth' power to meet the needs of men and nations and that under His guidance there is a solution to every human problem.

from Copenhagen

The multi-nation European Action Force, which was in Berlin (*New World News* Vol 23 No 3), is now in Denmark and has been reinforced by others from the Scandinavian countries.

They have been meeting Marxist students, members of parliament, employers and trade unionists, and speaking to school assemblies.

18 months ago a medical doctor from Aarhus, Dr Tove Niklassen, had visited the MRA centre in Panchgani, India, and had decided there to be responsible for the future of her city. On her in-

itation the European Action Force stayed for ten days in the educational and industrial centre of Aarhus on the east coast of Jutland. Their visit to Aarhus ended with a public meeting on the theme 'Denmark, Europe and the Third World'.

Some of the Force were received at the headquarters of the Dairy Corporation of Denmark by Mr Dyrberg. He said, 'The agricultural production in Denmark could easily be increased by 20 per cent. Many farmers would be ready to do this at cost price if they were shown that this could help.' He added, 'Ever since the 1950's we have been getting richer but also getting more selfish and that is the bottleneck.'

At another occasion, Professor Bech, Head of the Faculty of Law and well-known through his frequent appearances on television and his Christian convictions, said, 'For the first time millions of people are losing their faith that material goods can bring satisfaction in life. We need to apply an alternative faith.' He said that he could see 'the resurgence of the force of good' and added, 'You are in the vanguard of that force.'

Four of the group, including Bhanudas Kale, son of a Bombay dockers' leader, met with a similar response from a Communist leader of the portworkers. After discussing for two and a half hours he said, 'When we talk like we have I realise how much we have in common. Maybe we should start doing something about it, and in that way we may find unity.'

from Stockholm

The Swedish National Radio has four times in the last few weeks played songs from the LP *Water For A Thirsty Land*.

This LP, which contains 13 songs from *Cross Road*, *GB*, *India Arise*, and *Anything to Declare?*, is available on cassette or disc, price £2.40 including VAT postage and packing, from MRA Books.

The 'Cross Road' cast went down the mine at the Bat...



from North-East England

An international group, travelling with the multi-media show *Cross Road*, have spent a week in the North-East of England. The show, based on the life of Frank Buchman, was given in Newcastle's Civic Centre, in the mining town of Blyth, and at a Washington New Town school.

The men and women from six nations met with civic leaders and men in industry. They were also entertained to lunch in the students' union of Durham University. Harry Addison, a graduate of Durham and Oxford and a colleague for many years of Frank Buchman, was invited to speak in the University's Hatfield College Chapel.

He concluded with the words, 'For forty years I have worked with MRA. They have been eventful years—years which have included the Great Depression, the Second World War, the A-bomb and the H-bomb, the cold war, the race war, and the class war. There are moments, as I look forward to the next forty years, when I am tempted to be glad that I shall not live through all of them. More often I wish that I were forty years younger so that I could play a full part in whatever they may hold.'

Possibilities

'One thing is certain. The next forty years will be just as hard as the last, and far more decisive. We are witnessing the collapse of an economic system based on selfishness. We are seeing the end of the domination of the "haves" over the "have-nots", of the whites over the peoples of other races. Tides are running in the history of the world which cannot be turned back. The only question is whether they will be directed by good or evil forces.'

'At the same time we have the technological capacity to feed, clothe, house and educate every man, woman and

child in the world. There is enough in the world for everybody's need, but not for their greed. If everybody cares enough and everybody shares enough everyone will have enough.

'There are three possibilities. We may have a blood bath. We may slide into a dictatorship. Or we may decide so to live that a hate-free, fear-free, greed-free world may yet become a reality. Absolute moral standards are no longer matters of personal choice. They are the essential conditions of national and world survival.'

from Victoria

In the last few months 45 sets of *The Black and White Book Study Course* 'Creating the New Society' have been sold in Australia.

The Victorian Education Department (Visual Aids Branch) has purchased two copies which will be available on loan to schools. In Melbourne earlier this month a letter about the Course was sent to 33 chaplains who are appointed to the state high schools. A university chaplain is using it with his students.

An RAAF chaplain in New South Wales, says, 'I have found the course most useful—not only has it caused good discussion but it is impossible for anyone participating not to become involved and challenged on the personal level. I am looking forward to its continual use by myself and the other chaplains here.'

The Principal of a Catholic girls' secondary school in Melbourne is 'delighted with the course'. She shows the slides, asks the questions, and for homework gets the girls to do one of the suggested projects in verse or art. Recently she had got behind in geography and at the next lesson had intended to shelve the Course, but there were howls of protest from the class, who had *all* prepared their verse or picture. For 35 minutes they expressed the most creative ideas. As a result the Principal plans to collate some of these, and also plans to contribute an article on the Course to the magazine published by her Order.

In Perth Kim Beazley, Australian Minister for Education, spoke about the Course to Education Department officials, principals and teachers from 30 secondary schools. 'It is of first class importance,' he said, 'because it can train students in the highest quality of valid thinking. That can affect all subjects. It can affect, and decisively for the good, the whole quality of citizenship. People who go through this course may well gain a breadth of vision and a penetrating perception which will ensure that they are never buried beneath the boulder of routine, of immature self-centredness, of comfort or materialism. It will probably mean that the school with this idea becomes a school for statesmanship.'

Following Mr Beazley's address, four

high schools and five independent schools have purchased the Course and orders are expected from many other schools to whom demonstrations of its contents have been given.

Copies of the Italian edition of *The Black and White Book* (*Manuale Della Rivoluzione*) have arrived in Melbourne and are available at \$1 each. Copies in Chinese (60c), Greek, German, French and Welsh are also available from MRA Publications there.

from Queensland



The children write and stage a play

While some modern educators seem at their wits' end about adequately presenting Religious Instruction in schools, pupils of four R I classes in Mitchelton provided their own answers to their schoolmates and parents in Queensland.

Two hundred pupils, friends and parents packed out the Methodist Mitchelton Heights hall to hear and watch songs, music, a stage play and a full-length film which presented the idea that God is not only interested in their everyday lives, but can tell them what to do to make Australia a great country.

Pupil participation came from the 4th, 5th and 6th grades of two of the local primary schools and from senior grades of the Opportunity School. They had worked out with their R I teacher, and a committee from the local Methodist Mitchelton Heights, how to present and conduct the whole evening for their parents and friends.

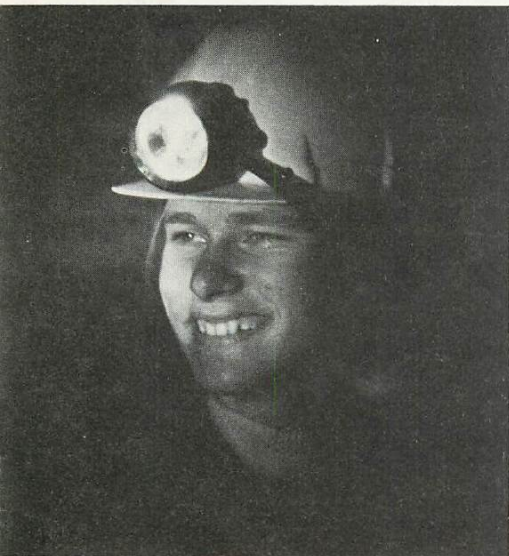
The stage play was enacted by the children, depicting an experiment made by two girls who came from different family backgrounds but who both felt their home was an unhappy one. They decided they would ask God how to help make it happy and would obey every thought that He gave them. This resulted in very interesting developments in both families.

After the play, the film *Give A Dog A Bone* was screened. This film is in the Queensland Education Department's film library but it is so much in demand that it was not available and a copy had to be hired direct from Melbourne. Admittance was by donation and despite the cost for the film hire, etc., there was still a net amount of \$24.00 to boost the children's appeal for 'Freedom From Hunger'.

Barbara Grove

colliery near Blyth

Photo: Almond



Brazilians in action— at home

YOUNG BRAZILIANS have just conducted a weekend conference at the MRA Centre in Petrópolis, in the mountains above Rio.

They convened the conference with the conviction that 'Brazil is called to continue giving God's healing answers to Latin America, Africa, Europe and the world in the future as it has done and is doing through the portworkers and the "favelados" (shanty-town dwellers)'.

In a letter of invitation for the weekend two themes were given, 'How can we discover God as a directing force in our lives?' and 'How can we bring the answers we find in our own lives to the leaders of our nations?'

40 people took part in the weekend which developed plans of action for the months ahead and led to decisions by those taking part.

A student nurse said, 'Some time ago I decided to call the patients by their first names and not just by the numbers of their beds. They need a lot more than just medicine. I want to thank you for the things I have learned here. They will help me save peoples' lives and pray with those who are dying. I am going to listen to God so as to know what to do for the world and for people around me.'

Every day

Many decided to take responsibility to bring Moral Re-Armament to their schools and colleges. One of the initiators of the weekend said that change for him started with clearing his room of pornographic literature and pictures and cutting out drinking and smoking in order to be free to care for others. 'Now I also realise that I will have to live every day to change my friends and not just when I am at this centre,' he said. 'When I showed the invitation for the weekend to my college teacher he conducted a whole lesson on it. Now he and a group of classmates want to come to the centre and learn more.'

and abroad

FOUR BRAZILIANS—one who had been a Trotskyite, one an undercover Communist, one a Right-wing political agent, and one an anti-Communist trade unionist—have covered over two thousand miles in England, Scotland and Wales.

Everywhere they spoke of the transformation MRA had brought to themselves, their families and their communities.

They are José Veras, former leader of the Tramway workers of Rio; Antonio Falcão, a portworker from Recife (*New World News*, Vol 22 No 38); Antonio Rodrigues, a construction worker from Salvador (*New World News*, Vol 22 No 41); and Nelson Marcellino de Carvalho, one of the founders of the Rio portworkers' union and a main character in the film *Men of Brazil*.

The three weeks in Britain followed visits to Portugal, Holland, Germany, Italy, France, and Switzerland where they attended the MRA world assembly.

They have met with trade unionists, MPs, civic officials, diplomats, dockers, miners, steel and shipbuilding workers, student leaders and professors, and Protestant and Catholic clergy.

Same family

In Bristol two of the party were received by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Albert Peglar, who had himself been a union official in the docks.

The Brazilians were invited to Bristol by Jack Carroll, a former chairman of the dockers, who had visited Brazil and Uruguay earlier this year as one of an MRA industrial delegation. The Brazilians told shop stewards from the Avonmouth Docks how they had been able to clear the debts in the Port of Recife and make the docks viable through an improvement in relations with management.

The visitors were welcomed to the Rhondda Valleys by the Mayor of the Rhondda, Councillor S F Tudball, and were received by officials of the National Union of Mineworkers in Pontypridd. They also met management and union men at the Barry Docks and at the Llanwern Steelworks.

'The destiny of the workers is to unite the world,' Falcão told his Welsh colleagues. 'We in Brazil are struggling desperately to rise up from under-development. But we do not want to see our neighbours in our continent suffering

poverty while we grow richer. Each of us is a member of the same family. There are many problems to solve. We need your help in order that moral and spiritual progress can accompany our economic and social development.'

To a trade union leader in Colchester, Veras said, 'This is the era of the ordinary man. We in Brazil look to Britain for an example. It was in your country that the trade union movement was born and also the co-operative movement and it was in Britain that Moral Re-Armament was launched. We expect that you will give a decisive lead now to the world.'

Shipyard workers in Port Glasgow were invited by Rodrigues to attend a conference which he and his colleagues are initiating around Easter at Petrópolis. 'Come and help us in the next step of our revolution,' he said.

Addressing a group of trade unionists in the motor industry in Birmingham, Nelson Marcellino de Carvalho said, 'Workers are thirsty for moral leadership. They are sick of lies and hate.' He said that he himself had been named Nelson by his father because of the respect that was felt for Lord Nelson and Britain. 'I am grateful for what Britain has given in my country and we need your help more than ever now.'

●THE FIFE FREE PRESS has reviewed Garth Lean's book *Good God, It Works!* (Blandford Press, hardback £2.25, paperback £1.20). The paper writes, 'This is an explosive book—explosive in its personal honesty, exploding with truth about our age and the lives of the people who make it and exploding also the misconceptions and false philosophies which are preventing it from being remade.'

The Journal of the Institute of Journalists writes, 'Lean has a knack of hitting the topical and relevant nerve—one that is hurting in the body politic. His book is timely when there is a growing demand for a moral regeneration in Britain and not simply a concentration on economics.'

After describing the contents of the book, the journalists' paper comments, 'As in all the stories there is vivid dialogue and the writing bears the marks of a master craftsman.'

●DAS FEUER (*The Fire*), the play by Hugh Steadman Williams, has been performed in Luzern, directed by Egon Karter. This 'serious comedy', as it is described, had its world première, in German, in the Caux theatre this summer. A well-known personality of the Swiss theatre said, 'It gave me a new idea of what it means to walk alone. It reminded me of the challenge of our Saint Niklaus von der Flüe.'

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