

## For left, right and centre:

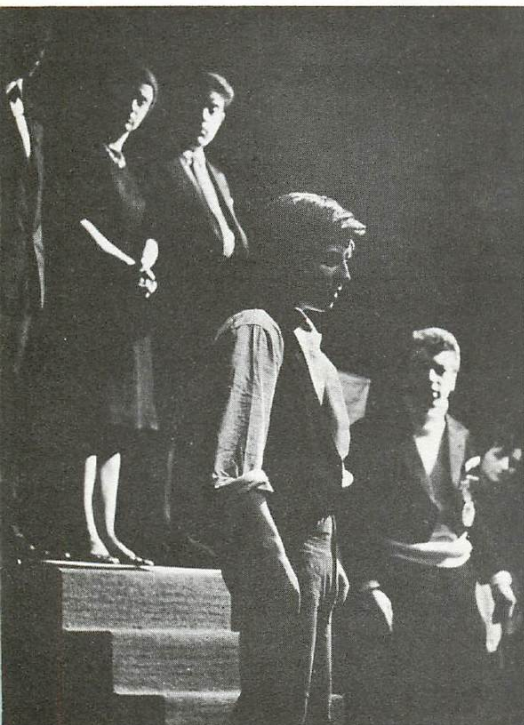
# HAVE THE CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST?

by H S Addison

'POLITICS,' said the man who cut my hair on the morning after the municipal elections, 'has become a dirty word.'

If he is right, then the word 'politics' will find itself in a distinguished company—'character, morals, patriotism, sacrifice, good faith.' All of these words have been steadily and systematically devalued for years—either by the smears of the few who have delib-

**Stockport youth produce 'The Ladder', see page 3**



erately set out to destroy the things they stand for or by the behavior of those who have paid lip-service to them, but have denied them by the manner of their lives.

Had they been honoured and respected, in deed as well as in word, my barber would not have had occasion to make that remark. The fact is, our chickens are coming home to roost.

We British have our own peculiar brand of materialism. It is not the fierce ideological passion of the Communist, who is prepared to sacrifice the comforts, the liberties and even the lives of one generation in order to build a material paradise for the next.

Nor is it the ruthless fanaticism of the technologist who is ready to subordinate the human needs of men today to the drive for a streamlined scientific society tomorrow.

We do not subscribe to the doctrine that the ends justify the means. There are even ends which we all regard as desirable, but to which we are not prepared to will the means because they disturb our immediate comforts. Like Macbeth, we are 'not without ambition, but without the illness should attend it.'

### Values

Deep in our hearts, we still believe that there are values in life more worthwhile than material things. It is a healthy conviction, which, fanned to a flame and rightly directed, could lead the world to sanity again.

Unfortunately, our brand of materialism leads us inevitably to the pursuit of expediency and the sacrifice

of principle. Of the Governments which ruled Britain between the wars Churchill wrote, 'They lived from hand to mouth and from day to day, and from one election to another, until when scarcely twenty years were out, the dread signal of the Second World War was given.'

### All to blame

So far, the fear of the nuclear bomb has saved us from a Third. But in our economic policies, our foreign policy, our immigration policy, we have pursued expediency and called it pragmatism. Today, when we are being forced to face the realities which we have avoided for years, we turn and rend the politicians. But we are all to blame, for we have all wanted what the politicians have given us, just as a generation ago we wanted peace even at the cost of Munich.

We British have in the past shown an astonishing capacity for recovering our will to work and sacrifice—but always and only when we have decided at last to turn and face reality, and to face it in terms of moral issues.

Twenty years ago Frank Buchman said, 'We have all lived too long in an atmosphere of imagining that security, prosperity, comfort and culture are natural to man. We forget the eternal struggle between Evil and Good, victory in which brings the blessings of security and prosperity. But defeat in this struggle, even ignorance of it, brings poverty, hunger,

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<sup>1</sup>Churchill, 'The Second World War', Volume 1, page 15.

# What ordinary men are doing

## IN INDIA

OVER THE YEARS Calcutta's expanding industry has attracted poor peasants. This overcrowded city has become even more densely populated by the constant stream of Hindu refugees from East Pakistan. If they do not want to die of starvation, millions have to live off their relatives or beg. Countless factories have recently closed their gates. A recession and a wave of strikes which were often inspired by a quest for political power (Peking oriented Communists have successfully tightened their grip on the masses) have caused this situation. Tremendous misery prevails in this city in which the average wages are considerably lower than in Bombay.

In these circumstances British MRA-trained trade unionists, currently in India, have given welcome help. Two successive West Bengal governments had in vain tried to end a seven months old lock-out which had deprived 9,000 families of their livelihood. The company had started this lock-out in retaliation to a strike. The unions had struck when the management had wanted to dismiss as redundant 1,750 workers. The company had been running into the red for a number of years.

The British met the president of the company. For two hours they talked with him. He took them into his confidence and showed them the balance sheets. John Mackenzie, Clydeside shipyard worker, told him plainly, 'This lock-out is wrong.'

The British also talked to one of the labour leaders who was on the workers' side in the dispute. This man reviewed his whole position on the basis of what was and not who was right. He came to the conclusion that he had made mistakes. He advised his members to accept the management's proposal that work begin again in phases spread out over the next five weeks. The parties agreed to submit their difference of opinion over the 1,750 workers to the arbitration of the Joint Labour Secretary.

The lock-out was ended. The Cal-



John Mackenzie

cutta daily, *The Statesman*, described the lock-out as the longest dispute in that troubled city's history. In Calcutta's seemingly hopeless situation this is like a shaft of light in the darkness.

Mackenzie and his British colleagues also talked at length with the chairman of the Calcutta Port Commissioners. They told him how employers and dockers, who started changing themselves first, had been instrumental in resolving deadlocks in the British ports.

## IN BRITAIN



Philip Grunsell

a sales manager for a North Midlands iron foundry, following a tour of the continent, decided to rectify this situation and to make all his promises with a view to reversing this national trend.

Later he gained a valuable order from a large firm on the basis of giving definite and speedy delivery. He informed his customer of his decision and included his colleagues and the sub-contractors. He told a conference

ARE businessmen liars? Our word is certainly doubted on the continent in view of the number of broken delivery promises.

Philip Grunsell,

in the Westminster Theatre on Industry this month that his firm had just completed this order right on time. Deadlines had all been met by the sub-contractors. As a result of the goodwill created, a much larger order had just been received.

## IN LEBANON

BEIRUT BUSINESSMEN have guaranteed £20,000 to David Mackie, an Aberdeen fish market porter, with which to buy a power-driven boat for the Lebanese fishing industry.

Surprised by this move Mackie asked, when he was in the Lebanon, why Beirut businessmen did not ask



David Mackie

assistance from foreign governments to build up the fishing industry of the country. Aid always had strings attached, was the reply.

The businessmen would rather raise the money to buy the boat that Mackie recommended for the Lebanese fishing industry. They trusted him, they said, because he was an ordinary individual who practised the principles of MRA.

Mackie told the Lebanese, when asked his views, that the Lebanese fishing industry would never recover unless the fishermen had large enough boats to fish in deep water further out to sea. They were only catching immature fish in the shallow waters in their row boats.

Mackie is now on the lookout for the right type of boat. A crew would also go to train the Lebanese in the latest techniques of Scottish fishing.

Mackie had visited Beirut and Tyre both on his way to India to work with Rajmohan Gandhi and the force of MRA and on his return journey.

# TEACHERS RETURN FROM UNIQUE ASIAN ASSIGNMENT

SOMEHOW Constance Smith is not the kind of person you would expect to see in a Himalayan village showing the film of a London pantomime to an audience of Tibetan refugees. Nor would you expect to hear her on Voice of Malaysia calling to China for a revolution of character.

You would more likely expect the retired Headmistress of Penrhos College to be cultivating herbaceous borders and select good causes in rural Essex. If this sounds ungenerous, it is at least what Miss Smith once expected herself.

## Year's tour

Teachers from many parts of Britain at a meeting in Westminster last Saturday got a new idea of the word retirement. Under the title 'Teachers East of Suez' Miss Smith and a younger colleague, Miss Jill Robbins, spoke of a year's world tour with a purpose. Only last Thursday they returned from a unique assignment which took them to Greece, Cyprus, Lebanon, Jordan, India, Ceylon, Singapore,

Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Hong Kong, India again, Pakistan, Iran and Kuwait.

'On a tour like this,' said Miss Robbins, 'you learn a tremendous amount about how much other countries expect of Britain. People are dismayed about our broken promises in the Far East, but everywhere they still expect us to give a moral lead.'

And the purpose of their journey? To answer an appeal to Moral Re-Armament from government and education authorities in Ceylon, Malaysia and other countries for the audio-visual aids to build national character at school level.

So it was that they showed the film *Give a Dog a Bone* to more than 30,000 children in 15 countries. After the premiere in Malaysia a cabinet minister who was attending with his eight-year-old daughter said, 'You show it to the children, and the parents get the point.' In five countries they were asked to speak on the national radio. And in India they worked from Panchgani, near Poona,

where an Asian Training Centre for Moral Re-Armament is arising under the leadership of Rajmohan Gandhi.

At Manila in the Philippines the two teachers were astonished to be greeted by a band at the Airport. 'It started us off on a gay unlikely note which lasted for three weeks,' said Constance Smith. 'During this time we showed *Give a Dog a Bone* often four times a day. We found how deeply many teachers and parents wanted to fight for honesty in the country, and we saw how the schools could play a part.' The children who saw the film contributed in small amounts the equivalent of £208, which has now bought a copy for the Philippine schools.

In coming weeks Miss Smith and Miss Robbins will be speaking in various parts of Britain. They are keen to raise support for the next phase of the Panchgani buildings. But they are also looking for more teachers to go East of Suez with more films, especially the coming French film of *Give a Dog a Bone*. PETER EVERINGTON

# STUDENTS GO BEYOND DEMONSTRATIONS

THE STUDENT ACTION in Britain, the United States, East and West Europe will increase, said Steve Dickinson, Rhodes Scholar from Oxford, just back from two years in Germany.

He said at an MRA assembly in the Westminster Theatre that a small group of students, Marxist, anarchist and some who simply want to see changes, had been working together for 15 years or more. 'They have succeeded in getting the students to demonstrate and take action but I do not think they are succeeding in giving them a purpose which will last the whole of their lives.' He continued, 'Many of us on this platform have a purpose to last the whole of our lives no matter what job or career we go into. I have made the commitment to take on the students of the world.'

William Jaeger, an internationally known authority on labour, said about the current wave of demonstrations, 'I do not blame the people who demonstrate. I blame the establishment who often never change. Every militant needs the answer of Moral Re-Armament and the establishment

needs a revolutionary change.'

Commenting on the production at the conference of Peter Howard's play *The Ladder* by Stockport youth, Jaeger said, 'People can demonstrate but what does it do unless they can give the quality and depth of change shown by your production. It was sensitive and mature. If you take the production through Lancashire and Cheshire, you could answer any deadlock.'

David Lodge, the producer, and members of the cast—from the Offer-ton Methodist Youth Club—said the play had changed their lives and attitudes to other people.

## Summer conference

George Williams, Student Representative of the Westminster Theatre, said a programme was underway of visiting the Universities and colleges of Europe. 'Any students who want to see things different will get a chance of going to the Moral Re-Armament World Centre at Caux, Switzerland, this summer.' Conferences will include those scheduled from

May to September on Medicine, Industry, Education, Europe's global task and three 3-week courses entitled 'Training for Responsible Leadership in the Modern World'.

William Evans, Oxford University freshman, said a group of students at Oxford had decided to be responsible for the future. 'In practice it means getting up at 6.30 in the morning and listening to the deepest things in our hearts. Then meeting before breakfast to tell each other the thoughts we have had. We have revolutionary planning sessions to hammer out some of the problems of our age which we think is the contribution universities ought to make,' he said.

Another student, from St. Anne's College, Hilary Belden, told of her decision for God to use her life in any way He wanted. 'That is what I believe we have to offer,' she said.

Two German students had flown to London to attend the conference. Rolf Neuhaus from Essen said, 'I know that I cannot build a new society without changing and putting right what is wrong with my life.'

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slavery and death.' (*Remaking the World*, page 163)

We can yet carry our country into the technological era with efficiency and compassion. We can build a multi-racial society in our land which will be an example to the rest of mankind. A unique and distinctive role awaits us in the modern world. Our problems can be our opportunities. Like Wordsworth's Happy Warrior, we can 'turn our necessity to glorious gain.'

But to do so we shall have to re-discover a faith in God which we are rapidly losing, and a character which is being corroded by materialism and undermined by moral nihilism. For years our leaders have studiously ignored these factors. We can no longer ignore them and survive.

### Practical experience

Moral Re-Armament restores absolute moral standards in a day when selfishness and expediency are the common practice of men and nations. It does so not by moral exhortation but by personal example and practical experience. Sunday by Sunday from the stage of the Westminster Theatre ordinary men and women are presenting the evidence—evidence from their own experience, evidence which is always fresh—of an answer to the drift and laziness, the class bitterness and race hatred which are ruining us; evidence of delivery dates achieved, of productivity agreements which actually result in increased productivity, of people of different races working harmoniously together to build a new society, of ordinary Britons voluntarily giving a leadership which the whole world welcomes.

The message of Moral Re-Armament is old-fashioned—as old-fashioned as the Christian gospel. It is costly, as costly as the Cross. It is bound to be unpopular with some—because it insists on absolute moral standards and the need for a change of heart, beginning with oneself.

### Expedients exhausted

It happens also to be God's truth, on which compromise is unthinkable and which is bound to prevail. It is the power of God which can bring—and is bringing—the miracle of a moral and spiritual revolution to men and nations. It is God's answer to a world which has exhausted every human expedient.

# French and British in frank exchange of ideas

THE RELATIONSHIP between Britain and France is a matter of concern everywhere. Rajmohan Gandhi, in a foreword to the newly published book of Peter Howard's speeches, *Africa's Hour*, includes France and Britain in his list of the world's sore places, along with Nigeria, Cyprus and other places. We Europeans may view it differently, but this perspective from Asia must make us take the situation seriously.

This was the setting for a lunch held in 45 Berkeley Square last week. With Sir Hamilton Kerr, former Chairman of the Anglo-French Committee in the British Parliament, 50 people sat down for 'An exchange of ideas on Britain and France in a changing world'.

Nine people flew over specially from France for the occasion to meet British MPs from the two major parties, people from business and finance and members of the French and Canadian Embassies in London.

### Crystallised

Mrs Brian Boobbyer, one of the organisers of the lunch, asked, 'Can Britain give a soul back to Europe?' Her question was taken from a front page article in *Le Figaro* by the economist, Raymond Aron. It crystallised, she said, what many in Europe expected from Britain—not merely an economic or technological contribu-

tion, but one of character and integrity.

A member of the British Parliament said the argument about the Common Market was on too small an issue. 'When one is at the UN they always say, "Why doesn't Europe give a voice?" We hear the voice of African and Asian communities, where is the voice of Europe? We do represent something. I believe in one European voice which you are working to see expressed.'

### Timely

Bertrand Denis, deputy from La Mayenne in the French Parliament said the occasion was timely and spoke of France's own needs and internal problems.

A letter from General Ely, former Chief of Staff of the French forces, was read to the lunch party by Comte d'Hauteville, an engineer from Paris. The letter said, 'There are certainly forces at work which are trying to destroy this great beloved country (Britain), and incidentally to destroy all the ties which sentimentally or otherwise unite us to her.'

'Everything you have done, everything you are doing to improve relations between our two countries is good.'

D'Hauteville spoke about the suspicions harboured, the old scores unsettled, which coloured the attitude of many Frenchmen. He said he had got rid of deep resentments towards Britain through the help and friendship of a British diplomat.

Speakers said at the lunch that both the British and the French needed to overcome their rivalry and criticism of each other so they could work together in resolving deadlocks in so many parts of the world.

Other men who came specially from France were Robert Carmichael, until recently President of the French and European Jute Industry, Philippe Graff of the French Railways and Admiral Peltier.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

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MEETING  
Sunday 26 May 11am  
NEW HORIZONS FOR EDUCATION  
Westminster Theatre  
London

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