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**THE MODERN IDEA by Peter Howard**

*This address by Mr. Howard, made in Newcastle upon Tyne on 9 November, is now available as a pamphlet*

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# NATION CAN UP PRODUCTION 25%, SAY UNION MEN

A 25 PER CENT increase in national production is 'possible and practical', claims Mr. Harry Moncrieff, consultant architect for seven London boroughs.

Coventry building site workers had raised production 30 per cent, he said. Contractors in Bristol and Glasgow had done the same. His own firm had pushed up their output by 50 per cent in the first ten months of this year.

Changes in men and methods had brought these results. Reproduced nationally they could help Britain build not 400,000 but 500,000 houses a year.

Mr. Moncrieff, with trade unionists from different parts of the British Isles, was speaking at a Conference for Moral Re-Armament in London last week.

'A great nation has been failing to meet the needs of its people in housing and in education; to eliminate poverty in the midst of plenty; to push up the exports and industrial production to the levels they should be; to create unity in Europe and in the Commonwealth and to inspire its people with a sense of purpose,' he said.

'Many of my friends in the Labour Party think that if the Conservatives have failed it naturally follows that Labour will succeed. It is not as simple as that.'

**'One million slums'**

Mr. Moncrieff said that the last government had thought there were half a million slums to clear. But a survey by the Town and Country Planning Association, published last August, put the figure at one million.

'Even at policy level we have errors of this size. We scale down what we ought to do to what we think we can comfortably manage. We act as though we are short of resources. What we are short of is imagination and courage and the care for other people's needs that will keep us fighting on when our own have been met.

'Many professional men like myself want to solve technical problems without getting involved with the hearts and minds of men—the real battle to get the job done.'

Labour would succeed if it could do three things:

1. Create a united nation;
2. Release creative energies and will to work in men;
3. Push up production figures week by week.

Mr. Moncrieff said he was passionately opposed to

*Continued over*

## *Claw-hammer for 'bed of nails'*

'A bed of nails' was Mr. Ray Gunter's description of his post as Minister of Labour. MRA is a claw-hammer extracting the nails and making that bed a springboard for a prosperous, purposeful nation.

This is the view of men and women in industry, who last week reported how they were cutting down disputes and unemployment and stepping up production.

'We have had a change of Government through the ballot box,' said John Hazel, Secretary of the Cumnock miners. 'Now we need a change of heart and mind through Moral Re-Armament, which would make the economy of the country really work.'

Economic measures were important, these men said. Injustice must be axed. But legislation would never cope with the £1,000 million lost in bad workmanship yearly, the orders lost through failing to keep delivery dates and class war fought from top and bottom.

'National prosperity means a revolution in thought and effort among workers and employers,' wrote the *Daily Mirror*. David Jarvie, a foreman at the British Motor Corporation, Bathgate, Scotland and Ron Howe, Deputy Convenor at Petro-Chemicals, Manchester, are two of thousands who have experienced such a double revolution.

Jarvie says, 'British industry is sick. It needs a shot in the arm or a pill or penicillin. That penicillin is MRA. We have tried it at Bathgate. It works.'

Howe says, 'If Mr. Gunter examines the work and weapons of Moral Re-Armament he will find a great ally in creating the new national spirit industry needs.'

class privilege and wealth accumulated without work. But Labour could not succeed if many supporters waged class war, and some wanted to destroy the national economy. 'Hate is not a good building material,' he said.

His own father, a tailor and pioneer Socialist, believed in the brotherhood of man, 'not just the brotherhood of men who agreed with him'.

'My father also believed in the fatherhood of God. It gave him a Socialism above class. He never wrote anyone off. He blew on the divine spark he felt was in every man. He got poor people, millionaire Conservative M.P., tenant or landlord—to behave differently.

'We should take on such big, exciting tasks together, for this nation and for the world, that it becomes unthinkable to dissipate creative energy in pre-marital sex, drink, gambling or sitting glued to the telly.'

Mr. Moncrieff told everyone: 'Think out office by office, factory by factory, industry by industry, what you have to do to increase production for Britain.'

## COVENTRY BUILDING WORKER SPEAKS

THE Chairman of the Building Trades workers of Coventry, Mr. Les Dennison, told the Conference he was proud that a local M.P., Mr. Richard Crossman, was Minister of Housing. The building trade workers supported him, he said. 'But our industry must have the answer to bitterness and class struggle. Give it Moral Re-Armament.'

500,000 houses could be built annually if men and management on the building sites fought for 'what is right not who is right'.

'This was a change for me,' he said, 'because invariably I thought I was right. It started with getting things straight with the site agent.'

Honesty in work and negotiations had welded teams of workers. On one site it led to a 30 per cent increase in production. Bonuses rose proportionately. 'With this spirit plus new industrialised building techniques,' said Dennison, 'we could answer the housing problems of the world.'

## CURB CULTURAL 'RACHMANS'

PHYLLIS KONSTAM, the actress, urged Miss Jennie Lee, Government member responsible for art and culture, to curb 'moral Rachmans' in the entertainment world.

'I am sure Miss Lee is against Rachmanism and the wicked disgrace of slum landlordism,' Miss Konstam told the Conference. 'I beg of her to be as drastic in dealing with the moral Rachmanism now sold to the public under the label of great art.'

'Any good government should encourage artists whose ideas upbuild the energy, the unity and what Mr. Wilson calls the moral purpose of the nation,' she said. 'We cannot tell artists what to write. But just as we can prevent the wicked selfishness of a Rachman, so we need to speak up against the selfishness of the artist who creates the moral slums and who also exploits his fellow men.

'We need an art that experiments boldly with greatness rather than old-fashioned decadence dressed up as progress.

'Miss Lee will have the millions of mothers in Britain behind her if she will have the courage to face the fact that it is as important what you feed the minds of the public as what you feed their stomachs.'

# ONE PER CENT HOUSING LOAN

by JOHN VICKERS

*Managing Director, Benjamin R. Vickers & Sons Ltd., Leeds oil firm*

WHEN Mr. Harold Wilson came to Leeds in February this year I wrote him a letter. I said many Yorkshire industrialists and workers wanted to know: did the Labour Party recognize that among all the policies for re-shaping and developing our society, it is the issues of character which must be tackled if the policies are to work?

I told him that, although we were 25 per cent busier in our firm than the year before, we felt deeply the plight of thousands of school-leavers and men who were unemployed in the north-east, Scotland and Ireland. When the country had faced an earlier recession, I said, we had created six per cent more jobs as our practical contribution.

Our Staff Benefit Trust, created by transfer of capital and built up year by year by grants out of profit, loans money to our staff and factory force for buying better houses. Its rate of interest is not the usual six, but one per cent. Mr. Wilson wrote very warmly in reply.

As a Managing Director I am fighting—and getting others to fight—to end every aspect of class war and false privilege on the management side. I want to get men in industry who see, beyond class war, that we are brothers.

Men who are free of bitterness and class war can stop the looming avalanche of race war.

Britain must increase exports. We have the orders for our oils for textile processing and ships. They are ready to go to many countries. But the docks must be freed of congestion and conflict, antiquated equipment and attitudes, to deliver them on time. We exporters will back government efforts, in Whitehall or on wharfside, to modernise machinery and get muscles, minds and goods moving.

# Modernisation: making Britain Christian

MR. PETER HOWARD, speaking recently in Newcastle upon Tyne, said Britain needed a 'Camelot of Christ'. He termed it 'a Round Table of men equal under God, undivided by colour, by viewpoint, by prejudice, by class, but united in the chivalry of the determination to put right what was wrong throughout the kingdom'. (Camelot was the scene of King Arthur's Round Table.)

The Round Table he called for, said Howard, would be a society:

'united in its determination to serve with manpower and money the needs of the nation;

'united in its refusal to allow any separation of bitterness about the past, or fear of the future to come between its citizens;

'where families stick together, where men and women are pure before and after marriage;

'where contracts are completed on time because of the right spirit between labour and management and within the ranks of labour and within the ranks of management;

'where the quality of goods produced beats the quality of goods produced anywhere else in the world.'

It would need Moral Re-Armament to do it, said Howard. 'It is the issue of the hour and the challenge of our times. It is God's weapon for the day. And God's philosophy for the century.

'Moral Re-Armament is neither Left nor Right. It is for God and against godlessness. Its purpose is to enlist every political party and every voter in the supreme task of making Britain Christian. That is its programme of modernisation. And if MRA wins, Britain will lead the whole world in every sphere of human progress. We can experience the shining hours of a shining society.'

Mr. Howard was speaking at a luncheon in the Old Assembly Rooms on the invitation of Alderman Nicholas Garrow and Sir Robin Chapman. Alderman Garrow is Chairman of Northumberland County Council.

# Commonwealth Challenge

A VENTURE that can affect the future of the Commonwealth has started in London. Its initiator is 25-year-old Patrick Colquhoun (Eton and Trinity College, Oxford). He says: 'The Commonwealth is meant to pattern for mankind the art of nations living together in unity and in freedom. The diversity of race, colour, development and culture is our greatest asset.' He believes the achievement of this depends on the training given to future Commonwealth leaders who come to Britain to study.

He has launched a training course under the title *Commonwealth Challenge*. Men and women from 24 countries have so far enrolled.

For further information write to W. P. Colquhoun, Commonwealth Challenge, 4 Hays Mews, London, W.1.

The aims of *Commonwealth Challenge* are:

Bold men who in freedom are passionate to cure corruption and end exploitation of every kind.

Statesmen whose guide is conscience, not expedience, in public and private affairs.

Patriots who love home and homeland as well as humanity.

There have been speakers on: Asia's Challenge to Africa; Australia's Role in Asia; Wanted—A New Leadership. Future topics are: Development of Strategy for World Revolution; The New Type of Commonwealth. These talks will be published. Films are shown. The course finances itself from enrolment fees and contributions.

# New Voice from Asia

PRIME MINISTER SHASTRI, who visits Britain for the first time on 3 December, has a harder task than Nehru or Gandhi—that of keeping India free from a China armed with the atomic bomb.

So wrote Rajmohan Gandhi in the first issue of *Himmat*, the national weekly he has started, on 6 November.

An apprehensive Shastri, jubilant Mao and dominant mushroom cloud filled *Himmat's* cover. 'If we are to counter China's bid to control the world,' wrote Gandhi, 'we must match it with our own bid to reshape the world, including China; reshaping it not to extend India's suzerainty but to end, under God, man's exploitation of man everywhere.'

*Himmat's* subtitle is 'Asia's New Voice'. It looks like the *New Statesman* or *Spectator*. An editorial said: '*Himmat* (which means "audacity") will not stop at explaining the world. It will try to change it.'

Corruption, high prices, the Kerala crisis and Should India make the Bomb? were subjects dealt with in the first number.

In Delhi and other big cities the new paper was soon sold out. Agents doubled their orders for the next issue. In Bombay it is the largest-selling weekly magazine after *Illustrated Weekly of India* and *Blitz*.

Unlike most newspapers in India, *Himmat** is politically and economically independent. It is owned by Himmat Publications Trust, by whose rules no-one can make a profit out of the paper.

**Himmat's* subscription rate in Europe and Africa is £1 10s. p.a (airmail £4). Subscriptions should be sent to *Himmat* Weekly 13 Advent, Foreshore Road, Bombay 1.

# Olympic Dialogue

THE Russians stood around bored: official Olympic speeches at a Tokyo reception. Suddenly they moved forward and listened. An American gold medallist was speaking.

John Sayre, oarsman at the 1960 Rome Olympics, said, 'The greatest task of sportsmen is to build a new type of man for a new world'.

After the reception the Russians gathered round John Sayre and his Olympic rowing colleague 'Rusty' Wailes.

Russian official: What do you do?

American oarsman: We work with Moral Re-Armament. Our task is to take the hundred million youth of America and give them a direction and purpose adequate to cure what is wrong in our nation and the world.

Russian: Are there many Americans like you so intent upon curing the wrongs in the U.S.?

American: We plan to train ten thousand youth in 1965 at the MRA conference centre. This year we had two thousand.

Russian: Anyone who is not concerned with the youth is a fool. They are the future. Can you bring such youth to the Soviet Union?

American: We have not been invited, but hope to bring a force of MRA youth to your country.

Russian: Young Americans are coming to Russia by thousands now.

American: Yes, but those who go have no plan for the Soviet Union, while the Soviet Union has a plan for them.

Russian: Yes, we have a very great plan. Soviet and American youth ought to be working together.

American: We agree, but we believe neither Western democracy nor Communism are adequate enough aims. Both have failed. Class war and hate can only lead to atomic war. Russian and American youth together must find an aim big enough to include every class, every race, every nation and enlist them in the building of a world that works.

Russian: How is your work financed?

American: By the gifts and sacrifices of ordinary people who believe in it. We work without salary.

The conversation ended and the three men drove back to the Olympic Village. Sayre and Wailes later met other Soviet athletes. The Russians attempted without success to win the Americans to their ideas. 'You have a solid basis for revolution,' they admitted.

# 'Hurricane' in Caribbean

'VOICE OF THE HURRICANE,' starring Muriel Smith, will be seen in the next four months in Jamaica, Barbados, Curacao, the Windward and Leeward Isles, and in 40 cinemas in the interior of Trinidad and British Guiana.

It will be accompanied by *Steelband Variety*, a documentary film on the visit of the National Steelband of Trinidad and Tobago to last summer's Conference for Tomorrow's America.

Introducing the South American première in Georgetown, British Guiana, on 5 November, Conrad Hunte, the West Indies' cricketer, said, 'This film declares for all time that the true conflict is not between race and race, class and class, but between right and wrong in human hearts'.

Three nights later, the film opened across the border in Surinam. Hunte introduced the première in Paramaribo, capital of the Dutch territory.

The film was shown in the Star Theatre, the finest in the Eastern Caribbean.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Vienna**—The Austrian Chancellor, Dr. Josef Klaus, attended the première of *Through the Garden Wall.*

**Caux**—34,603 people in the canton of Vaud, including 141 mayors, have signed an appeal to the cantonal government asking them to recognize that MRA is in the public interest and to give up its plan to tax gifts to Caux. The number of signatures is the biggest in the canton's history. Eighty-one members of the Swiss Federal Assembly, and two former Presidents of Switzerland, sent a further appeal.

**Dartmouth, U.S.A.**—Fifty-five colleges in the U.S. and Canada have invited Peter Howard to speak. He began his tour by addressing 900 students of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire.

**Helsinki**—This week *Voice of the Hurricane* began showings throughout Finland. The distributor is Suomi-filmi, the country's biggest film company.

**Edinburgh**—'Compelling to watch and relevant to listen to,' said *The British Weekly* of *Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill*, which ends its Westminster Theatre run on 28 November.

'MANY a spiritual movement has expired with its founder, but Moral Re-Armament is made of more durable stuff. Three years after the death of Frank Buchman, MRA feels as assured as ever that it will conquer the world with its four absolutes: honesty, purity, unselfishness and love.'

*Time*, 30 October, 1964

SIR, We were impressed by your 30 October article on Moral Re-Armament. It helps the world make a right evaluation of the movement. Moral Re-Armament is Japan's next logical step for national and international life.

NAKA FUNADA,
Speaker, House of Representatives.

KISABURO YOKOTA,
Chief Justice.

ADMIRAL ICHIDZO SUGIE,
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

NOBUSUKE KISHI,
former Prime Minister.

*Time*, 13 November, 1964

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