

A Star in India's North-East

from Sydney Cook
New Delhi

TURA lies in the Garo Hills of Upper Assam. It is a small town, to which the main road from the State capital of Shillong is impassable, even for jeeps, in bad weather.

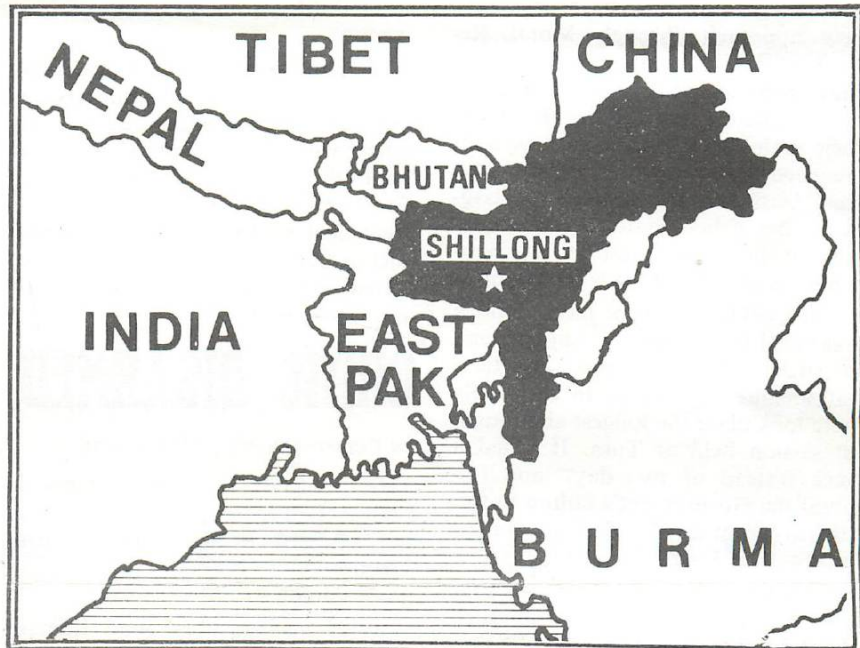
It is also the place where the APHLC (All Party Hill Leaders' Conference) holds its sessions. Capt Williamson Sangma, APHLC Chairman, comes from there.

On 15 October the first—and lengthy—news item on All India Radio was from Tura. The announcer said that after a two day session the Conference had unanimously adopted a resolution accepting the Government of India's offer of an autonomous Hill State.

'To apprise the Government' of certain 'shortcomings and anomalies' a committee of four had been appointed to go to Delhi at the end of October, consisting of Capt Sangma, Mr Stanley Nichols-Roy (APHLC Secretary), Professor G G Swell, MP for the hill areas, and Mr B B Lyngdoh (legal expert). The launching of non-violent direct action (passive resistance) was to be held 'in abeyance'.

The most significant sentence in the resolution read: 'Having fully considered public opinion in the hill areas, the political realities in the country, and the larger interests of the country as a whole, the conference resolves to give the autonomous Hill State plan a fair trial.'

Yet only two months ago the *Hindustan Times* was writing of 'the wreckage of the Home Ministry's ill-fated reorganisation plan for Assam.' Four months ago it was said that Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai would resign rather than give any kind of hill state. Assam's Chief Minister, Mr B P Chaliha, said he and the Assam Government could not accept the new state. The APHLC leaders feared violence from their own followers,



Map by courtesy of 'HIMMAT'

similar to the bloodshed and hate of the Naga and Mizo uprisings, should the granting of the State be delayed.

The Government in Delhi knew what was at stake. China plans to make Assam a new Vietnam. After training Nagas and Mizos in guerilla warfare she would like to subvert the men of the Garo, Jaintia and Khasi Hills, which will form the new State. Assam is India's vital defence border, where she needs a loyal and contented people.

Now the APHLC spoke of 'the larger interests of the country as a whole.'

What star had arisen in India's North-East?

A new approach

In January of this year Stanley Nichols-Roy brought a delegation of over thirty from Shillong to the opening assembly of the new Asian Centre for Moral Re-Armament at Panchgani, near Poona. They travelled four days there and four days back.

Nichols-Roy said of his time there: 'I decided to think, not just for the



Stanley Nichols-Roy

photo Lancaster

Hill State, not just for Assam, but for India and the world. I decided to listen to God and obey, and to put right many things that were wrong in my own life and in the life of my part of the country.'

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On 6 October, after attending another Panchgani assembly with a delegation which included his whole family, he told a *Sunday Standard* reporter: 'If the hills people are given the responsibility of statehood, we will have a new relationship with the Assamese people. More important than just attaining political rights will be the new way of life that we demonstrate through our lives.'

'I am grateful that we have seen a new approach through Moral Re-Armament. Men of conviction, of faith, men who will put the interests of the country and the people before their desire to line their own pockets are needed. I pray that we get such men. Ours may not become the largest or the richest State, but we could make it the most honest and the best-run State in India. That is our destiny.'

The APHLC leaders have done a great deal to win popular support and to swing Delhi's opinion by their statesmanlike approach. In early July there took place the longest and toughest session held at Tura. It lasted a week instead of two days, and followed the Government's failure to fulfil their promise of a decision on the Hill State in June.

The conference resolved to give Delhi further time—again in the interests of the country as a whole. Capt Sangma told reporters: 'Hate only breeds hate. Violence produces more violence.' That attitude won editorials of commendation in nearly all the main papers.

Chief Minister Chaliha likewise showed his statesmanship when the autonomous State was finally announced by Delhi on 13 September. He and the State Government, like the APHLC, decided to accept the plan and to give it 'a fair trial'.

'The only silver lining'

When APHLC volunteers, a few days before the announcement, started a peaceful picketing of State Government buildings in Shillong, Chaliha saw to it that there was no provocation by Government employees or police. One day the demonstrations ended with Stanley Nichols-Roy addressing a large crowd on Gandhian non-violence under the statue of the Mahatma.

On several occasions in recent months Chaliha and Nichols-Roy have spoken together at meetings. In one of his speeches the Chief Minister des-

NEXT PHASE OF FILMING UNDERWAY

EXACTLY ON SCHEDULE, the filming of *Happy Deathday* was completed on Friday afternoon, 25 October. After five weeks of location shooting, much of it in the open air, 110 minutes of colour film are 'in the can'. With the vagaries of the English autumn weather, many of the film unit were describing this achievement as a miracle.

Now the work on the film enters its next phase—in the cutting rooms where Tom Oliver, the film's editor, will put the completed sequences together with the director, Henry Cass. Tom Oliver was one of the editors of *Guns of Navarone*. He has worked a great deal in TV films and was producing filmed programmes for Associated Television in the very early

days of that company's history.

Meanwhile Oscar-winning composer Brian Easedale is writing and orchestrating the music for the film. Easedale won his Academy Award for the music of *Red Shoes*. Last year, on the invitation of John Caulfeild, he composed the music for the final sequence of the European musical revue, *Anything to Declare?*

Speaking at the Westminster Theatre last Sunday, Dr Bryan Hamlin, a member of the fund-raising committee, announced that the £32,100 so far raised for the film would pay the bills for phase one. The final £13,000 would now need to be raised to finance this second phase and the other operations needed to complete the first colour print.

CRITIC DISARMED

Le Figaro reviews *Clémentine*

THE LARGEST morning paper in France, *Le Figaro*, published 23 October a review of the satire by Jean-Jacques Odier, *Pitié pour Clémentine*, now running in Paris.

'With inexhaustible good humour and a delightfully mischievous repartee,' writes the paper's critic, 'this musical comedy expresses truths which are simple—but so often neglected—about the world's folly and the way to cure it.'

cribed Moral Re-Armament as 'the only silver lining on a dark horizon'.

Delhi, too, is to be congratulated on its solution, which goes far towards meeting the aspirations of the hill people while keeping the security needs of the region in view. Perhaps the Centre (central government) has caught something of the new spirit.

A moderate leader from the Mizo hills (which may one day join the new State) who has suffered, with his family, at the hands of extremists among his own people, says: 'But for MRA there would be violence and bloodshed in the hills of Assam today.'

The Hill State may not be ratified till June 1969, but already the new star in India's North East is flashing a message of sanity and a new way of doing things for China and all the world to see.

'A small imaginary state, recently independent, entrusts the direction of its affairs to Clémentine, an electronic computer, alone able to organise the ideal world of Candide. It, however, lacks human sensitivity and the social conflict which upturns the country only finds its solution in a generosity of hearts and minds.'

The critic praises the play's author, Jean-Jacques Odier, for 'his sensitive and gently ironic dialogue. He has above all an incontestable musical talent. Most of the tunes which punctuate the story could become popular.'

'Such a degree of fervour, smiles and purity disarm the critic.'

L'Humanité, the Communist Party daily, includes the European Revue *Il Est Permis de se Pencher au Dehors*, in its list of recommended shows.

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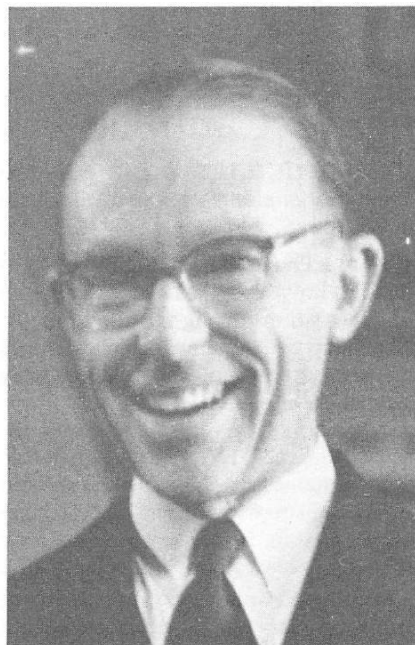
'They fought the good fight,
they finished their course,
they kept the faith.'

JOHN AND ELISABETH CAULFEILD

John and Elisabeth Caulfeild lost their lives in the mountains of the Tessin in Switzerland on 20 October. John Caulfeild evidently suffered a heart attack while they were on a mountain walk. His wife, hurrying to find help as the mists were coming down, slipped and had a fatal fall.

Mr Caulfeild was a member of both the Council of Management of Moral Re-Armament in Britain and the Caux Foundation in Switzerland. His wife came from the de Mestral family of Berne. They were married in Berne Cathedral in 1948.

Michael Henderson sent this report of last Saturday's Service in Montreux.



photos Strong

A WARM AUTUMN SUN bathed the Dents du Midi and the autumn tinted mountain sides and brightened the Lake of Geneva. Beneath the 600-year-old vaulted stone roof of the Montreux church the chancel was ablaze with colour from wreaths and bouquets, large and small, many decked with streamers from different countries. Three hundred men and women were singing full-hearted—some in English, some in French, some in German—the hymn, 'Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices'. They had come from all over Europe to say goodbye to two friends, John and Elisabeth Caulfeild.

'They were truly the salt of the earth,' said the Reverend Philippe de Mestral, cousin of Elisabeth, conducting the funeral service in French. 'To them each individual, humble or great, was a child of God. They fought the good fight, they finished their course, they kept the faith.'

Professor Theophil Spoerri, of the Caux Foundation, and Kenneth Belden, representing Mr Caulfeild's colleagues on the Council of Management of Moral Re-Armament in Britain, expressed the gratitude of all for this Anglo-Swiss couple who had laid down their lives to bring God's truth to nations.

Members of the cast of the European revue *Anything to Declare?* had come overnight after a performance in Paris to sing the Twenty-third Psalm and 'The Old Rugged Cross'.

After the service the congregation

moved in procession up to Glion, the hillside village below Caux looking out over one of the loveliest views in Switzerland. Here the Reverend Alfred Kunz joined the Reverend de Mestral to conduct part of the burial service in German.

The Caulfeilds were laid to rest beside the body of John's father, distinguished general in India.

Among the hundreds who sent messages to Catherine, their daughter, were many who had been trained by the Caulfeilds this summer at Caux. 'We can never forget their care for us and the Caux courses which changed the whole purpose of our lives,' cabled students from Ethiopia. Other African students in Eastern Europe sent the message, 'Their shining example will live forever. Their leadership and friendship showed us the way all men are meant to live. We take on their battle.'

John and Elisabeth were guardians in Europe of Prince Philip, grandson of the Emperor of Ethiopia. He and members of the Ethiopian Embassy were present and a message of

condolences from His Imperial Majesty was read.

The cross section of people represented by the messages which arrived were moving testimony to the effect of one family on the lives of all they met—from all parts of the United States where they lived and worked for many years and where John served in the army; and from Canada, South America, from Germany and from France, where whole families speak of the new direction given their lives, the new incentives given their industries; from Australasia and from Asia and particularly India, where John was born and where his sister is now working with Rajmohan Gandhi.

One message from London to Catherine was from Henry Cass and those working on the filming of Peter Howard's play *Happy Deathday*. 'They leave behind a great heritage not least in the world of writing and the theatre in which your father gave a prophetic lead, and of home-making of which they were a pattern and example.'

Others who spoke included M Robert Carmichael, Mr Loudon Hamilton and Miss Neerja Chowdhury.

A letter arrived in Caux for Mr Jacques Duckert. It was written by his 17-year-old son from Paris. It had been sealed just before the news reached him of the Caulfeilds' death. In a message scribbled on the back of the envelope, he wrote:

'I have just heard the news of John and his wife Elisabeth and I feel how

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'My decision in honour of the Caulfeilds'

WOLDEMICHAEL ABRAHA, an Ethiopian student, said in Caux after the Service:

I have known Mr Caulfeild for two months only and I have shared much of his wisdom during the three weeks' leadership course. It was the best music in our ears when he spontaneously started calling each one of us by our name. They were very difficult and unfamiliar names, Ethiopian names, Jordanian names and Swiss names, and he said them with bright and promising smiles in his face. This was my first impression about his way of life.

Another important thing I learnt from him was the art of listening. He regarded and respected our elementary ideas, even cared for our details. As a result, every one of us put faith in him as a great teacher, father in hope. He taught us discipline. We learned how to time our work. He told us the art of fulfilling our duty at the right moment and at the right place.

I remember once when John Caulfeild found out the fact that the Ethiopian delegates belonged to different religions, language and various parts of Ethiopia, he said, 'You could be a united force'. That is really an answer. And for several hours he worked with us on a strategy we could take to our country. And at the same time he wanted us to have a wide vision of the world. I remember my Jordanian friends were very much concerned about their country and Mr Caulfeild comes into the matter and going deeper into the hearts of the participants, deeper into the problems of our respective countries and helped us to see wide beyond our country.

I never realized I could get a satisfactory training within three weeks. It was a spiritual transformation in my life. One of my friends at the end of the course said, 'Within three weeks I learned a big secret in life, that my

Remembrance Sunday
10 November
*A memorial for
John and Elisabeth Caulfeild*
10.45 am
Westminster Theatre

Passion to kindle others

JOHN AND ELISABETH were a gifted couple—in charm and manner and especially in their creative flair. Each had an unusual talent for putting things together, for making them fit, whether it was Elisabeth in the kitchen preparing and serving a meal, or John at his desk, editing a book or an article or an issue of a magazine. What they had for things they had still more for people. Their London home was typical of them both—tall, spacious, elegant and beautifully planned. It was a place where thousands of every type, age and nation found themselves fitting together in a new harmony, streamlined to a common purpose for the sake of a new world.

John was by instinct and training a teacher. As a member of the staff at Lancing School, as an officer in the US Air Force, as in all the years since, his passion has been to kindle others, above all to train character and to equip people to take responsibility in the world. The last year of his life was very typical in this and has proved one of the most fruitful. The Leadership Course at Caux for young men and women from many nations was largely his brain child and he saw it through to effective operation. Likewise he had a major part in the new Caux Language School equipped with all the latest technical devices. 'Leadership' and 'Language'—commitment and communication—these were the main ingredients of his life. Add to that Elisabeth's creative concern for home-making in all its forms, and Catherine's remarkable gift of making friends, and you have the recipe for a rare and radiant family life.

The last talk I had with John was on the subject of success. We had a fascinating time together trying to

plumb a little of the depths of what God might mean by success.

This whole conversation comes back to me now with stunning force as I ponder the strange and shattering end to their lives. Tragedy? To us, yes, certainly. But in God's perspective? Perhaps we should rather say, victory—success measured at the Cross of Christ, not in terms of worldly honour and achievement (though these had their place) but in terms of lives liberated and enriched.

As the funeral service was taking place in Montreux, I turned to the Bible here at home and read verses* that seemed to me appropriate:

'Saul and Jonathan'—yes, John and Elisabeth—'Loved and lovely, never divided in life or in death, swifter than eagles, stronger than lions'.

ALAN THORNHILL

* 2 Samuel, 1, verse 23 (Moffatt)

Paris tribute

ROBERT TILGE, founder of the Employers' Federation of Northern France, speaking at a Paris gathering honouring the Caulfeilds, said, 'John, whilst concerned about the world's problems as a whole, always came back to the destiny of individual men. He sought not good will but the wills of men. He was the moving spirit behind the days at Le Touquet in 1947 which marked the beginning of a prodigious development of Moral Re-Armament in France.'

Tilge was speaking with other senior management representatives of French industry, workers from the Pas de Calais and Paris, teachers, students and doctors.

university failed to give me. I learnt how to live.'

At this moment I would like to take my decision again in honour of the Caulfeilds. Mr Caulfeild was a great lover of life and of great simplicity. But I believe the Caulfeilds have not died. They have only changed their physical appearance because they will live on in the flesh of their daughter Catherine. They will live on in the hearts and minds of their colleagues, and they will live on in the great task they have fulfilled in Moral Re-Armament.

Continued from page 3

necessary it is to have more people of their calibre. It is for that reason that I want to remake the decision to be completely for God, to give everything for Him and for the best way to serve Him. I am very happy to have parents like you to sustain me and I hope to have you for a long time yet. But if ever you come to disappear I want to assure you I will continue to fight for what I know to be the will of God. That is to say, to go on fighting together for a world free of hatred and of personal selfishness.'

A final chapter and a new start

Next week the Assembly for Asia Arise opens in Colombo, the capital of Ceylon. National leaders earlier this year invited Rajmohan Gandhi to bring an international MRA force to Ceylon. ANTHONY REYNOLDS reports on the visit of a Ceylon journalist to the MRA World Assembly at Panchgani in India.

CEYLON ENJOYS a tradition of out-spoken journalism that few countries in Asia can match. Those who would cripple democracy in this region must first muzzle the press. Attempts to do so have led to the defeat of at least one Government.

Guy de Fontgalland writes from Jaffna for the *Ceylon Daily News* and the *Ceylon Observer* of Colombo. The problems of Asia are found in miniature in Ceylon, he says, and the foremost among them is how to get communities that differ in language and race to work as one.

Jaffna is the leading city in the north-east of Ceylon, an area inhabited predominantly by Tamils who originated in South India. Some are recent arrivals. Many have lived there for generations. Mistrust and bitterness between the Tamils and the Sinhalese majority has been a recurring theme of national life since Independence. 'Whatever party has been out of power in the past has exploited this communal issue to serve political ends,' de Fontgalland says. Tamils charge that the Government in Colombo discriminates and has neglected their section of the country. Yet Sinhalese who attempted to get jobs in the largest port in the north-east, Trincomalee, have been unable to do so until recently because custom dictated that the jobs were reserved for Tamils.

Political turmoil

De Fontgalland is himself a Tamil. He recently attended an international assembly for Moral Re-Armament at Panchgani along with the editor of the largest Tamil daily in the north-east. Reporting the political turmoil in his part of the country has thoroughly disillusioned him. 'As a journalist, I felt I was getting nowhere simply by reporting and diagnosis. I decided to write a political novel.'

He took his theme from the land-army camps which the Government has set up all over the country to provide employment for youth and bring great stretches of forest under cultivation. 'I am afraid I subjected some of my countrymen and leaders to a

pretty brutal exposure. My writing mirrored my own frustration. I described our problems and probed the political alternatives of left and right that we were being offered. But when I came to the final chapter I was back where I started. I had reported and diagnosed, but I had no solutions.'

This was, he says, 'a reflection of my own life. I had no ideology to follow so I left the final chapter high and dry. Finally I wrote a bitter paragraph calling on youth to smash both political systems.'

He and his friends prided themselves on being 'secular'. 'We set out deliberately to separate intelligence and faith. We said, "God is fine, but

Distance makes no difference

Ingrid Strong, now working with MRA in India, writes to her parents and friends who are supporting her financially while she is in India.

AT THE MOMENT we are in Panchgani, planning a big move in S E Asia. Many people have been invited to take part from Europe, Africa and Australia—and I am one of them. I can hardly believe it and I count it a great privilege.

If you look at a map of Asia it is interesting to try and find any two neighbouring countries that are united! There's friction between North and South Vietnam, Ceylon and India, India and Pakistan, Malaysia and Singapore—and so on.

We are prepared with plays, skits and songs, which can be used as each occasion arises. The main thing is to tackle the most urgent issue in every country whether it be language, home problems, government or factory troubles!

The most important thing we ourselves have found is honesty, because you can be living in the same house

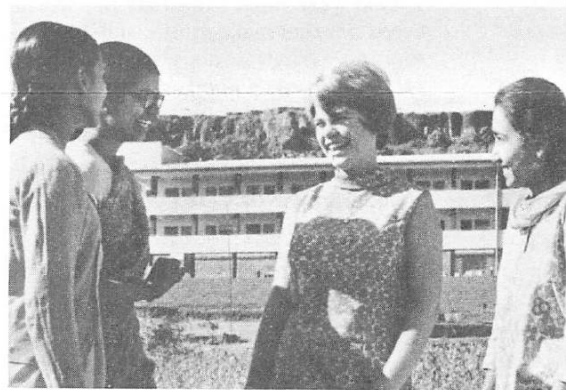


de Fontgalland

we do not need Him. We can ourselves devise intelligent ways of solving our problems." But the problems remained.

'But the most intelligent and lasting approach to our island's problems is to tackle them with God. I recognised that at Panchgani. What I have seen here has given me the final chapter to my novel and a new start to my life.'

Guy returns to Jaffna shortly to prepare for the visit to Ceylon of Rajmohan Gandhi and an international MRA force. 'If you speak from Jaffna in the north, you can be heard in Galle in the extreme south. If we change key men, we could bring a whirlwind of change to the island.'



Ingrid Strong at Panchgani photo Leggat

and still not know what is going on inside each of the family—and yet even if you are a thousand miles apart and you do keep honest, it is as though you are in the same house.

I think what I find most difficult is moods—because I get easily irritated by small things—something Daddy says or Mummy does—but I think it is true to say that when we have had the same target or aim in Croydon—or our sights have been beyond our own lives—and we have all worked together on it, then I have not felt like being moody. If you are not working together you are working apart.

Altogether we will be away about three months and get back here in time for the next conference in February.

In my view

OBEY GOD AND RISK ALL

IF ANYONE had said to me three weeks ago, 'You will become a secretary', I would just have laughed. Nevertheless I have now been at a secretarial college for one week.

Since I was twelve years old my greatest wish has been to become a singer. I started to take lessons. After five years several people in Norway told me I could go far as a mezzo-soprano.

By that time I had met Moral Re-Armament. I was interested and wondered if I had any part in changing the world with my singing. So I interrupted my studies for a year to get first hand experience of working with it.

That year taught me that the world needs not one more selfish, self-centred soprano. What it does need is more people who put their entire lives at God's disposal to put right what is wrong in the world.

I decided to use everything I have, including my voice, for MRA for the rest of my life.

Two-second reaction

Then two weeks ago I listened as usual to God in the morning and had the thought, 'You are meant to become a secretary'. It literally dropped from Heaven. I only had time to react for two seconds before the next thought, 'Your singing should not stop you. Both have a part'.

I find it fantastic that God can speak so clearly, and I decided to start secretarial training.

I have always found schoolwork rather boring, but though neither shorthand nor typing would normally interest me, I find myself enjoying both. This is because I am not just becoming one more secretary. I shall have the privilege of risking everything I have and hope for in the battle for a world governed by God.

BENTE SIGMOND

BRITISH FARMERS FLY TO INDIA

A FARMER from Haryana learns from Maharashtra farmers of their MRA-inspired five year plan to produce more food for India. He returns to his state to spread the new spirit he saw to the 64 village heads in his area.

In this way what Rajmohan Gandhi describes as a social revolution moves across the nation.

It had its start when Maharashtra farmers found new motives and a way to work together and met MRA-trained farmers from Britain, Australia, Canada, Scandinavia and Switzerland this past year.

This week Patrick Evans of Longlands Farm, Herefordshire, and Walter Hosegood of Ashwell Farm, Somerset, fly to India to carry on the vital work with village farmers. John Sainsbury of Rock Hill Farm, Warwickshire, follows shortly, and Chichester nurseryman Ronald Frampton leaves in January.

Last week at a reception in honour of these four men at 45 Berkeley

Square, London, Potato Marketing Board Chairman James Rennie, CBE, wished them every success on behalf of the agricultural community. Saying that 'Britain was perhaps withdrawing too much from her duties and responsibilities abroad,' Rennie commended the calibre of the farmers and the spirit in which they were going to serve India.

Nation's best

Also present at the reception were other farmers, diplomats and civil servants from the Ministries of Agriculture and Overseas Development.

Britain is certainly sending her best in these men. Evans is an Executive member of the Herefordshire Farmers' Union; Hosegood has been Chairman of the Somerset County Farmers' Union; Sainsbury manages Rock Hill Farm for Mr Henry Plumb; and Frampton has just been awarded the OBE for his work in horticulture.

EVELYN THOMSEN

Oslo press salutes Skard on seventieth birthday

EILIV SKARD was a man who held 'the key to the future' said the Oslo daily *Morgenbladet* on the occasion of the Norwegian professor's seventieth birthday recently.

Eiliv Skard, Professor of the History of Ideas at Oslo University, has worked with Moral Re-Armament since 1935, when he first met Frank Buchman.

Commenting on the present student unrest, *Morgenbladet* said of Skard, 'It is one thing to take some steps on the broad road of revolt, backed by the spirit of the times. It is another thing all your life long to go against the materialistic trend of your age and fight to turn it, which is the hallmark of those who hold the key to the future.'

'Gratitude from students and revolutionaries in many lands will go to Eiliv Skard, the scholar and the man, on his seventieth birthday,' said *Morgenbladet*.

Skard has recently helped to initiate a series of lectures on the theme 'Educating for the Future', which are taking place at the MRA Centre in Oslo.

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