

MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

By WILFRED H. HARRISON

THERE has recently arrived in South Africa an International School calling themselves the "Moral Re-Armament Task Force." Their chief purpose is: "To convert the Communists"—Communism means according to the Marxian thesis—"The Common or Social ownership and control of all the necessities of life, to be used in the interest and for the service of the whole community." What virtues then have they for Communists to acquire, or what evils must they eradicate to make possible that noble purpose?

There are, we know many schools of people who call themselves Communists, who adopt tactics of a militant character, quite contrary to the moral and ethical standards that purpose means. Therefore corrupting its real meaning.

Likewise the Christians whose motto is the Golden Rule: "Do unto others, as you would they should do unto you." Yet most of the Europeans of South Africa call themselves Christians. Even our Prime Minister is a Doctor of Divinity a supposed most reverend person.

Recently the good Doctor attended the opening ceremony, with other mining magnates, of the plant for the production of uranium in Johannesburg, at which he spoke in glowing terms of our new found industry. Yet he must have known that uranium is used for no other purpose than creating atomic bombs for modern warfare of inhuman destruction of innocent people.

Also our Government, of which he is the head, has granted a loan of £40,000,000 for armament in a possible third world war. These are the cruel and murderous tactics of the professed Christians who claim as their motto the Golden Rule. In fact it is more wicked than anything we have yet heard from any type of Communists. These same Christians have adopted a policy of segregation. Yet their Christ says He will love our all men.

This all seems to indicate and also to deliberately show, that there is much more scope and real necessity for conversion of the man—of the people—who call themselves Christians, who are in greater need of social and moral principles the Moral Re-Armament people claim. It is their purpose, they say, to tap our social conscience and make us good, kind people to our fellow beings. The world now abounds with such people, most of our politicians who help in all the murderous war, and grant funds for that purpose, are often the most pious people who attend their church and kneel in pious prayer. They are also often ideal husbands and kindly fathers. Our lives and our actions are dominated by our material surrounding.

War has become more brutal and murderous because it is accepted as the traditional way of settling international disputes or national rivalry—who allow their professional military forces, any inhuman tactics, to obtain conquest, while the suffering inhabitants of the various countries look complacently and stupidly on. During the conflicts people become more pious, churches multiply, as also do the common people in their prayers. Many of whom often pray that their own forces will conquer their Christian brothers, now their enemies, and their parsons aid them as advisers or combatants to do so.

Good kind people line the battle fronts on both sides. The great heroes are they who can gain an advance even at the cost of many lives for which this are often decorated "For Valour" in doing so. We are all victims of a vicious system which has been allowed to drift into such inhuman devices for national supremacy or material gain. Empires who have risen and fallen in various parts of the globe are now a spent force. The world is now aware of its gruesome history. Therefore its dictators are now being fast overthrown. We are at the moment still suffering the re-

maining forces of Empire domination, but those who keep in close touch with world affairs can see their approaching end.

One of the greatest founders of the new world was Mahatma Gandbi, who, like his former teacher Tolstoi of Russia, was not allowed to see the great world transformation that is to come based on the policy of non-violence and the resources of the

world enjoyed by all its people.

If that is what Moral Re-Arma-

ment means surely they are welcome in South Africa where such a policy at the moment is in great need. Coming from the Western World the popular enemy No 1 is of course Communism which is non-existent as an active force in South Africa. But, as we have indicated, there still exists a much more formidable force in this country which should receive their attention—to be taught moral principles rather than such wicked deeds.