

Moral Rearmament Brings to S.A. a Simple Message

THE announcement that Dr Frank Buchman has accepted the invitation to bring a task force to South Africa, has been received with acclamation among the responsible and clear-thinking; with some criticism by the misinformed and prejudiced, and with real joy by those who have got to know the heart of the message of Moral Rearmament.

Can Moral Rearmament bring to Africa the idea which will resolve the bitter wrangles in our lovely land?

It can — if we really want a solution!

But we will have to work it out for ourselves. The Moral Rearmament task force will come with no political plan, no neatly worked out tabulated system which can be applied to either the continent or to South Africa, but with the simple

BY

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message that we can build a peaceful and happy Africa on a basis of moral standards and the guidance of God.

See what Mr Robert Schuman, previously Foreign Minister of France, said at the Caux International World Assembly for Moral Rearmament, this month: "Throughout the world Dr Buchman has inspired a will to work together. I am accustomed to attend meetings, but they are very different from this assembly. Whether it is in parliament or international conferences, they normally end with great disappointments. Here we find satisfaction and a great hope."

Beyond Price

FEAR dominates this continent and our great need is hope. If Dr Buchman's team bring this they will bring what is beyond price.

During their tour to Ceylon, India and Pakistan, during the latter part of last year and the first six months of this year, they made a profound impression, and proved that old divisions and hatreds could be cured. The head of one of the leading motion picture companies near Madras (the second largest motion-picture centre in the world) said that since their visit there was quite a new atmosphere in the industry — so much so that producers who had not spoken to each other for 16 years were working together and calling on one another for advice. A joint delegation of 37 Indians and Pakistanis attended the Caux conference — the first joint delegation ever from those two countries.

All over the world evidence is growing of how Moral Rearmament is bringing a redirection in the flow of the current of this age. Such evidence cannot be gathered and assessed in the figures of a cold balance sheet, but is clearly demonstrated in changed relationships; in men and women with a new vision and a new hope; in broken homes remade, strikes averted

or solved, in improved relations in nations and between nations (as between France and Germany).

For too long materialist ideologies have swayed the world; they have caused, and are causing each day, untold suffering, hardship, despair and death.

Ideas, Not Bullets

DESPERATELY we have pitted our forces against the onslaught of foreign ideas only to find that material and military superiority are not enough. Ideas cannot be wrested from people by bullets, but must be replaced by a superior idea. One-time Communists in England, Germany, India and many other countries have told how they found in Moral Rearmament the superior idea.

At Lusaka, at the inter-racial conference for Moral Rearmament, African leaders declared that in this philosophy they found the greatest hope for their countries.

Among them was Dr William Nkomo, of Pretoria, one of the founders and the first president of the African Congress Youth League. He said publicly: "I can see no greater uniting force in the world than Moral Rearmament. There are two ideologies which are likely to run through the African continent. One is the materialistic ideology, the other is Moral Rearmament. This force is more revolutionary than any other because it begins with myself."

Historic Meeting

THIRTY-FIVE South Africans travelled to the Lusaka conference and all came back convinced that they had seen at that historic meeting the way in which Africa's problems can be solved; and inspired with a longing that this ideology should grip this sub-continent, and so accept the challenge and the opportunity to real leadership.

This world force has grown from the vision of one man! It has grown through inspiration and sacrifice. Years ago Dr Buchman saw the choice before mankind was between the dictatorship of ambitious men and the dictatorship of God.

A quotation from the American pioneer William Penn is one he is fond of using. "Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants."

With no material backing, but with burning faith, he set out to call others to join him in a crusade to build a new world on the basis of God's plan for men and nations. Belying the so generally accepted idea of today that men and women want only security and comfort, he found ready response in almost every country in the world. Young men and women, mature business men, labour leaders, industrialists, farmers, political leaders and statesmen have proved their readiness to sacrifice for a new world built on firm foundations. All the work, all the travelling, the purchase of the Mountain House and Grand Hotel at Caux in Switzerland, have