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Docks—Steel

What is Canada's Part?

THERE IS AN ANSWER

Moral Re-Armament did it in the Docks of Brazil and London With your Help it can Happen Here

THE ports have been paralyzed. The great steel hearths are cold. In 500,000 homes the bread-winner has been idle.

It is easy to blame somebody else. Finger pointing is an ancient game.

Meanwhile we all lose. Only our enemies win. America becomes weak when we most need to be strong.

What is the right way to end these strikes?

Fact-finding commissions may be necessary. But the plainest fact is the blindness of human nature. The greatest fact is that human nature can be changed.

When men change, conditions change — conditions that cause strikes and lockouts.

This is an ideological age. We Americans must live our God-given ideology to bring the answer to Communism, corruption, division, dictatorship and despair.

No strike today is just industrial. Every strike quickly becomes ideological. Selfishness and ideological blindness in both management and labor, whether they like it or not, are used by Communism to break down the economy of the Free World. The total cost of the present steel strike to date is six billion dollars, which is the entire cost of India's next five-year plan.

Men, who are ideologically awake, will quickly settle their differences.

At the turning point of the 55-day steel strike in 1952 one man had an inspiration. His name was John V. Riffe. He was the last Executive Vice President of the C.I.O.

NOT WHO'S RIGHT BUT WHAT'S RIGHT

For six weeks steel management and labor had been deadlocked. In this situation, Riffe reflected, "A little more of 'what is right' and less of 'who is right' might help to produce a national miracle out of a national emergency. He saw that the issues dividing the operators and the steelworkers were no longer purely material. . . . The gap lay in a different realm — that of the clash of human wills, with the obstinacy, pride, suspicion and bitterness which accompany it. It was a moral issue in the hearts of men, and it could only be resolved by the creation of a new moral climate." (From "John Riffe of the Steelworkers, American Labor Statesman," to be published Nov. 6 by Coward-McCann, New York.)

Riffe suggested the union Wage Policy Committee invite in the representatives of the management. They came.

The Pittsburgh Post Gazette, July 22, 1952, reported: "The surprise visit of the industry group . . . to the union gathering . . . set a precedent in industrial relations in the steel industry . . . It was apparent to observers that their presence dissipated some of the tension and bitterness the long strike had engendered."

The New York Times of July 27, 1952, contained this account of the final meetings: "Mr. Fairless and Mr. Murray met privately for 70 minutes, and again later with their union aides. Mr. Fairless said in effect, 'We have got to take a whole new approach to each other. Something is obviously wrong . . . We have got to learn to get along together.' . . . Mr. Murray replied in like vein saying that the union was not interested in simply damning management. The two sides then quickly ticked off the terms of the agreement."

John Riffe had found through Moral Re-Armament a new way to live. He had reunited his home. He had learned the necessity of absolute moral standards.

John Riffe fought for the destiny of the labor movement. He believed with Frank Buchman, initiator of Moral Re-Armament, that "Labor led by God can lead the world."

Shortly before his death in 1958 Riffe said to a United States Senator, "Senator, tell America that when Frank Buchman changed John Riffe, he saved this country \$500,000,000."

NATIONAL AIRLINES STRIKE SETTLED

In December, 1950, a three-year-old dispute between National Airlines and the Air Line Pilots Association was

resolved in three hours after the President of the Company and the representatives of the pilots union had attended the Moral Re-Armament Assembly in Washington, D.C.

Announcing the settlement, The Miami Herald headlined its story: "Moral Re-Armament Ushers in Era of Understanding."

The Miami Daily News commented editorially: "There was none of the familiar emphasis on hard-won bargaining victories. The emphasis was on the moral re-armament of the participants in the dispute."

President George T. Baker said, "A whole new factor was brought into the situation through Moral Re-Armament. The real trouble has been bitterness and lack of trust between us. It took an apology and honesty on my part to restore a basis of confidence."

Commenting on this settlement, D. W. Rentzel, then Chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, issued the following public statement: "The sudden settlement came as a pleasant shock to the aviation industry . . . and the transformation in the attitude of the parties has been little short of miraculous. In effecting a settlement of this bitter struggle Moral Re-Armament has performed an invaluable service for the aviation industry and the country as a whole."

ANSWERING CLASS WARFARE IN BRITISH DOCKS

In 1949 the Communist-engineered strike throughout the docks cost Britain three-quarters of a billion dollars. In the next years, many dockers' leaders, through meeting Moral Re-Armament, found an ideology to answer Communism. As a result, Britain has had no nationwide dock strike since. One of the men, Tom Keep, who was president of the National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers Union, and formerly for 22 years a member of the Communist Party, stated recently, "The dock strike of 1949 cost our nation 217 million pounds. I took part in that strike, as I did in many others. Had it not been for meeting MRA I would have been plotting and planning through strikes to bring about the Communist policy of the destruction of the economic structure of the Western democracies."

"Moral Re-Armament is waging the war which is bringing to an end the longest and most bitter war in the history of mankind—the class war. The end of class war means the end of all wars."

"When I met Moral Re-Armament, for the first time, I found something which could stand up to my Marxism. It was the answer to class war, the broken home and the division between my sister, to whom I had not spoken for 16 years, and myself."

"With Moral Re-Armament God had given us the opportunity to change the course of the world away from the materialism that threatens to drive civilization into the abyss of a new dark age. The choice is ours. It is Communism or Moral Re-Armament."

In the United States, the union journal, *Master, Mate and Pilot*, commented in its February 1951 issue: "There are still just grievances to be put right. The question is—how can the dockers do this without exposing themselves to exploitation by militant materialism? And that question is being answered right now in the docks of Britain by an idea of their own choosing which is winning the hearts and minds of the dockers. This is the idea, or ideology, of Moral Re-Armament, which punches holes in every form of materialism, either right or left."

GERMANY, ITALY, FRANCE

Similar evidence comes from other countries of Europe. Frits von Velsen, Managing Director of the Nordstern Coal Mine, Gelsenkirchen, Germany, says, "The simple facts are that in the economic and political breakdown in Germany following the War the Communists had made themselves so strong that they had an average of 73% of their men in the Workers' Councils of the coal and steel concerns of the Ruhr. After that training and change of heart that many of us found in Moral Re-Armament this Communist in-

fluence has gone down to 8 percent and the power of the Party on a mass scale has been broken. In my own mine, Nordstern where the men had elected 90% Communist representatives, the men and the atmosphere have so changed that people come from many countries to find the answer here."

The Montecatini Chemical Company is one of the largest industrial concerns of Italy. Umberto Baldini, former Personnel head, reports, "In 1949 we had 31 work stoppages. In 1953 we had five. Since I first underwent training in Moral Re-Armament the situation has been completely overturned through a new attitude on the part of management. Last year — 1954 — not one milligram of production was lost by strikes."

The Secretary Treasurer of the French Textile Workers (Force Ouvriere), Maurice Mercier, after securing in 1953 the best contract with management which his union had ever had, said, "Not one cry of hate, not one drop of blood shed, not one hour of work lost, this is the greater revolution to which Moral Re-Armament calls management and labor alike."

CORRUPTION AND COMMUNISM CURED

In Brazil until 1955 a frequent sight in the Port of Rio de Janeiro, strike bound, was a queue of waiting ships stretching far into the bay. Yet on June 4, 1957, a member of the Brazil Federal Parliament declared, "The Rio dockers have been teaching us Parliamentarians a lesson in democracy."

The dockers tell their own story. Damasio Cardoso, head of the unofficial portworkers union, packing two guns and a knife, had set out to liquidate Nelson Carvalho, leader of the legal union. The latter, however, had recently found a new weapon, the power to change men, through meeting Moral Re-Armament. He won Cardoso. The feuding workers' leaders settled their differences.

Five years ago the legal union was struggling to exist with 700 members. Today a united union has over 4,000.

In the union elections in 1956, 83% of the workers voted instead of the previous 10%. Communist-backed candidates were defeated. The leading Rio daily, "Correoda Manha," carried the captions, "A Step Forward for Trade Unionism in Brazil." "Simple, Honest, Clear Victory." "The Workers Benefit, Trade Unionism Benefits."

To celebrate the victory, the dockers attended, not a wild party as in earlier years, but a special 7:00 a.m. Mass. The church was full.

"There is no other choice for us in Brazil," concluded Nelson Carvalho. "Here is a new dimension of living which we have experienced. It is Moral Re-Armament or Communism. We plan to bring the answer we have found to the docks of all America and the world."

THE TRUE BATTLE LINE FOR INDUSTRY

Collective bargaining is on trial.

We must start now to draw the true battle line in American industry — between the responsible and constructive forces in both management and labor against a small but active minority who believe in a fight to the finish.

We are going into a winter like Valley Forge. The real question is — do we know what we fight for and love what we know?

The time is ripe for an appeal not to self-interest, but to the hunger for great living that lies deep in every man. What Americans really want is not a promise of getting something for nothing, but a chance to give everything for something great.

Either we sacrifice our selfishness for our nation, or we sacrifice the nation to our selfishness.

In the words of Frank Buchman, "Before a God-led unity every last problem will be solved. Empty hands will be filled with work, empty stomachs with food and empty hearts with an idea that really satisfies."

Moral Re-Armament is a non-profit association. Contributions are deductible for income tax purposes. For further information write for the latest MRA handbook, "Ideology and Co-Existence," obtainable from MRA, 749 Yonge Street, Toronto 5, Ontario; 640 Fifth Avenue, New York 19; Mackinac Island, Michigan; or Caux-sur-Montreux, Switzerland.