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THE CAPE ARGU

Europe's Brightest Spot

(The Argus Correspondent)
Caux, Switzerland.

Story of a conference that revealed a "miracle" of unity.

"CAUX is the brightest spot in the dark picture of Europe," said the official report to General Eisenhower from the head of 775,000 American farmers after his tour of the Continent.

The town of Caux, high above Lake Geneva, has from July to October been the centre for the World Moral Rearmament Assembly, drawing 5,000 people from 52 nations. They included coal-miners, cabinet ministers, prime ministers and presidents, princes and factory-workers, delegates of occupied countries and representatives of the occupying powers.

Dr. Frank Buchman, founder of Moral Rearmament, summarised the work of the Assembly as follows, "Caux has shown a force in action with the answer in the war of ideas. This force has the training and experience under God to equip the statesman and the ordinary man with an ideology adequate to remake the nations now.

"Nations fail because they try desperately to combat moral apathy with economic plans. Paper plans will never raise production. Only new men working together in a new spirit with the fire of an ideology will raise production, build teamwork that springs from happy homes and set the nations on the path to recovery. Human nature can be changed. That is the basic answer. National economies can be changed. That is the fruit of the answer. World history can be changed. That is the destiny of our age."

Message of Love

IN a dramatic session, Madame Laure, leader of three million Socialist women of France declared, "Here at Caux my heart has been liberated from bitterness against Germany. I want my German friends to take to the women and mothers of Germany a message of love and friendship from the women of France. I shall use my position in politics to see that France and other nations do not have the desire that Germany shall starve."

Frau Pechel, courageous wife of the outspoken editor of Deutsche Rundschau, who accompanied her husband to concentration camp, immediately responded, "I shall take Mme Laure's words to the women of Germany. Many times tears of joy have come to me at Caux. I do not think that from 1934 to 1947 I have ever laughed with such a full and open heart as in the last 18 days, here among people who would have every right to hate us Germans."

They were part of a delegation of 150 from Germany which included the Minister President of Wurttemberg Baden, the Minister of Education for the State of Hesse, the President of the Bavarian Parliament, and leaders of German youth.

A Hamburg student who joined the Hitler Jugend at the age of eight, went to a Nazi school at 13 and volunteered for war at the age of 17 told of his experiences, "I thought Nazism was a great idea, propagated by the right type of people and that it would be lack of character in me if I

changed my mind after the war. I was put in prison by the Allied authorities because I said I thought Hitler would return in a hundred years' time.

"I felt the idea of the British, as I saw them live it, was weaker than mine. After that I met Moral Rearmament in Germany and found the answer—a total surrender to God, bigger than the surrender that Hitler demanded. My job now is to help the former Nazi youth to find this ideology."

Results

PARLIAMENTARY delegations from 21 countries represented every point of view from conservative to radical. Five of Italy's six major parties in the Constituent Assembly were represented.

Addressing the Assembly together, they described as a "miracle" the unity they had found at Caux and expressed their determination to fight as a team for this unifying spirit in their parliament.

Miners and managers from all Britain's coalfields took part in the conference. They reported these results wherever Moral Rearmament was applied in the pits:

1. Teamwork grew between men and management;
2. Production was increased;
3. Absenteeism was reduced;
4. A new incentive to work was created;
5. Sound leadership was raised to offset subversive materialist forces.

A feature of the last part of the conference was the military course for ideological training attended by 120 officers, including six generals, an admiral and an air-commodore.

The official representative of the Minister of War of France said on leaving, "In most international peacetime gatherings, army officers compete with one another to raise their national flags above all other flags. Here we fight together to raise all our flags to the level of the Cross of Christ."

First Night — 52 Years Later

A WOMAN of 79, beautiful, erect, and stately, will step from a car into the Carlton Cinema, Haymarket, London, next Thursday, November 13, as the guest of honour at the premiere of Sir Alexander Korda's film, "An Ideal Husband," based on the play by Oscar Wilde.

Fifty-two years ago, on January 3, 1895, the same woman, Miss Julia Neilson, stepped from a horse-drawn cab into the stage-door of the Haymarket Theatre, opposite, to take her part as leading lady on the first night of the Wilde comedy.

In her Hampstead home, Miss Neilson, the widow of Fred Terry, and sister-in-law of Ellen Terry, talks to me of that first night.

"Although I was only 27," she says, "I had already faced several first nights. All were rather like each other, with everybody nervous.

"But when I go to the Carlton to see the film I shall think of that other audience—of women in their bustles, all with fans, of men in evening-dress, but with black waistcoats and high collars."