

CAUX at a glance

A FORMER HEADMASTER of St George's School, Jerusalem, and now a Canon at Liverpool Cathedral, apologised at the MRA World Assembly in Switzerland for the mistakes that his generation had made in the Middle East.

Two official Egyptian delegations were being welcomed to the Caux assembly, one sent by the Ministry of Youth with student leaders from 7 universities, and the other from Ain Shams University.

Canon Julian Thornton-Duesbery, who

was also the former Master of St Peter's College, Oxford, said, 'How sorry I am for all the harm my nation, the British, did to the Middle East, especially 50-60 years ago. I belong to that generation. We did great harm by the things we did and by what we did not do, through our blindness and self-concern. And the countries of the Middle East have paid a heavy price in bloodshed and bitterness ever since. But there is an answer to bloodshed and bitterness across the world. We Christians, together with all those of every faith who believe that God has a plan for the world, and who are ready to listen to His guidance, have got a real part to play in reconciling men with God and in reconciling men with each other.'

MORE THAN 1,000 delegates from 40 countries have already attended this summer. Among them were many young Europeans. We print some of their remarks.

GEORG HARTL from Innsbruck University, Austria:

I came here a year ago out of curiosity and like many others I also thought, at first, that I needed no change. It began with very simple things. The first thing was that I paid back a scholarship to the state of 10,000 Schillings; I apologised to certain people and then I went out to find friends among my colleagues at the university. Twelve men came with me to the Easter Conference in Berlin.

In the last two months I have made two decisions - to give my whole life to God and to give it for Moral Re-Armament. I still have to put right many things at home. I know it won't be easy, because I think they will regard it as something very special that a person gives up his whole security and career. Somehow people don't find it sensational that millions of people should go hungry every day or suffer oppression for instance. What would happen if there was war? I would have to go out anyway then, and people would never know if I would come back! It would be absolutely logical to go out in action during peacetime so that war never comes.

JOHAN AND ANNECO ADRIAANSE brother and sister from Holland:

JOHAN: Here I found the courage to start living for a better world. One thing I know for sure is that there is a plan for me, because everyone is needed to clear up the mess that we are in.

ANNECO: I thought about the Third World, and wanted to do something practical, but it didn't make me revolutionary. I don't have any money. All I can do is sacrifice my pride, and give my life to do God's will.

RENATE HOLZAPFEL from Germany:

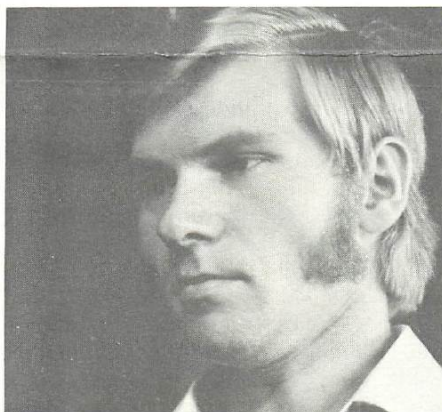
I sat down and wrote a letter to my parents. I apologised for my arrogance and for not having helped at all at home. The worst thing for me was to be honest and to say that I had tried a year ago to commit suicide. I sent the letter off. Half a day later I got the thought: 'Now that you have done this, you need to write to all the 16 girls in your class, and a few others.' Before, when reading the newspapers I used to think, 'Oh,

NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

See inside
**The meaning of Watergate
for America**
by Steve Dickinson

well, Northern Ireland is very far off and Cyprus is even further off.' Now I have met people here from all these places and so now reading the news from there it won't be an anonymous mass, but people that I know - friends.



Georg Hartl



Renate Holzapfel



Johan and Anneco Adriaanse



Helmuth Class (left), Chairman of the Evangelical Church of Germany, talks with Prof Theophil Spoerri from Switzerland after seeing the new play 'Return Trip' at Caux.

Caux: a special session of this summer's assembly on the theme 'Thy kingdom come' was attended by 70 churchmen, and many laymen, from 17 countries

FATHER BERNARD BOT, S J, responsible for Catholic Secondary Education in Holland, spoke on the anniversary of St Ignatius Loyola's death.

Father Bot said, 'Our founder changed his name to Ignatius, which means "Man of Fire", as he wanted to spread the fire of Christ on earth. I hope to be a true revolutionary like him, and so to be a free man. Not bound by position, status or esteem, relying on neither money nor human power, but expecting all from God's guidance, in obedience to His will.'

He had decided to stand up for his convictions, he said, 'Even though it may be considered old-fashioned by many professors of theology, sociology and psychology, who with intellectual arguments no longer believe in the fundamental truths of the Bible.'

He concluded, 'I see I must be free to follow God's guiding, and that only in this way can we bring about a Christian revolution.'

Father Victor Zammit-McKeon, from Malta, gave his impressions. He said, 'I came in contact here with a deep sense of faith in God, with people who wanted to love God by observing his law, as reflected in the absolute moral standards of Frank Buchman. I saw here a spirit of service.'

He referred to the 'unique opportunity Moral Re-Armament gave me and my fellow brothers in the ministry to come together - Catholics, Protestants, Anglicans, Baptists, Evangelicals, Lutherans, Calvinists and others. Caux gave us an

opportunity to meet each other in an atmosphere of peace and quiet, to pray together, and to share our experiences.'

He called for the publication of *The Black and White Book* in Maltese. He called it 'another modern counter-attack to the present wave of materialistic atheism, secularisation, and moral permissiveness'.

Fr Zammit-McKeon visited the MRA Centre last year accompanying His Grace Mgr Sir Michael Gonzi, Archbishop of Malta.

Father Charles Caruana, S J, Rector and Headmaster of St Aloysius College, Malta, said, 'There is a sense of balance here.' He referred to the visit to Malta of the MRA musical revue *Anything to Declare?* and asked for further programmes of Moral Re-Armament on the island. 'A welcome change from some of the beat groups', he called it, and continued, 'People convinced of Christianity who put their message in such an attractive way have a great deal to offer.'

He described the MRA Centre as, '700 people under one roof who are not talking about business, their next holiday, or themselves, but talking about the world around us and how we can improve it, about faith. Quite a relief! Stopping to think about life, about their contribution to their family, their job. It is such a healthy change. It opens a window on to the world for me. There should be no doubt about the basic Christian ideas that you find here,' the Maltese Rector concluded.

The meaning of Watergate in America

by St...

In 1976 the United States will be celebrating its bicentenary.

One of a large number of Americans attending the Moral Re-Armament Assembly in Caux, Switzerland this summer was T Willard Hunter, of Lee, New Hampshire, Chairman of the American Bicentennial Commission there.

Mr Hunter told the Assembly that the widespread re-generation in the American colonies in the early 1700's known as the Great Awakening was often credited with providing the spiritual basis for independence. A new awakening was now needed to provide a spiritual basis for America's third century. Referring to the issues surrounding Watergate he said, 'We are not dealing only with whether a President should remain in office or with a number of Government officials caught with their hands in the cookie jar. It is a national malaise. What we read in the headlines or see on our TV screens is only the boil evidencing poison in the system.'

He called on the Americans present at Caux to help make national repentance and moral re-generation themes of the bicentennial celebrations. As another distinctive part of the American heritage he also suggested adequate interpretation to America and the world of the centenary of Frank Buchman, initiator of Moral Re-Armament, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1878. The two proposals were made, Mr Hunter said, 'to help provide a solid spiritual basis for the launching of America's third century'.

Another American attending the Assembly is Steve Dickinson, a former Rhodes Scholar, who wrote this article on Watergate last week, before the President's dramatic admission.

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ave Dickinson

A UNITED STATES Congressman who would like to come to Europe this summer to consult with his colleagues from France and the rest of Western Europe, may be prevented from doing so by the debate and vote on the impeachment of President Nixon.

The cause, the Watergate affair, which has appeared very complicated as it has unfolded character by character and event by event in the press, is simple in outline.

It began with the discovery of a burglary of the 1972 election campaign headquarters of the Democratic Party at the Watergate Office Building in Washington, DC. Subsequent investigation, spearheaded by the press, showed that this burglary was ordered and directed by the special committee set up for the re-election campaign of President Nixon (the CRP), and has led to charges and court actions in five other areas:

1) Cover-up - a conspiracy to obstruct justice in the investigation of the Watergate burglary;

2) The White House 'Plumbers' - a secret investigating team in the White House, accused of a conspiracy against the rights of citizens;

3) Dirty Tricks - the deliberate sabotaging of political opponents in the 1972 election campaign;

4) Illegal political contributions - made by corporations to the CRP in return for favoured treatment at the Federal level;

5) ITT - a 400,000 dollar contribution by the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation made in exchange for the dropping of antitrust action by the Federal Government.

These charges involved men known to be close to the President, and the fundamental question became, and remains, whether the President was directly involved in any crimes, or in the effort made to conceal these crimes.

Official investigations have been going on at four levels, with cooperation between them:

a) The Senate established a special investigation committee, chaired by Senator Sam Ervin;

b) The Administration appointed a special investigating team, now headed by Leon Jaworsky;

c) The Federal Courts have appointed

grand juries to investigate for trials;

d) The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives is investigating the President's involvement and could recommend his impeachment.

When John Dean, the former legal counsel to President Nixon, appeared before the Senate Committee, he testified under oath that the President had early knowledge of the Watergate crimes and participated in the attempt to conceal them from discovery. The legal issue has become whether the evidence supports Dean's charge or not, and whether the President has committed any offence that disqualifies him from the office of President under the US Constitution.

A commonly heard view in Europe on the subject of Watergate is, 'Why do the Americans take this all so seriously? Corruption is normal in politics.'

The CRP did collect millions of dollars. And it is true that substantial illegal contributions have been both discovered and admitted. But the issue here goes deeper than the corruption of the usual 'scandal'. The real issue of Watergate is not money; it is power. This affair has revealed a use of the political power of government against democratic opponents, and others considered opponents, on a scale large enough to constitute a serious threat to American democracy. It involves the possibility of a fundamental attack on the mutually accepted standards of the American political system (within which unpublicized corruption has been as 'normal' as in other Western countries). This attack has not been made by the official political party, but by the personal advisers of the President, and possibly the President himself. Dean described it as a 'cancer' spreading ever closer to the office of the President.

Image or reality

The exposure of this abuse of power has been a bitter political education for most Americans, who have prided ourselves not only on our democratic institutions but also on the character of the people we elect to run them.

What has disturbed people most is the lack of morality in the words and actions of the White House which has been revealed by the events of Watergate, and by the memoranda and especially the tape transcripts of White House conversations that have been made public in the course of the investigations. These documents have given people a look at the inside workings of the nation's highest office, of the President and some of the men closest to him, and it has shaken them. The tapes have revealed the President as a man very different in reality from his public image.

What much of the nation feels is described by articles which appeared in newspapers that had previously strongly supported the President. The *Omaha*

World Herald wrote, 'The transcripts have diminished the President's image from that of a moral man surrounded by underlings who had betrayed him to that of an amoral man. . . .' The *Chicago Tribune* wrote, 'The key word here is immoral. It is a lack of concern for morality, a lack of concern for high principles, a lack of commitment to the high ideals of public office that makes the transcripts a sickening exposure of the man and his advisers. . . .' And William Randolph Hearst, Jr, Editor-in-Chief of the Hearst chain of formerly pro-Nixon newspapers, wrote, 'The symbol of America's faith in its government is sullied beyond measure when it is used as headquarters for a gang whose main concern is the maintenance of personal power - at any cost. . . .'

Type of men

A central part of this issue has to do with President Nixon's relations to the men around him, and the type of man that he has had close to him. He brought with him to the Presidency a personal staff of bright young lawyers and public relations men who became the 'nouveau riche' of American political power. Watergate has decimated this leadership. Of 35 senior assistants who came in with Nixon in 1969 only 6 remain.

One of the leaders of the CRP, Jeb Stuart MacGruder, said it was his 'craving for power' that drew him to Nixon's team. Convicted of perjury in a Watergate trial he said, 'Somewhere between my ambition and my ideals I lost my ethical compass.'

Others have made similar admissions. And in this distorted atmosphere the one standard became not right and wrong but loyalty to the President, and his re-election. Before the Senate Committee, and the nation watching on television, former Attorney-General and head of the CRP, John Mitchell, said that *anything* was justified that would lead to the re-election of President Nixon and the defeat of George McGovern.

These bright men, loyal to their candidate, carried to its logical conclusion in national politics the relative standard of honesty tolerated by so much of the Christian West. The Watergate cover-up has been the national result of millions of personal cover-ups. And the exposure to the nation and world of what this leads to has shocked a morally sluggish people to a renewed awareness of the need for a real standard of honesty in politics. We are seeing in our national life the truth spoken by Robert Schuman when he was Foreign Minister of France, that democracy is only as strong as the character of the men who speak in her name.

Many Americans, and many Europeans, are concerned that the preoccupation of the American Government with

WATERGATE continued on page 4



In Saigon, Robert Corcoran, from Glasgow, presents to General Pham Dang Lang copies of the documentary films 'Crossroad of Nations' and 'A Man to Match the Hour'. They are a gift to Vietnam from people in Britain and will be used extensively in the coming months.

The occasion took place at the Vietnamese-American Association and was attended by prominent civil servants, students, businessmen and representatives from the professions. A special preview of the films was given. (l to r Robert Corcoran, General Pham and Professor Lê Thi Anh)

WATERGATE continued from page 3

Watergate has led to a serious neglect of other vital issues, and to a decline in American leadership. The quickest way to restore priorities is to understand and resolve the basic issue.

The mounting pressure of the impeachment process may cause the President to decide to resign, though he has said he will not. In America, unlike most European systems, there is no constitutional provision for the resignation of a President. Many feel there is a danger that if he did resign because of the pressure of politics or of the news media, it could set a dangerous precedent, and weaken the country.

But the real outcome for America may depend as much on the decisions of thousands of ordinary citizens as on the decision of the President and other leaders. For the issue is fundamentally a moral one. And Watergate has opened Americans' minds to the need for moral change.

A High School student, speaking at the graduation ceremony of his class this year, said, 'Watergate means for us that honesty is important, not only in public life, but in every part of our private lives as well.'

If enough people decide to end the cover-ups in their own lives, in families and work, Watergate could help to reverse the trend of materialism in American life. And that could help Americans focus on their role with Europe and the rest of the world.

From family to factory

CURB THE INFLATION of your own ego and pride first if you want to deal with inflation in the nation. That was the message of an Australian businessman at a seminar on family life held recently in Brisbane and attended by families from industry and education, including teachers from the Torres Strait islands, and a representative of the aboriginal people.

Realising that his temper had a harmful effect on his family, R W Lawler, Managing Director of Brisbane Hire Service, had apologised to his oldest son who had been taking drugs and had left home. His son found a faith which freed him from the need for drugs. 'I was a part of his problem', said Mr Lawler. 'When things started to go right at home, relationships began to change at work. Our company decided to hold down inflationary price increases on the basis of serving people to meet Australia's need and not our greed.'

Mrs Lawler told the seminar, 'With eight children I felt my place was in the home, but I never saw what went on outside. You can't move forward if you just keep in your own four walls. There are so many people outside who need care.' Today one son, Ron, is taking part in the musical *Song of Asia* and their oldest daughter is working with MRA in England.

A factory worker, Lawrence Whitson, underlined this connection between

family and industry. He had been a bus driver and shop steward in Scotland before coming to Australia. 'If I had a fight with my wife before going to work,' he said, 'I would take it out on the boss!' When he first heard about Moral Re-Armament his reaction was, 'This is what my boss needs.' But he decided to start with himself and apologised to his boss for taking change from the conductor's bag for cigarettes and lunch and falsifying the time cards, claiming more overtime than actually worked.

Mr Whitson offered to pay back the amount involved. His boss suggested he pay back half of it and said the fare structure was designed to cover such losses, adding, 'We could do a lot of things in this depot if we are both honest with each other.' 'Over a period of five years we worked out many problems and found answers,' Mr Whitson concluded. Mrs Whitson said, 'When I God guide me and take control of my life, He can also take control of my temper.'

It was decided at the seminar that a number of events including film shows and luncheons should be arranged 'to continue the work of building sound home life and to meet the needs of the nation and the world'. The money raised from the luncheons will be used for the expansion of the work and facilities at Armagh, the MRA Training Centre in Melbourne.

From sacrifice not surplus

AMONG THE DELEGATES from over 40 countries at the Caux Assembly have been 150 from the Nordic North. They were challenged by a top Australian dairy technologist to set a lead in producing for the needs of the world.

Stanley Barnes, who has been decorated by the British Government for services to the dairy industry in South-East Asia and to international relations, and has also received the Gold Medal of the Australian Society of Dairy Technologists, said, 'Sweden has been one of the leading nations in giving over the years in terms of aid on a per capita basis. Some nation has got to lead the way to an answer. And I believe that the nations of Scandinavia can show the way to go to produce for man's needs.'

'It will not be done easily. It will not be done with our surpluses. It will only be done with sacrifice. The world food situation is not a very happy picture because in many countries we are reducing production at a time when there is major world need. We are motivated by

material interests and not by the needs of people.'

Half of the 100 million children under the age of 6 in India suffered from serious protein deficiency, he claimed, and this led to stunted physical and mental development that could not be corrected. 'A simple answer would be for these children to have milk,' he said. He referred to a recent speech by Robert Macnamara, Head of the World Bank, underlining the growing gap between the rich and poor nations and the increasing number of people who go hungry every day, and he quoted the words of Frank Buchman, 'There's enough in the world for everyone's need but not for everyone's greed, and if everyone cared enough and everyone shared enough everyone would have enough.' 'We have a very serious responsibility to make these words come true. It is not in God's plan that any children in this world should suffer. Today we have the technology and the material ability to feed the world.'