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COMMUNICATIONS FORUM IN TORONTO

A symposium on 'The media and ethnicity' in Toronto, Canada in April was a marking event for the International Communications Forum. It was the first time a Forum event was initiated jointly with an established media organisation - the Canadian Journalism Foundation.

The symposium attracted 40 persons - 30 Canadian journalists and broadcasters, and 10 from elsewhere who had previous Forum connections.

The latter included the Forum's initiator, Bill Porter; Bernard Margueritte, a French TV correspondent working out of Warsaw; Russian journalist and commentator Denis Dragounski; and Dalia Cutraite of Lithuanian TV. Other speakers included Choice Okoro, Bob Webb, Hugh Nowell and myself.

The symposium report is being prepared by Peter Trueman, one-time anchorman on a popular Canadian Broadcasting Corporation current affairs programme, and now an active writer and columnist.

John Farquharson

SOUTH AFRICAN CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

South Africa will host a conference on the theme: 'Healing the Past, Building the Future - an Honest Consultation on Reconciliation, Responsibility and Renaissance', from 2 to 8 April 1996. It will take place in Bloemfontein, capital of the Free State Province. We see it as a conference that will deal with the needs of South Africa within an African context. The Premier of the Province, Mr Patrick Lekota, will open the conference and be our host. We also have the full backing of the Speaker of the Provincial Parliament, Rev Motialepula Chabaku.

Sam Pono, Pieter & Meryl Horn, and many others

Earlier this year Collie Burton and Rob Corcoran visited South Africa. They found immense interest in the way America's racial issues are being tackled through the programme, *Healing the Heart of America*. People giving leadership in many areas of South African life emphasised that now is the time MRA is needed.

LEADERSHIP IN JAMAICA

Last month Sir Howard Cooke, Governor-General of Jamaica, called together 30 friends in Walkerswood for a training session on 'Leadership in the Jamaican context'. Discussion focussed on the saying: 'private victory must precede public victory'. The following

day a lady returned to a duty-free shop and admitted that she had bought there under false pretences. A Jamaican delegation is being planned for the session at Caux on 'Regions in Crisis, Regions in Recovery', and will contribute to the theme, 'Curing corruption, building trust - everyone's business'.

Roddy Edwards

'TOGETHER WE DO MORE'

Sixty people from Finland, Estonia and Sweden met for three days in west Finland for an Easter conference called 'Together we do more'. Welcoming everyone, medical doctor Helena Kilpi spoke of the 'magnificent reality' she had discovered when she met MRA. It was what she had longed for all her life, she said. 'I hope this Easter we can find the answers to our own problems, listen to each other and to what God wants of us. I hope that we can get rid of all self-centredness so that we are free to think of the problems of the whole world.'

During our time together we discussed:

- * Moral Re-Armament and its task today
- * Vision and calling
- * How God's love can be transmitted through us
- * The battle between good and evil
- * Co-workers of God

A dramatic reading of Peter Howard's play *The Ladder* was presented. Several people decided to take responsibility for longer periods of Caux.

Hannu and Tertu Laaksonen, Marketta Waroma

TIBETAN BULLETIN EVALUATES MRA

The March issue of *Tibetan Bulletin*, journal of the Tibetan Administration in Dharamsala, India, carried an article about MRA by its editor, Bhuchung Tsering. He calls Frank Buchman's Keswick experience the 'seed of the movement which has over the years made a tremendous impact on leaders in many countries.' After a visit to Asia Plateau earlier this year he had 'become optimistic about the future of humanity....Without being bogged down in narrow religious doctrines, MRA attempts to instil in the minds of all individuals the awareness of the tremendous capacity for goodness in all of us, most importantly, in our "enemies".'

Bhuchung Tsering continues, 'I find a lot of similarities between the thoughts of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the precepts of MRA. While His Holiness advises people to change themselves

through inner development, MRA advocates a similar way by asking individuals to spend some time in silence to listen to their inner voice. MRA puts it crisply: men change, nations change.'

NEW MRA CENTRE IN SAO PAULO

A new MRA centre has been opened in Sao Paulo. 'Pavilion Leonor D Villares', was opened by Mrs Villares, in the presence of many close relatives of several generations. Over 100 people from Sao Paulo and elsewhere had come to pay their respects on her 89th birthday, and to attend the opening.

In the early 1950s, Mrs Villares and her late husband Luiz, founder of Latin America's largest steel company, brought MRA to Brazil after their first visit to Caux: they financed a plane-load of Brazilians to a session of the world MRA conference. She made her beautiful house, in one of Sao Paulo's traditional quarters, fully available. Often the militant port workers of Santos, Rio and Recife mingled there with industrialists, youth and others. Historic changes in people and situations took place.

A few years ago, with her family's agreement, she donated the valuable property to MRA. The town council has declared it a Historic Monument. The Centre itself was built at the initiative of the local team in the grounds of the stately house. 'All I have done,' said Mrs Villares, 'was in obedience to God.'

.....FAVELA LEADERS TO MEET IN RIO

In the spirit of 'Hope in the Cities', a team of Favela leaders from Rio de Janeiro has called for a national conference of 'comunitarios' in Sitio Sao Luiz, Petropolis, 16 to 19 November 1995. It will focus on the community leader's role in rebuilding the moral spirit of society. People in business, civic affairs, politics and trade unions are expected. Luiz and Edir Pereira and their daughter Eliene are visiting the north-east, and will invite people in Recife, Salvador and Victoria. Friends from abroad who want to contribute or attend will be most welcome. Please write to Rio or Petropolis addresses.

Luis and Evelyn Puig

JUBILEE RENEWAL RESOURCES

Enclosed with the May *World Bulletin* was an invitation to the world family of MRA to set aside the week of 26 October - 2 November '95 as a time for rededication, individually and collectively. This has been prompted by a widespread perception of our common need and by the fact of Caux's 50th anniversary in 1996. We are referring to the time in October as a 'Jubilee Renewal'.

May we invite suggestions of prayers, of inspirational books, poetry, or anything else that could prepare us for this time. We hope to develop a conversation around the nature and purpose of those days in October. This could benefit not only those who gather at Tirley but also those meeting in groups elsewhere, and individuals who would like to be part of this focus on prayer, reflection and renewal.

These can be sent to me at 9 Serpentine Road, Belair, SA 5052, AUSTRALIA, or fax +61 8 278 2014. I will put these offerings and seed thoughts together as 'Jubilee Renewal Resources', and distribute them through the *World Bulletin* distributors in mid-August.

Jean Brown - for the October Steering Group

ENVELOPING IT ALL WITH PRAYER

Jean Brown has suggested that we include a list of prayer requests in each month's *Bulletin*. I am happy to receive such requests. No doubt many pray for the events in the Calendar already, but please do not let this deter you from suggesting specific aspects which need prayer, as well as other matters.

Andrew Lancaster

FOR THOSE WITH A SENSE OF HUMOUR

As reported in the last *Bulletin*, there is a brand new telephone switchboard at Caux. All we need now are enough people who enjoy the art of communicating to operate it - this summer and in the future.

Requirements are an understanding of and reasonable fluency in English, French and German, some understanding of the work of MRA and, last but not least, a sense of humour!

Anyone interested should contact me at 67 Blundells Drive, Moreton, Wirral L46 8SP, UK.
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Pauline Maclachlan

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India: Bhanu and Varsha Kale have moved to C-2 Garden Estate, Near Wireless Colony, Aundh, Pune 411 007. Tel: +91 212 333726

Britain: Roddy and Ann Edwards have moved to: Furrows, Bramfield Rd, Wenhaston, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 9EA Tel: +44 1502 47 8466 Fax: +44 1502 47 8150.

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Friday, 15 September 1995

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