

Problems of Third World remains unsolved Sunday

After a film, panel discussion and question period, no one in the crowd of over 100 was able to come up with a plan of follow-up action Sunday. The subject was The Third World and the audience was understanding, the panel was informative, the film was impressive. Still, how Actonians could help was a problem no one had an answer to.

Moderator Ekko Constant in conclusion suggested the initiative could be left with the churches, or perhaps a few would get together and arrange another evening such as this one.

The response was good and extra chairs were set up in Knox basement to accommodate the crowd.

K. P. Pysand introduced the program and animated discussion continued over lunch served by the Daughters of Knox.

Four panelists, knowledgeable panel members were able to answer many questions from the audience.

Ashey McKim of Milton "saw herself with different eyes" after living in Kenya, Tanzania and the southern Sudan. She gives much credit for intelligence and ability to the blacks.

Dr. Craig Hutchinson recently returned after relieving a doctor in Tanzania for two months that seemed like a holiday, yet when he "never worked so hard."

M.P. Terry O'Connor tempered some of the sugges-

tions with hard facts of politics.

Jo Jo Salootje, now of Toronto, supports the freedom movement for South Africa ardently.

Bits and pieces

Snippets of the evening's talk:

Perhaps higher prices should be paid for raw materials we purchase from emerging countries, such as sugar. Present government trade with South Africa supports apartheid, Canada and the UN condemn policies, but continue to trade.

Do we send things that cannot be used? Dr. Hutchinson saw repairable trucks, abandoned. Apparently our government now sends what's asked for.

The Canadian government spends 400 million in aid a year, channelled through non-government agencies. But 80 million of this - one quarter - is the cost of administration.

The U.N. recommends each country give to aid the emerging nations one per cent of the gross national product. Canada's aid has never exceeded one-half of one per cent.

Human involvement is necessary, as well as money. Attitude is important.

Don't the people of these countries have something to offer us?

Appreciated

Is our aid noticeable? Yes, all three panelists who had been involved agreed.

The government will respond to public opinion; more will be spent if the people would, for instance, write to their MP's as a goal of this Third World Week.



KNOWLEDGEABLE THIRD World panelists Sunday were Dr. Craig Hutchinson, Jo Jo Salootje, Audrey McKim and M. P. Terry O'Connor. The problem of how we can help and understand emerging nations still remains unsolved but over 100 have a better understanding of government and church aid and the oppressive problems of other lands.

Lost child, charge

The reporting week of February 3 to February 9 was an active one for officers of the Acton O.P.P.

There were 25 general occurrences ranging from lost license plates to a lost child. A six-year-old girl was returned home after having been located crying in a local laundromat. There was one liquor seizure during the week at the Acton arena. An out of town man has been charged.

Speeders

Two Rockwood area men were arrested early Saturday morning after their vehicle was stopped for speeding. Both men were taken to Hutton county jail after assaulting the two police officers who had stopped them. They were released Saturday morning to appear in Milton Court Feb. 13.

An out-of-town man was arrested by Guelph O.P.P. for Acton O.P.P. on Thursday, Feb. 7 and is presently in custody waiting trial. He was charged with "driving under suspension", "failing to appear in court", and "having liquor other than a residence".

Quarter slugs were used to empty the change machine at the laundromat on Mill St. E. The culprits got approximately \$14 and the investigation is continuing.

Three minor accidents occurred during the reporting week. There were no injuries. Total damage was \$345.

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The Clergy speak out . . .

Retreat from Reason

By the Rev. W. G. Onions

I've read that one of the encouraging signs of the times is that people are more open to mystery. Is this good? They certainly seem open to all kinds of superstition. In many ways this is an age of unreason.

A long time ago, a sixteen year old girl, learning that I was studying for the ministry, laughed at me. "Religion," she said, "is for the birds. We have science." Today you'd probably find girls her age casting their horoscopes. That's change, but is it progress?

True, science has lost face. People feel that science has taken away the old landmarks and left them with a lot of new, insoluble problems. This reaction is due to a number of factors; possibly a combination of them. Science is the sum of all that can be known about ourselves and the world by open minded investigation and experimentation. But is this all we can know for sure? If it is then many people feel that they are left without meaning or purpose, without God and without hope. But, as I pointed out to my young

friend so many years ago, the great scientists have never claimed to know all there is to be known: their knowledge has served only to open up new fields of enquiry. If people don't like the kind of world science seems to leave them with, then let them take a look at the worlds of music, art, literature or religion. Do you protest that they are often no less revealing? Then is the fault in ourselves?

The gifts of science are twofold. It has revolutionized communication and transportation, abolished many diseases and increased our life expectancy, but it has left us sitting like convicted murderers on death row, wondering when someone is going to push the button that means the end.

But should we blame science? Science is neutral. It puts knowledge and power into our hands. What we make of them is up to us. Take our universities - often the scene of violent student uprisings, particularly in the sixties. Paul Goodman writes: "at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 90 per cent of the research budget is provided

by government and 65 per cent of that is military. Inevitably such funding channels the brain power of the brightest students, who go where the action is, and this predetermines the course of American science and technology for the foreseeable future. At present, nearly 200,000 American engineers and scientists spend all their time making weapons. This is a comment for the usual statement that more scientists are now alive than since Adam and Eve.

What has happened? Our universities were founded, often by churches, for the study of the so-called "humanities". In the hope that thereby we would become more human, more humane. But our universities, like life in general, have become more impersonal and fragmented, devoted to manipulation and control rather than understanding and learning. Can we control and determine human beings as we have plants and animals? We know a lot about genes and inheritance, so we hear about genetic engineering. We know a lot

about the effects of environmental, so we hear about "social engineering". Many years ago, Aldous Huxley gave us a picture in "Brave New World", of what science, given a free hand, might have in store for us. It wasn't an attractive picture. Who decides what traits are most desirable to be passed on from one generation to the next? Who decides what values should find expression in social life? Any group that can gain access to the sources of propaganda and control?

We have shirked the real issues, evaded the important questions. Human beings are not machines to be manipulated and controlled. But what are we? We shall not find the answer by turning to age old superstitions, eastern mysticism, the occult of black magic. That is just another kind of escapism. "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings." The Christian church still offers a rich inheritance of insight and understanding: the living God still sets before us the choice between truth and falsehood, good and evil, life and death.

Four baptized at Trinity

Four babies were baptized Sunday at the United church by Dr. Onions, after being presented by roll clerk Mrs. Arlene Bruce.

The children are Richard James, son of Richard and Dieta Goodings, 12 Division St.; Stacy Marie, daughter of Shirley and Brydon Hunter, 55 Longfield; Angela Jean, daughter of Heidi and Romeo Hoy, 61 Church W. and Melony J., daughter of Carla and Doug Wood, R. R. 4, Acton.

LIMITS SWELLING

A cold compress may help limit swelling and bruising, according to St. John Ambulance. The compress can be made from a thin towel, a piece of flannel, cotton, wool or a handkerchief, soaked in cold water.

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