

NEWSLETTER

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT *Lakehead College*



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The S.C.M. Film Society is pleased to present Jules et Jim on Wednesday, March 25th, at 1:45 and 8:30 pm in the University Centre Theatre. This French film has won much acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic. It will be accompanied by a French short, "La Lutte." Admission is fifty cents for students, one dollar for adults. Everyone is welcome.

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This being the last edition of the NEWSLETTER, I would like to thank all those who contributed articles throughout the year. On most controversial issues that arose, such as the merits of separate schools, the case for socialism, and even the use of the University Centre, I have endeavoured to present both sides of the story. In this regard you will note below the articles received following last week's editorial on Moral Re-Armament.

Rather than merely report on activities going on at the College, a job which will be fulfilled by our proposed newspaper next year, the NEWSLETTER has attempted to express student opinion on a wide variety of subjects, and will, I hope, continue to do so next year.

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Dear Mr. Reynolds:

I wish to protest vigorously against an editorial on Moral Re-Armament which appeared in the March 18th issue of the Student Christian Movement Newsletter. The article was misinformed and biased to an extreme. Quotations were made from sources unnamed—sources which I have reason to suspect.

As you note in your article, some clergy refuse to endorse the principles and programme of Moral Re-Armament: you fail to note, however, that many other clergy, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, give whole-hearted support to this movement. In my own life and in my work as minister, M R A has been a guiding influence. I deny your contention that the virtues of absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute unselfishness and absolute love "can never be the norm for any community larger than a Monastery."

In Moral Re-Armament, I have never found the "hectic heartiness, mass gaiety, or escapism from responsibility" of which you infer M R A is guilty. M R A is the practical expression of the absolute principles which Jesus Christ practiced and taught: it deserves fairer treatment than it received in your editorial.

Sincerely,

Rev. Hugh MacDonald,
St. Paul's United Church

ON MORAL RE-ARMAMENT

Praise is due the Editor who feeds his readers when they are hungry for knowledge! And blessed be he who sacrifices selfish and personal aims for the common good of all! (Indubitably, I am referring to the question of M.R.A.)

That many were perturbed, irritated and disappointed at that memorable meeting is too obvious. However, I took it as a challenge to dig into the mystery of MRA; and by now I can deliver lectures and answer questions on MRA, at least more than those fellows could hope to do. But what still beats my imagination is why those passionate moralists failed woefully to answer those simple direct questions. It is perplexing!

Howbeit, I later had a discussion with them, and I advised them on how to organize their speeches and how to behave when speaking to a university gathering. I was at dinner with a different group, and also watched the play, *El Condor*—all in an effort to understand MRA. Finally I have come to these conclusions—

1. That MRA is a movement—moral and spiritual (as opposed to the claims of the fellows who were here.)
2. That *El Condor* is a very powerful instrument of imparting the idea of MRA. It is the most natural play I have ever watched.
3. That MRA principles are too idealistic. The word 'Absolute' is a liability rather than an asset to the ideology, (at least as far as rational students are concerned.)
4. However, I am not convinced that MRA is after political power. (Reference to the last sentence in the editorial).
5. On the other hand, I am fully convinced that anything is better than nothing. That a group of young students can propagate an idea on a universal scale is a credit to them. Samuel Johnson says "...he whose life has passed without a contest, and who can boast neither success nor merit, (not necessarily academic work) can survey himself only as a useless filler of existence; and if he is content with his own character, must owe his satisfaction to insensibility."
6. That, therefore, there is much good to be found in MRA. Surely a high standard of morals is not inimical to any

individual, group, or society. The youths particularly, who will soon find themselves in responsible positions in society, need higher morals more than anything. In fact, some need not MRA, but Moral Armament.

7. Since we have seen some of the defects of MRA, despite the general virtue of morals, there can be a great re-orientation of MRA, making it more realistic. I may call this Neo-MRA. And how great and wonderful it would be if such an idea, Neo-MRA, emanated from Lakehead College!

Therefore, Jack, what do you and your readers say? Have we not capable minds to start Neo-MRA or Moral Armament where applicable?

....Charlie Salutor

NEW BALANCE OF POWER

It has been argued that Communist China, the new giant in the Far East, is currently becoming the most significant factor in world politics. What effect is China's emergence to great power status and her present split with Soviet Russia having on the total world balance of power? How important is it that Russia and the U.S.A. being about a complete nuclear disarmament before China acquires nuclear power? How significant are our contrasting political and religious ideologies in the present shifting scene of world politics?

Today, at noon, S.C.M. presents a lecture on "The New Balance of Power" by Dr. Gordon Rothney. Dr. Rothney will touch on the latter questions and others in an attempt to give a realistic assessment of the various aspects of our present world political situation.

And this meeting may also provide an opportunity for Dr. Rothney to attempt a refutation of some of the Miller-ian "heresies" from a couple of weeks back.

That's today at 12:15 in the University Centre Seminar Room.

NOTICE

Several people have been wondering what, exactly, is going on concerning the S.C.M. bookroom and its future. A meeting of the S.C.M. executive recently dealt specifically with this question. The results of this meeting are roughly along the following lines: The book steward's report recommended that, due to financial complications and accessibility of capital, the bookroom faced a potential problem of being unable to fulfil its essential purpose--namely, to serve student needs by providing a source of inexpensive, quality paperbacks. Also taken into consideration was the fact that the new A.M.S. would eventually incorporate the bookroom as the latter expanded in stock and hours beyond what the S.C.M. is prepared to

invest. Even though this time has not yet been forced upon us, there is no better time than the present to face the inevitabilities of the future.

The solution is evident. Upon the book steward's recommendation, we feel that we should offer the bookroom to the A.M.S. who, with their greater financial resources and central banking system, possess the means to carry out the bookroom's purposes with minimum complication. The A.M.S. executive does not take office until the 1st of April. At this time, if the A.M.S. executive is in agreement, the S.C.M. will be willing to transfer the management of the bookroom to the A.M.S.

The transfer will not mean any drastic innovation of policy. The bookroom will still require student interest to maintain operation. I might add, speaking on behalf of the S.C.M. executive, that we are pleased with the progress of the bookroom due to student interest. Because of a latent pride from initiating it, we will maintain a keen interest in the development and maintenance of the bookroom under new management.

...Doug Brown
S.C.M. President

OXFAM

The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief will be sponsoring a film to be shown tomorrow, the 26th of March, at noon in room 16. This film is especially timely since it will be discussing Oxfam's work among the underprivileged of the world. The executive secretary of Oxfam, Mrs. Lynn Ten Kate will be in attendance to give a brief lecture and to answer any questions about this worthwhile movement. Mrs. Ten Kate is a former English actress who has given up her career to devote her time to travelling for this group to publicize its work.

That's tomorrow noon in room 16 to find out some of the problems of the underprivileged and perhaps some of the means of alleviating them.

BROOMBALL TITLE DECIDED

A successful broomball season came to an end several weeks back with BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION winning over Arts II by a score of 1 - 0. In what must be some kind of record, the teams went scoreless for three games, with the outcome finally being decided by a goal by Jack Tarnowski (chosen Most Valuable Broomball Player) in overtime of the third game.

Congratulations to COLIN SUTHERLAND, chosen ATHLETE OF THE YEAR.