

Thomas More Society

The Thomas More Society of America • Suite 700 • 1211 Connecticut Ave., N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20036

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1982



Left to right: Carolyn Guenst, Charles LiMandri, Roderick O'Neil, Honorable Howard Markey, Dr. Mark Cannon, Michael Lynch.

BERNARD BASSETT, SJ, SPEAKS AT FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Under the chairmanship of Ralph Brown, a luncheon was held at the National Lawyers Club on February 18, with Bernard Bassett as featured speaker. A collateral descendant of Sir Thomas More, he is also related to General Robert E. Lee. A first honors graduate in History from Oxford, Bassett has written many captivating books, among them a life of Thomas More, *Born For Friendship*. Outstanding for his wit and ability to tailor his remarks to a broad range of audiences, his appearances on television have also made him internationally famous.

Bassett fascinated the group of 126 members and friends of the Society with some unique viewpoints on More's humanity, scholarship and moral sense.

(Continued on pg. 2)

NEW CHAPTERS AT NOTRE DAME AND GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITIES

A member of the Thomas More Society of America, Mr. Jerry Wegemer, has founded a Chapter at Notre Dame, where a series of lectures on More, natural law and related subjects has been sponsored. Members comprised of faculty and students have planned a More Fall Festival on October 1-3, 1982.

The Georgetown University Law Center founded a Chapter in 1981 with a membership of thirty students and faculty. Professor Richard A. Gordon, Francis A. Moan, SJ, and Charles J. LiMandri, all members of the Thomas More Society of America, form part of the steering Committee. Activities this year included an address by Chief Judge Howard T. Markey, and a showing of "A Man for All Seasons" to interested students.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF U.S. ADDRESSES SOCIETY

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger has honored the Society by accepting the invitation to speak at a Dinner, September 16, 1982. On this special occasion, the Chief Justice will receive the first honorary membership to the Thomas More Society of America.

The Chairman of the Banquet is Edward A. McCabe, Esq., of Hamel, Park, McCabe & Saunders. He served as Associate Special Counsel to the President of the United States from 1956-1958, and as Administrative Assistant until 1961. As member of the Judicial Conference of the District of Columbia Circuit, he is eminently qualified to chair this significant event. He will be assisted by Mr. Joseph McGrath, President of the Harvard Club of Washington, as Vice Chairman.

Honorable Howard T. Markey, Chief Justice of the U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, will be the Toastmaster.

SOCIETY REPRESENTED AT YALE REUNION

Regina McGranery, Board Member, attended the Annual Yale Luncheon held at the Graduate Club of New Haven on December 5, 1981. Professor Louis Martz, director and founder of the Project, briefly recounted its history and outlined its future plans. Since some of More's works have been discovered only recently, additional funding is necessary to fulfill the Project's goal of providing scholarly editions in English of all of More's writings.

The afternoon concluded with a lecture by Thomas Clay Doyle of the University of Georgia on "The Secular Legend of Thomas More," followed by a lively discussion.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACCOMPLISHES OBJECTIVES AND MOVES ON

The Board regrets the resignation of Roderick J. O'Neil as Executive Director, effective March 31. E. Nancy McAuley RSCJ, Assistant, has become Acting Executive Director. Mr. O'Neil envisions the Society as potentially limitless. He will continue to be available to President Crumlsh for consultation. During his term Mr. O'Neil reorganized the Society, and arranged the February and March events at the National Lawyers Club. In addition, he produced the Society's new brochure and successfully conducted membership and renewal drives.

As the Society's first Executive Director, O'Neil faced the unenviable task of centralizing files and records from the past three years, setting up procedures, and planning agendas for the Society in the future. Rod leaves the Society in a healthy fiscal condition and with the largest membership in its history. The Board thanks him for his fine service and wishes him every success in the future. Suggestions for nominations of a successor to Mr. O'Neil should be forwarded to the Search Committee at Suite 700, 1121 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

A brochure prepared by F. David Clarke, Don Zies, Joseph Crumlsh, and Roderick O'Neil was sent in January to prospective members. In March 1982, the Executive Director reported that the membership had already shown an increase of 45%.

The operations committee requests that each Board member recruit ten new members, and that each member solicit three friends who might wish to join the Society. Some Board members have already reached this quota, notably Board Chairman, Thomas H. Wall, Esq.

The Board wishes to express its thanks to F. David Clarke who generously provided not only input into the development of the brochure, but also its printing cost and that of the new stationery. For additional brochures, please contact Nancy McAuley RSCJ at 635-5451.

DIRECTORY

A Directory of Thomas More groups throughout the country is planned. Volunteers to help with it will be appreciated. Please write to President Crumlsh.



Left to right, Dr. Mark Cannon, Reverend Bernard Bassett, SJ, President Joseph Crumlsh.

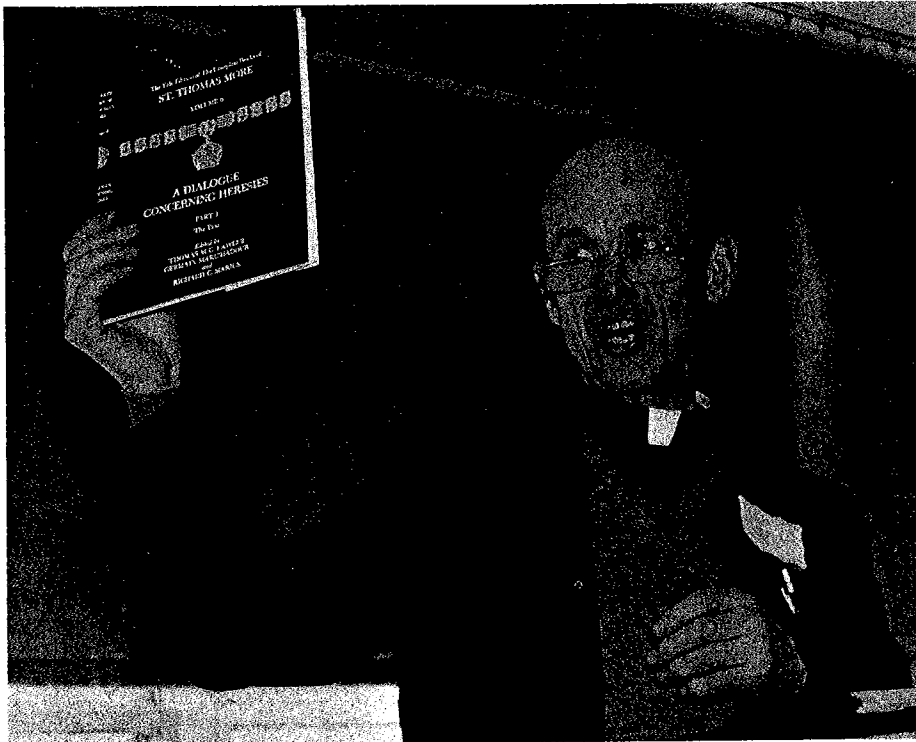
Bassett (cont.)

After the program, many remained to chat informally with the speaker, and to peruse a display of his publications. His latest book is entitled *How To Be Really With It*. Some previous writings still available are: *We Agnostics*, *And Would You Believe It*, and *The Golden Years*.

In 1981, this prolific writer and lecturer recorded two brilliant tapes: "A Weekend with Cardinal Newman; and "A Parliament of Saints."

Books and tapes may be obtained from:

Mr. & Mrs. R.C. Hungate
4411 Everett
Kensington, MD 20895
(301) 946-2992



Abbé Germain Marc'hadour

FUNDRAISING UNDERWAY

Efforts have begun to contact foundations requesting support for the Society in order to expand membership, initiate out-of-state chapters, and begin a scholarship program.

The Society is now entering a new stage in its development as a national organization. A program has been designed, which with initial outside assistance, will promote the expansion of activities and membership.

Successful fundraising rests on 'networks'. Even the most dynamic program needs assistance in presenting its case to a foundation. Members who can assist in suggesting foundations or other funding sources are requested to write President Joseph Crumliss.

IN MEMORIAM
Colonel John R. Crown
Former Board Member
April 19, 1982

Editors: Don A. Zies
E. Nancy McAuley, RSCJ

MARC'HADOUR RETURNS

Abbé Germain Marc'hadour, International Secretary of "Amici Thomae Mori", returned this year to the Society in Washington for his second speaking engagement at a luncheon on March 25, chaired by Thomas Kennelly. The speaker was introduced to an enthusiastic audience by C. Normand Poirier. Many commented on the charisma of Marc'hadour which enhanced the content of his speech.

Commenting on *A Dialogue of Heresies*, Marc'hadour concentrated on the humor of the author, reminiscent of Chaucer's caricatures a hundred years before. He showed both sides of a question without committing himself. More remarked: "A merry tale never comes amiss to me". Since More used in the *Dialogue* older English than his ordinary prose, Abbé passed two pages to his audience, and had them translated from Old English by Peter Milward, a Jesuit from Sophia University in Japan.

Presently, Abbé Marc'hadour is a professor at the Université Catholique de l'Ouest, Angers, France. Founder of the bilingual quarterly, *Moreana*, which has contributors from forty countries, the Abbé also participates in the Thomas More project at Yale University.

CELEBRATION—JUNE 1982

In conjunction with the First Friday Club of Capitol Hill, The Society is sponsoring a noontime Mass at St. Peter's Church, Washington, D.C., on More's Feast Day, June 22, 1982. The celebrant and homilist is Reverend Raymond O'Brien, Assistant Dean at the Catholic University Law School.

The Mass will be followed by an informal luncheon on the Church grounds. Notices will be published in the Congressional Record.

Dear Friends of Thomas More:

Our Society continues to attract people of like mind who are engaged in a wide range of occupations. The very mention of Thomas evokes instant interest and approval of this invincible defender of man's personal rights and responsibilities. As in More's day, to quote from his friend Erasmus who wrote in the year 1519:

"The admiration, I might also say the passion, that you feel for Thomas More is shared I can assure you, with many others, and by him is fully returned."

So keen and widespread is the enthusiasm kindled by him in people's hearts that some of us would dare to foresee the growth of the Society, through its chapters and affiliates, into an organization of thousands. We can envision a headquarters (perhaps donated by friends), a staff, conferences in key cities throughout the world, pilgrimages to More sites and shrines in England; all in the name of More and that for which he stands.

Why can this dream-stuff come true? Perhaps because there is a universal need among men and women today for a living model, a friend and patron to whom we all can look to keep our spirits high. Erasmus was the one who tagged More as "a man for all seasons," and a man of precious qualities: his writing a triumph of learning and quality and gaiety combined; his nature always pleasant and friendly and cheerful, with a readiness to smile; loyal, straightforward and naturally endowed for friendship.

More represents for us today what Erasmus depicted more than 350 years ago. Surely Thomas' example will continue to appeal to an ever widening circle of admirers and overflow from one generation to the next. Thank you all for joining this venture and for encouraging us to dream big dreams and to work for their realization.

Sincerely,

Joseph D. Crumlish
Joseph D. Crumlish
President

JDC:ar

**PLEASE ENROLL ME IN THE
SOCIETY**

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Memberships:

Charter	\$100.
Sustaining	50.
Regular	25.
Student	10.

Make your check payable to:
The Thomas More Society of America
and mail to the address below
(Contributions are tax deductible)

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