

National Celebrities Speak to Area CDC

By CHARLES RANDISI

Three hundred people assembled for dinner at the Red Men's Club on Lexington Avenue last Thursday as Citizens for a Decent Community staged their big affair of the year.

The evening's program included two guest speakers, Martha Rountree, nationally-known journalist and a creator of television's Meet the Press, and Robert Dornan, a Los Angeles TV talk-show host.

CDC is the local arm of Citizens for Decency through Law, one of the country's most vocal groups fighting pornography.

Clarence Carman, CDC's vice chairman was introduced by Michael Macaluso, Jr., chairman, after dinner. He likened the embattled position of CDC to being "surrounded by four stone walls." He listed the pornographer ("a mean, grubby, pathetic non-person"), the courts, newspapers and the district attorney's office as the prime obstacles.

Macaluso then turned the floor over to Mrs. Rountree, whom he described as "a diesel engine under a lady's handkerchief."

Pornography, she said, is the doing of the "wicked men born in every generation." People have the responsibility to "render them impotent."

She decried the breakdown of morality in America, blaming it on over-affluence. "When you have everything you need, you lose something," she said.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling that gives individual communities the prerogative of setting their own standards of decency, said Mrs. Rountree, is "a green light to do something" about pornography. However, she warned, "it's only a ruling," and it is up to people to "start moving."

One way pornographers distribute obscene literature, she said, is by procuring address lists, and sending material through the mails. A person can keep it from coming to his home, she said, by filling out at the post office a form declaring he does not want to receive "sexually oriented material" in the mail.

She brought with her two

books she considered pornographic, and which she said are required reading in some schools. However, she did not show them to the audience because she saw some young people sitting there.

Women, Mrs. Rountree said, can be particularly effective in fighting pornography. She urged the audience not to listen to pornography apologists who say "it can't hurt you." She said, "You can't throw sewage over people and say they're not going to smell of it."

Robert Dornan then came on and immediately described himself as a lover of the American institutions of apple pie ("my favorite foodstuff") and mother ("the greatest person I ever met").

His targets, besides the hardcore smut peddlers, included TV talk shows, the networks, the press, Hollywood, Playboy and its imitators, and rock singers.

Dornan said that the bulk of crusading for anti-obscenity causes must be undertaken by laymen. "The media tell priests, rabbis and clerics to 'get lost,' unless they're weirdos," he said. "They're not listened to... not allowed on the campuses."

The most "obnoxious" thing he's found in his lecturing, he explained, is that he finds himself "under attack" for having "some sort of sexual hang-up."

Yet, he elaborated, Linda Lovelace, star of the controversial film "Deep Throat" has become a national heroine, and appeared on radio station KABC in Los Angeles, to give "breathing instructions" to women who want to improve their sex life.

Dornan, whose uncle was Jack Haley, the Tin Man of the film "The Wizard of Oz," said that he was brought up with the movies, and lamented the state of the Hollywood industry today. Black exploitation films, for example "Hit!" a recent production of MGM studios, encourage racism, he said.

He quoted the opening lines of Charles Dickens' Tale of Two Cities: "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times," to describe the situation in America. Dornan contrasted advances in technology and the standard of living with rising statistics in rape,

illegitimate births, and venereal disease.

He feels that the crisis in morality is much greater a problem than issues like Watergate. that are in the limelight.

"Just try talking about Watergate to parents of kids who are dying of syphilis," he said.

Though he disputed Jane Fonda's political views, he praised her recent decision not to appear in movies that treat women as sex objects. "I have to admire her zeal," he added.

In his final encouragement to CDC to continue battling pornography, he used the words spoken by St. Paul: "I have run the course; I have fought the good fight; I have kept the faith."

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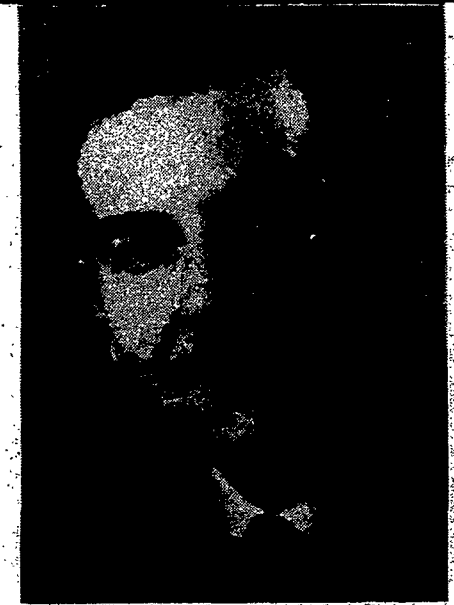
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- Attended—Blessed Sacrament School, Aquinas Institute, University of Iowa, and Chicago, St. John's University College of Law.
- Past Grand Knight, Knights of Columbus, Irondequoit Council—Presently Trustee.
- Former Member Executive Committee, N.Y. State Association of Towns, City-County Youth Board and Monroe County Charter Commission. Trustee, Monroe Community Hospital; Advocate, Waner Claudius American Legion Post.
- Vice President, Monroe County Supervisors Assn.
- Supervisor, Town of Irondequoit 1960-1969.
- Board of Supervisors 1960-1966. Monroe County Legislature 1967, 1970-1973

DEMOCRAT — CONSERVATIVE



Meet My Father/Father

Chaplain [Capt.] Andre Legault of the Canadian Army is shown with his family — five children he adopted in Haiti. The Roman Catholic priest, 30 years old, was the first Catholic clergyman to take advantage of a new Canadian law permitting adoption by unmarried persons. Says Father Legault: "I was young, healthy, getting a good salary as a chaplain but I had nobody to give it to." With parent Legault, clockwise, are Denis, 18; Yolene, 14; Gabriel, 16; Hugues, 10, and Margaret, 14, all natives of Haiti. Denis wants to become an army officer; Hugues wants to follow in his foster father's footsteps and become a priest; Yolene is undecided on her future; Margaret and Gabriel want to become doctors and return to Haiti. [RNS]