

SUMMARY

The first issue of ETHOS opens with a statement setting out the editors' ideological programme. The editors, using Christian ideals as a basis, proclaim, above all, a service to Man. *In the service of Man we want, as editors of ETHOS, to stand in the service of Truth and Freedom, or more particularly in the service of Freedom directed by Truth as expressed by John Paul II during his third pilgrimage to the homeland.* Today more than ever it is necessary to protect the human person, whose life is being threatened in its most fundamental aspects. On the one hand, the interior life of a person is endangered by raising his own freedom to the absolute. Moreover, there is a negation of fidelity to the truth that has been recognized as such but which can be rejected. On the other hand, the person is threatened by external influences in the form of systems which either manipulate the truth or else limit the individual and social subjectiveness. ETHOS wishes to oppose these dangers. Furthermore, it wishes to present a programme of openness, dialogue and pluralism following from an affirmation of the human person.

The main section of the first issue of ETHOS consists of a group of articles about the co-existence of nations. It is introduced (yellow page) by the words of John Paul II who, speaking in Oświęcim in 1979, voiced the tragic circumstances surrounding the ties between the Polish, Russian, Jewish and German nations. In fact, the co-existence of these nations forms a major part of the present issue.

The part entitled *The Germans* opens with the 1965 appeal „*We forgive and we ask for forgiveness*” made by the Polish Bishops to the German Bishops. The three articles which follow are linked with the person of Karl Dedecius, a German who gave himself totally to research in and to the spread of Polish culture. They include the „*laudatio*” of S. Sawicki on the occasion of an honorary doctorate of the Catholic University of Lublin being conferred on Karl Dedecius, together with thanks of the Laureate and also his lecture on the concepts of history and conscience in the poetic works of Karol Wojtyła.

The part entitled *The Lithuanians* contains the hitherto unpublished letters of Bl. Jerzy Matulewicz of Wilno from 1919-1921 to Achille Ratti the then papal nuncio (and later Pope Pius XI). The letters reveal the drama and the many cultural, social, religious and political complications of Lithuania in those years. The memoirs of C. Zgorzelski refer to the pre-war period of Wilno and tell of the various elements of spiritual life at the Stefan Batory University. There follows a text of D.H. Wojtyśka CP which was to be a „*laudatio*” to celebrate the conferment of an honorary doctorate on the Archbishop of Lithuania L. Povilonis in May 1987. (Unfortunately this event never took place).

The articles in the part *The Ukrainians* open up the problem of the need for Polish-Ukrainian reconciliation. R. Łużny presents a complicated and difficult history of Christianity in Ruthenia-Ukraine in the perspective of its Millennium.

W. Mokry in his literary analysis of the works of the 19th century Ukrainian poet Taras Shevczenko reveals the poet's idea of freedom as determined by truth and love and not by rebellion and hatred. A. Kondrak takes up the topic of a call for peace and reconciliation of nations as regards Poles and Ukrainians.

The part entitled *The Jews* closes the group of articles about co-existence of nations. The text written by J. Strykowski is a poetic metaphor about the participation of one culture in another, the participation of Jewish culture in the Polish one. K. Strzelecka OSU discusses spirituality, customs and characteristic features of the Jewish national character. J. Salij OP in his essay deals with the constant problem of mutual relations between Poles and people of Jewish extraction.

The first issue of ETHOS conclude with three other sections. „*Reports*” consists of an account of W. Chudy on the symposium held at the Catholic University of Lublin in May 1987 on the relations between the Gospel and culture, with particular attention paid to Central Europe, and account of G. Koziarski on the symposium about national minorities in Poland which took place in the Jesuits Church in Łódź, October 1987. In the section „*Reviews and Notes*” K. Klauza presents a book which was a product of the conference on the theology of liberation, organized by the Institute of John Paul II. A. Jaroszyński in the section „*The Pontificate in the Eyes of the World*” reviews books in English on the Pope published in 1978-1084. He shows both typical shortcomings and shallowness as well as interesting viewpoints and observations in the treatment of the Pope's life and thought. „*Bibliography*” and „*Notes on Contributors*” close the issue.