

Finally, we feel a radical change is necessary in the church's view of mass communications media. There must be a totally new awareness of how completely the media presently dominate our lives, and their awesome potential for evangelism. Power, communication, and action are available if the church, under God's Spirit, takes hold of this remarkable field with vision and an aggressive spirit.

## YOUTH REPORT

*John Ray*

This Congress has been and is going to continue to be an important event in the ongoing task of evangelization among that ever-increasing proportion of our world's population — those under 30. This is not a youth congress as shown by just one example: a national group from a country with more than half of its church membership under 30 has not included a single young person in its contingent. Even so, the importance of reaching youth must be emphasized. In an extraordinary way, the problems and situations of young people mean that we constitute a more uniquely homogenous group than almost any other. It is therefore urged that serious thought be given to a strategy for the evangelization of youth which focuses on how to reach the millions of those under 30 on every continent, especially Asia. If we who have gathered here do not take decisive action, there are others who most definitely will and indeed already are. We thank God for the various worldwide church and parachurch youth organizations, but the challenge of the evangelization of youth in this generation must be faced squarely by us and a more concerted effort made to reach them with the Gospel that deals with the whole man.

One consistent message has come through from young people at the Congress. More than ever before, young people must be given and indeed are ready to shoulder their full and responsible share in the continuing task of world evangelization. We want increasingly to be part of the many teams that God by his Spirit is raising up in various parts of the world. In country after country, he is uniting, preparing and equipping to make us more useful and useable members of his body. We young people say: Your experience and our enthusiasm consecrated to the service of the living God can achieve great things for him.

We have begun to discover each other as partners in our common task at this Congress. This has been partly through listening and listening and listening. But also by singing, sharing, and praying together. Many of us felt the lack of praising the Lord together but the Holy Spirit himself has allowed us in these last few days to experience something of the "beautiful community." We will return encouraged by and supportive of each other. Many have voiced the need for sound evangelical theology based unequivocally on Holy Scripture as vital to our evangelistic and disciple-making strategy. In the years ahead, I can see many of us going to each other's countries, especially in the Third World, as evangelists and disciple-makers with a renewed understanding of the Gospel in its fullest dimension because we have been here at Lausanne.