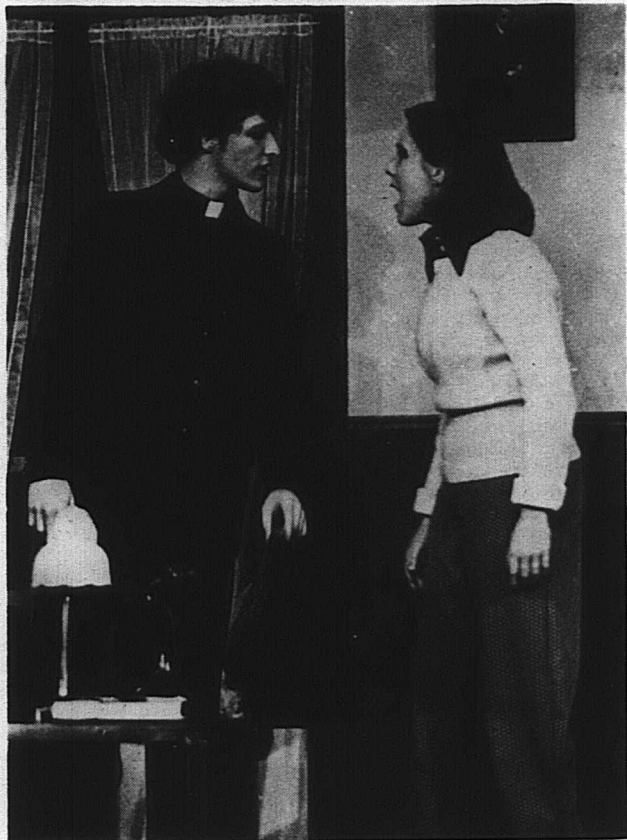


The Houghton Star

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Houghton College, Houghton, NY 14744, November 19, 1976

No. 9



Cindey Quiter and Steve Lennox experience a tense moment in "See How They Run"

Review: EEC's "See How They Run"

by Julie Johnson

The English Expression Club's production of Philip King's farce *See How They Run* kept the audience laughing for most of the show. The cast maintained a fast-moving pace, playing one funny situation off another and keeping the audience thoroughly amused by the confusion on stage. The action of the play occurs in the Vicarage at Merton-cum-Middlewick, England. Although the script affords little depth of plot or character development, the force of the comedy comes from the confused identities of four men running about in clerical suits (Rev. Lionel Toop, Kevin Butler; Corporal Clive Winton, Steve Lennox; an escaped prisoner, Dan Hawkins; and Rev. Arthur Humphrey, Keith Tyler).

Several members of the cast showed outstanding ability. Cindy Quiter, as the Vicar's high-spirited wife, gave a fine performance. That she finds her duties as a Vicar's wife stifling is readily apparent; the appearance of an old friend (Steve Lennox) allows her to loosen up, as they recall past moments they have spent acting together in America. Lennox made good use of facial expressions and well-timed gestures to bring roars from the crowd. The inept cockney maid, played by Joan Hall, frequently stole the show. The giddy girl, ironically, is the only character who knows the truth behind most of the mistaken identities. Miss Hall carried her difficult part very well, using a cockney dialect effectively. Another giddy character was the village's sour old maid played convincingly by Kathy Confer. The part could have gotten out of hand when the old spinster got drunk, but Miss Confer tactfully played within her lines without pushing too far. The confusion increased with the intrusion of an escaped Russian prisoner played by

Dan Hawkins. He portrays the shifty-eyed Commie with a well-controlled intensity. Keith Tyler was hilarious in his minor role as humble Reverend Humphrey. Tyler's large stature made Humphrey's meekness doubly ludicrous. His voice inflection and body stance were consistently funny as poor Humphrey, convinced that the Vicarage is a madhouse, gradually fears for his own sanity.

There were two disappointing performances. As the Vicar, Kevin Butler lacked finesse and seemed uncomfortable in his role; at times he appeared nervous, and made the Vicar a bit too awkward and unrefined to have landed such a beautiful wife. He apparently lost some of his inhibitions later, for he dashed about for half of the play clad only in his underwear. And Les Wells as the Bishop underplayed his part and seemed a bit rushed.

Senior History major Karen White directed the play. The positioning of the characters on stage and the timing of entrances was crucial in this play; players dashed in and out of the doors, briefly interrupting the action on stage, and much depended on specific staging to insure that the right characters would remain confused. The acting was well-directed, although the play offered little opportunity for sensitive development of a character's personality or mood. The full interior set contributed largely to the audience's pleasure; Jeff Millwater's painstaking attention to detail in designing the set and the authentic costuming by Janet Walker added stability to the very unstable nature of the plot. The only technical problem to which Miss White might have attended more closely was that of some badly done make-up jobs, especially on Miss Quiter and Mr. Butler.

The average playgoer might have

Luckey Fire Damage Is 'Extensive'; Arsonist Once Again A Possibility

On Wednesday night fire destroyed a major section of Luckey Memorial Building's fourth floor. Although the fire remained restricted to the top level, the other floors suffered water and smoke damage. The gutted floor contained supplies, records, and a staff coffee room. Dean Shannon reported that no important or irreplaceable documents were destroyed.

No figures are available but damage to the top floor and roof was described by Fire Chief Harold Grant as, "extensive." Insurance is expected to cover the major portion of repair costs.

The fire was reported at 6:47 by Sam Norton of Houghton's Security Department. Houghton and Caneadea Fire Departments responded to the alarm. Fillmore, Oramel, Belfast, and Rushford also assisted as the fire continued. The structure's slate roof hampered the firemen's accessibility to the blaze and caused a pressure buildup in the attic area. Fire fighter Douglas Damon suffered toxic smoke inhalation while in the building and was rushed to the hospital. He was released later in the evening. The fire was under control by around 9 p.m.

The November 17 blaze was the latest in a series that began in early

October. Arson is definitely suspected in most, if not all, of these instances. "The arsonist's methods appear to be similar in each case," says Chief Grant.

Flames, smoke, and water caused about four thousand dollars worth of damage to Houghton College's music building during these three recent fires, October 5, 6, and 29. State Police arson investigators claim that the first two were deliberately set. A Houghton student has admitted to accidentally causing the latest fire. In addition to paying the one hundred

and fifty dollars of damage, the student is being disciplined by the Dean of Student Affairs Office for a violation of college rules, smoking.

No connection between the other two fires has been established. Dean Roloson stated "It could be one person, or three, or more. All we know presently is that one student has admitted to causing one fire . . . Everyone is still suspect and I would urge anyone with even seemingly insignificant evidence to see Mr. Strimple immediately."

Symphony Orchestra's Youth Concert Enriches School Children's Education

This past Tuesday afternoon, November 16, the Houghton College Symphony Orchestra presented their 11th annual Youth Symphony Concert. Twelve schools throughout the county bussed 937 children to hear the concert presented in the Wesley Chapel. The largest delegation was from the Friendship Central School with 137 children. Some of the other participating schools were from Allentown, Arkport, Franklinville, Scio, and Whitesville.

The Youth Concert was opened with a welcome by Miss Melanie Smith, a senior music major, who is also a member of the orchestra council. The program consisted of three selections geared to an educational experience for the young audience. Repertoire included von Weber's Jubel-Overture, Op. 59, The Plow that Broke the Plains by Virgil Thomson with narration by Miss Karen White, and the third movement from Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony in F minor.

The Houghton Symphony Orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Keith

C. Clark, who is in his eleventh year with the ensemble. The orchestra has been in existence since 1907. (For a bit of trivia, this was seven years after the organization of the Philadelphia Orchestra. The Cleveland Orchestra began in 1918 and the city of Rochester gave birth to their respected ensemble in 1922). The Houghton Orchestra has had a number of conductors; the present, Mr. Clark began his directorship in 1966. He followed Mr. Eldon Basney, our present string instructor, who conducted at Houghton from 1958-1966. Mr. Basney followed Mr. John Andrews, still involved in collegiate education, who began his tenure with the orchestra in 1948. During these early years, the group's top representation was thirty five members; this year's orchestra has a membership of sixty. Though not inferring quantity means quality, the larger number of participants show a interest level and also an aggressive spirit in wanting to make music through the orchestrated medium.

Houghton Music Secretary Is Retiring At Year's End

EDITORS NOTE: Mrs. Bette Hill is retiring at the end of this year. Many in the music department will miss her.

by John Hugo

Mrs. Bette C. Hill first impressed me as a very hardworking, intense, businesslike secretary who knew everything about my dealings with the Houghton College Music Department. As she checked my freshman schedule, I felt as though she had some sort of awesome power over my future. She found nothing particularly amiss, so she sent me on to the registrar. Each time I ventured into the music office from then on, I had a slight fear of the bustling woman surrounded by ringing phones, clattering typewriters, manila folders, and lush green plants. But soon, fear melted into wariness, wariness into respect, and respect into friendship. I came to know Mrs. Hill as the warm person that she really is.

Mrs. Hill came to Houghton in 1953 at the request of former Dean of Students James Mills, Jr., for whom she worked for two years before transferring to the Music office. Since that time, Mrs. Hill has made many

improvements within the organizational structure of the Music Department. She handles most of the paperwork that concerns music courses, activities, and finances. She knows how Houghton operates, and assists handily in that operation. The office owes practically all of its organization to the systematic abilities of Mrs. Hill. Filled with suggestions for improvement and change, she makes her main goal smooth operation of the music office.

Beside these abilities, Mrs. Hill has something much more important. She has that special talent for being able to talk with anyone, whether it's Jerome Hines or the lowliest freshman kazoo major. She is student-oriented, always taking time out to listen to this problem or that heartache and doing her best to console the victim and rectify the difficulty. Good Rapport could have been her middle name, but her parents took care of that some time ago.

Mrs. Hill, who resigned last year, is staying on only until a replacement can be found. She is reluctant to leave because as she puts it, "It's been wonderful here. Just working at a Christian institution (with Christian

students, faculty and staff) has been a wonderful experience. I enjoy working in this atmosphere." Mrs. Hill's plans after leaving Houghton include "golf, golf, golf!", relaxation, and more intense care of her nineteen-room Portageville home.

The Music Department just won't be the same without Mrs. Hill. She is that warm spot in a difficult day for many a work-weary student, always ready with a smile and a good word. It stands to her credit that she was the first woman to serve as the President of the Staff Cabinet. She was also the recipient of the Senate Staff Award and the Staff Recognition Award. With a policy of always trying to stand up for that which is right, Mrs. Hill has spent years tactfully improving the Music Department from within. Those who know her well will miss her very much. But they won't be surprised if they see Mrs. Hill back here again, working as hard as ever. They just don't think that she will be able to stay away, golf or no golf.

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Editorials

"If you didn't like it you didn't have to come here."

This statement is a hands-down winner as the most frequently used parting shot in discussions concerning that vital sinew of the Houghton community — the pledge.

The alleged purpose of the pledge, which all students must sign each September, is to obtain the word of students that they will follow certain prudential guidelines that will be beneficial to the growth of Houghton as a Christian community. As one faculty member I talked to said, the pledge should be regarded as a "gentlemen's agreement."

So for the price of one signature on a dotted line, one can share the benefits of being a part of the Houghton community.

Unfortunately, many students do not recognize these advantages. Some, feeling sufficiently aloof from the community, even go so far as to break the pledge. Nonetheless, they sign. Everyone signs. Why?

There are some very concrete reasons for our alarmingly high percentage (est. 99.9%) of pledge signers. Some sign because it costs them nothing to do so. Their personal convictions already go hand-in-hand with those set forth in the pledge. In this case, the pledge is not so much a gentlemen's agreement as it is a ceremonial self-affirmation. The pledge becomes a simple declaration — complete with connotations of righteousness — that is endorsed with complete freedom from possible negative effects.

If there is a gentlemen's agreement implicit in pledge signing, it must be found where there is a conflict. Both the signer and the institution must have something at stake. Also, in order to be a true agreement there must be alternatives to signing. For the moment, let's forget relocation. Can you think of any alternatives?

Okay, time's up. Don't worry, I didn't come up with any either. Now, let's examine a purely hypothetical case. A certain student is completing his final year at Houghton College. He has invested approximately \$12,000 in his education. He does not concur with the ethical rationale of the pledge and is not sure of its moral basis either. If he does not sign, he may not be allowed to register. He may lose his degree, his investment, etc. Result — the student signs. Are you still unsure of where the gentlemen's agreement fits in? I admit it is a bit hazy, but it is there. Did you look for an ethical solution or possibly a moral one? It's a common mistake. Actually, the agreement, the level at which everyone understands everyone is the business level.

By violating his ethical principles, the student protects his investment. The college as well wins in this exchange. By merely allowing the implied higher principles of the pledge to overshadow its actual role as a business transaction, Houghton can — without saying a word — assure the world that it is a community. (99.9%)

And, of course, Houghton College, being privately owned and sanctioned has every right to ask her students to sign a pledge, or anything else for that matter. There can be no argument here. Neither can it be argued that dissenters do not have a guaranteed alternative. They do. We know what it is.

Yes, I signed the pledge. No one held a gun to my head.

Randall Baker

With Mr. Baker, we roundly reject the love-it-or-leave-it philosophy expounded by so many faithful Houghtonians. What we take them to mean when they cut an argument off with that suggestion is "love it here unprotestingly or leave it to us, who truly appreciate Houghton for what it is".

We would suggest that while some of the complainers should leave, others who don't love it at Houghton are here because God wants them to learn to love it here — and to love Him here. Still others who love Houghton every bit sincerely as those who exude over its virtues are those who are troubled by its faults. They love Houghton for what it could be; a deep and confident school, possessing a generous spirit.

The love-it-or-leave-it argument is one more tool for those who wish to maintain the status quo of this Houghton "community". It is one more basis for rejecting those who do not fill the shoes of the Houghton Ideal. It slanders those who see beyond the forms of Houghton's spirituality and want to challenge its content. And perhaps worst of all, it is too easy to say.

A lot of things are easy to say at Houghton. "Sure, I'm a Christian," for example. "Wanna walk over to chapel with me?" for another. "I don't smoke, I don't chew, and I don't go with the girls (or guys) who do," for a third. "Isn't it disgusting all the people making out and sleeping in the campus center lounge why don't they do it in their bedrooms?" for a fourth. And one last: "Would you please be quiet? Chapel is about to start. And try to be more on time, too."

It's too easy to use the Houghton pledge as a frame of reference. There are too many reasons there for condemning someone else's behavior. It encourages the Pharisee in all of us.

Worse than this, the Houghton Ideal is a poor frame of reference for life. Can you imagine a world where everyone has to go to church? Or where a host demands that his guests consent to his personal code of ethics before sitting down to dinner? Or where the head of state feels compelled to remind his people that a public monument is not a motel and that they must prepare their hearts quietly before paying their taxes? The criteria of the pledge more often remind us that we are not of the world, but neglect the positive side; we are in it.

And the situations that we can expect to deal with when we leave Houghton after finishing our course demand more than the simple shallow approach of applying a set of rules. If we are going to have a pledge here at Houghton, let us seek a rationale for it more true-to-life than prudentiality or upholding of a set of 'distinctives' that should balance the negative emphases of the pledge but are not so well-defined.

And let us have one that can respect the process of the Holy Spirit's work in the life of a believer. Let us have the confidence to believe that if the pledge won't work through the college to set a fellow straight, then God will work through his people to bring a wandering lamb home.

Daniel Hawkins

The editorial staff of the *Star* heaves a collective sigh of relief at the dropping of the charges against John Muller. We appreciate the courage exhibited by Security in making this decision. While we regret that the Muller case was taken to court at all, and that Muller himself was presumed guilty by the college community before he had the benefit of a trial, we are relieved and reassured to know that safeguards against unwarranted legal action are being instituted.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Editor:

The following letter is the result of the way I have felt since I first came here. I am writing it in hopes that the addressees to whom it is written will be stimulated to some consideration of the things I have to say in it.

Dear Professor:

I've never written a letter to you before because I was afraid you didn't really know me. After all I'm not an "A" student; at least, not in your class. This is my last year here — I just felt that I had to say something to you before I left.

I'm sorry I laughed the other day when you prayed, "... and, Lord, help us to study to the best of our ability, allowing this exam to be a proof of what we really know." With five exams and a paper due the same week, I hardly felt that I was showing what I really knew — especially when the exam came with two others the same day. I simply couldn't afford either the time or the money to go to the Registrar's to get it changed (or wherever I have to go). I didn't want to ask you to postpone it for me, because when I asked you for an extension on my paper, you wouldn't give it to me. Is having to do it in one weekend going to show my ability? I didn't put it off; I simply find it necessary to attend classes other than your own.

You know, when I got the exam after you finished praying, I wanted to laugh, basically from sheer frustration. The exam didn't test what I really know. The trick questions were more a test of how well I could take your exam and figure you out — not what I knew.

This has been my experience ever since I first came here, sir. Somehow, I've never understood why it

was like this. I've been burnt out every semester. When I get my grades I invariably ask myself, "Is it worth it?" I mean, sir, is it worth having to feel that I'm constantly fighting for an "A" in a battle of wits? Why can't I feel that I really deserve the mark and not feel that I got it by winning the battle?

I think the thing I wonder about most is — when may I talk to you about how I'm feeling? I was really frustrated the other day and I needed the advice of a more mature person — especially a brother in the Lord. But you always made me feel like you're simply there to sign my forms. Sometimes I need more than that. Did it ever cross your mind to be sensitive to what I really need?

You know, sir, that when I came here I wanted to grow in the Lord. This is a Christian school; at least that's what the catalog says. But whenever I take time out for people, for prayer meeting, or even for my own devotions, I feel a guilt for not studying. So I gave up going to prayer meetings, and I cut down the time on my devotions because I don't have the time to spare. I guess it all comes down to the question of whether this is primarily an academic community or a spiritual community. It seems to me that Willard J. Houghton wanted an emphasis on the latter. I guess being academic is more important — Harvard and Yale thought so, too.

Well, sir, I've said what I can. I could say more, but I've got four exams this week, in the two days that remain. I hope you've been able to take time out to really read this — I wouldn't feel right about leaving the school knowing you didn't know me.

Respectfully yours,

Daniel J. Persing
(Another Student)

Dear Star:

At last a persistent problem that has robbed me of precious sleep throughout the course of life here in the foothills has been resolved. It came one early evening while conversing with some choice friends. Upon discussing this virulent problem a notably brilliant and faithful boy (and Christian) cited a text from scripture. Phenomenally, in my haste to live I had overlooked it; here I render the passage in its entirety:

"Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither the immoral, nor idolaters, nor wine tasters, nor adulterers, nor smokers of any sort: cigar, cig, or pipe, nor sexual perverts, nor card indulgers: gin, pinocle, war, nor thieves, nor refusers of pledges, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor dancers of square or social, nor robbers, nor connoisseurs of honest pleasure will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you."

You can imagine my response: the Light, previously dimmed and ambiguous, shown clear and lucid. There was no room for mistake, nor error, nor misinterpretation; and by God of Freedom, a life once dwelling in the darkness by his own volition was now set free to ascend ever upward to the ideal goal of expediency and Life in its entirety. I do hope and it remains my earnest Christian prayer that many more will discover this passage and allow the Light to remain ambiguous no more.

(An afterthought: My apologies extend to you for resurrecting such a limply inane and trivial issue.)

Through Christlike Freedom
I remain,
Michael Gresh

International Commentary

Socialism In Sweden

by Graham Walker

"Across the world from Australia to Sweden, from New Zealand to West Germany, socialism is on the way out!" So cried Margaret Thatcher, leader of Britain's Conservative Party before a recent party convention. "The tide is turning . . . Socialism has failed the nation. Away with it, before it does the final damage." Her comments may be a bit premature, but they do exemplify what seems to be a new political trend in several key industrialized countries. Is there really a rejection of the notion that free economic systems are inherently unjust, and that we must have centralized control of the economy to distribute income and product equally and "fairly" to everyone? Is the tide turning against the welfare state? More and more Europeans seem to think that their systems have gone too far, or will do so if not checked now. They are more reluctant to pay the price in taxes, in bloated bureaucracy, and in curtailed freedoms that they must if they want socialism's cradle-to-grave benefits.

In Sweden, many of the most creative and talented people are up in arms over the system. The most celebrated case is that of film director and writer Ingmar Bergman. He has left the country and moved to Hollywood after being charged with tax evasion and harassed by tax authorities. In 1975 parliament passed special new tax legislation for private entrepreneurs (authors, lawyers, shopkeepers) earning more than the equivalent of \$33,000: a tax rate of 102%. This perverse law has since been changed, but it demonstrates the near-confiscatory nature of Sweden's tax laws that inhibit individual initiative.

Steven Stolpe, one of Sweden's most distinguished authors, burned the manuscripts for a new series of novels. "Practically everything I earn is taxed around 100%," he explained angrily. "It is all my life's work that is being stolen." Not only do the high tax rates annoy Swedes (altogether they take up 90.1% of gross national income), but the power of tax collectors as well. They can enter houses without court order, inspect bank records, and even survey private medical records. Other aspects of the stifling welfare system are subject to criticism; it can take up to two months to see a doctor, referral

to a specialist often takes two years, and the wait for non-crucial surgery can be five years.

The Swedes registered their discontent in their recent September elections by turning out the ruling socialist government. The Social Democratic party was narrowly defeated after ruling for the past 44 years. A coalition of three non-socialist parties will now govern.

This switch, though small in numbers of voters who changed parties, seems dramatic for Sweden, long considered the world's socialist showplace. The swing away from Social-

(Continued on Page Four)

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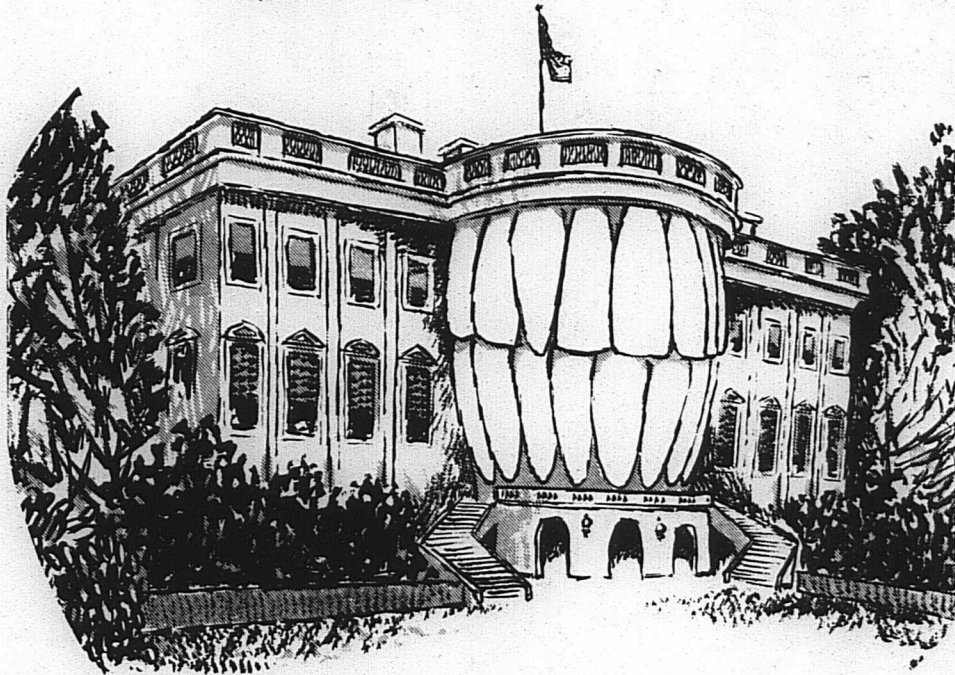
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Political Affairs

What Price Carter?

by Dave Brubaker

The stock market displayed its qualms about Jimmy Carter with a Dow Jones plunge of almost 10 points the day after the election. Optimistic buyers had convinced themselves before November 2nd that Ford was a winner, and the shock of a Carter victory induced a heavy sell-off. But with the election over the stock market has climbed again as traders concentrate on economic rather than political signals. *U.S. News & World Report* examined business trends subsequent to Presidential elections so far this century and noted that, "History shows that economic forces have far more impact on the ups and downs of business than election results do."

In the past Presidential campaign, proponents of Jimmy Carter emphasized the similarities between their candidate and John Kennedy. The comparison extends beyond campaign personalities. Like Kennedy, Carter will inherit an economy beset with high unemployment and decreased inflation. The *Wall Street Journal* reviewed what Kennedy did with his bequest; President Kennedy and his successor Lyndon Johnson launched a plethora of new spending programs and enjoyed several years of prosperity — but wound up with the inflationary spiral of the late 1960's. "If he chooses activism for the sake of activism, and merely grabs the ideas that are offered to him, his (Carter's) presidency could be a disaster," concluded the *Journal*.

In a pre-Election survey conducted by the National Association of Business Economists, 60% of the Association's members questioned said that has not hesitated to advise the President to pursue economic policies in accord with the national interest — a mere 14% indicated Carter. Fortunately, the disappointed business community has not hesitated to advise the President-elect on their economic concerns. The *Wall Street Journal* outlined the following economic plan for Jimmy Carter. First, it urged Carter to follow a fiscal policy designed to reduce inflation by holding down government spending. Second, Carter is asked to "remove all vestiges of price regulations" that still exist in the economy. And third, the *Journal* proposes that the tax bias against savings and investments be removed and that corporate income taxes be replaced

with measures taxing shareholders on both dividends and retained earnings.

Carter's ambitious social-welfare plans may preclude such suggestions. A persistent unemployment rate (which now hovers at nearly 8%) has encouraged Carter to advocate substantial job-creating plans. (He does prefer that new jobs originate in private industry and public jobs be reserved for the hard-core unemployed.) Other areas in which Carter has pledged federal revision and tax-dollar infusion: Health care (already costing 140 million dollars a year), urban problems, and a Federal assumption of the welfare burden. President Ford objected to Carter's proposals in September of this year in an interview with *U.S. News & World Report*: "When you add up all of the programs that he is advocating, or are included in the Democratic platform, my fiscal advisers tell me that it would add at least 100 billion dollars to federal spending in fiscal year 1979." Carter responds that some old programs will be reduced or eliminated, creating funds for his projects.

Other economic problems could complicate Carter's transition into office. Congress has set February 1, 1977, as the deadline for Presidential decision on the B-1 long-range bomber. A production order for the proposed 244 planes would add a staggering 21.4 billion dollars to the defense budget. Representatives of oil-producing countries will meet in mid-December, and a price-hike of from 10 to 25% is anticipated. Even a 10% jump would add 3.7 billion dollars to the U.S. oil-import bill for 1977. Further, before Gerald Ford vacates the White House in January he will ask Congress for a 10 billion dollar permanent tax cut for middle-income families and industry. Jimmy Carter will be pressed to implement his campaign proposal for a one-shot tax reduction for low and middle-income workers, reducing Treasury revenues by 10 to 15 billion dollars.

But the following Carter assertion, if honored, could negate all of his campaign promises: "There will be no new programs implemented under my Administration unless we can be sure that the cost of those programs is compatible with my goal of having a balanced budget before the end of the term." With a continuing pattern of enormous budget deficits, any

change is likely to come as U.S. News claims, "more in tone than in substance." Economists generally agree that the economy needs accelerated growth for the next few years, but feel that nothing the new Administration is likely to do will have much influence on business patterns until late-1977. Thus, don't look for any vast social-welfare programs similar to those that characterized the "Great Society" of Lyndon Johnson. A close election margin, an unsympathetic Congress, and the presence of the autonomous Arthur Burns as Chairman of the Federal Reserve System (through 1978) should insure the preservation of the economic status quo.

Wheaton Symphony Orchestra To Present A Concert Nov. 22

Wheaton, Illinois — The Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Arthur D. Katterjohn, will present a concert at Houghton College, Monday, November 22, 1976 at 8:15 p.m.

Currently the orchestra is on tour to the New England states and Canada with concerts in Michigan, New York, Massachusetts, Indiana, Montreal and Toronto.

The 75 instrumentalists will perform Brahms "Symphony No. 2," Beethoven's "Egmont Overture" and "Fantasia on the Alleluia Hymn" by Gordon Jacob.

The orchestra will accompany Jonathan Armerding, Wheaton, Ill., a sophomore at the college, in Mendelssohn's "Violin Concerto."

This is the sixth annual concert tour by the orchestra, with previous tours being in the South, Midwest,

Chisping: The New HC Chapel Pastime

by John Cox

"As thoughts are to the brain, so hearties are to the heart."

11:35 A.M. each Tuesday thru Friday morning is quickly becoming a favorite point of many people's day here in the Houghton community: chapel lets out. And it is between that time and the time when either the lunch line opens or the fourth period class begins, that many, if not all of us, energetically exercise that which we've all come to college to use: a critical mind, and a testing (if quickened) spirit. But before we examine what is said, let's examine who says what.

Some people actually worship (archaic for modern "dig it", "get into it") in chapel, or in most of them at least try. Others honestly attempt to get something out of chapel. Still others tolerate the half-hour out of reverence and respect or ecclesiastical obligation. Many study. Others chispe: a socio-communicatory phenomenon unique to Houghton that blends friendly chatting with lengthy whispering. And we cannot forget those who sleep. A tip of the hat to you, you valiant dozers!

Now, to what is said. The past-present-future commentaries are quite intriguing. They surface in statements like "I don't ever get anything out of chapel" — "I didn't get anything out of chapel today" — "I won't get anything out of chapel." And while these comments are made by those claiming that chapel isn't worshipful, some of these can actually be interpreted as "I never give in chapel" — "I didn't give in chapel today" — "I can't see myself giving in chapels to come" . . . but give what? Give up an attitude. First, let me pick on student's attitudes (frequently my own). We say that chapel has never been consistently beneficial

to us spiritually, so what guarantee do I have that today will be beneficial? If there's a chance that today will not be beneficial, then I better not frustrate myself by straining in vain; better off to study, I'm sure that's beneficial, or better yet, relaxing in the middle of my hectic schedule is good for the soul.

Then there are the faculty-staff-administrative attitudes of some, who come off with a classical display of "Don't do what I do, do what I say." Where's our example . . . of consistency? It is a shame to read the apparent opinion on the value of chapel in the fact that some of the administrative committees run right through scheduled chapel time. A friendly suggestion: before you criticize, check your attitude.

I'm sorry if I've led you to think that our chapel problem, if we even may call it a problem, lies only in our attitudes. It doesn't. There have been inadequacies and mistakes right on down the line, from the chaplain's office, from the chapel committee, and from the pulpit. But these inadequacies have been readily admitted by those responsible, and those responsible are working at overcoming these problems. I personally feel that the Word of God could be presented even more than it is now, and applied to topics and themes more explicitly, intelligently, and practically than has generally occurred thus far. Conventions on dating and politics become susceptible to worship only as the Word of God and biblical principles a la orthodoxy accrue to them. Worship is completed as each of us give ourselves over in responding to the hearing of the Word through faith in our God. And for those who acknowledge the privileged blessing of God's sovereignty and particular involvement in each of our days, there are adequate opportunities in prayer and hymn to individually express it. I personally find it quite a rush.

I think we can all agree in saying that some chapels have not been the meaningful worship that we expect. And what is meaningful worship for one, may be a dead bore for another. (Do I hear an "Amen"?). Yet for me, God has laid some heavy conviction down on my ways, and has left me dazed at the brilliance of particular truths and has filled me with flippin' ecstatic happiness, all from some chapels this year. I believe there's a few others who could testify in like manner.

So where do we go from here? For those of us who, on occasion, and in all our open criticism, bring a closed mind into chapel, take it to the Chapel Committee: Joe Lloyd, Kathy Confer, Mr. Reist, Dr. Stockin, Dr. Brown, and the Chaplain. Then, in all your critical fortitude, cast a few comments to your own peers, but don't spew bitter venom, keep it to yourself. I know there's problems with chapel. I don't need you to tell me. But if you can't keep it in, at least wait till chapel's over with. (Get the point? I don't really want to comment on the maturity during chapel of some college students, nor do I want to comment on the irreverence, — let's just call it what it is — the abomination, of some of our chapel behavior). As the chapels improve, so let us also.

Intended

Allison Harbeck ('77) and Barry Conant ('76)

Charges Dropped

The celebrated John Muller case seems to have come to a conclusion acceptable to all the parties involved.

Both the Security Office and Muller agreed to an alternative worked out by David Pullen, Muller's attorney, and granted by Justice Jewell. This alternative is called in legal jargon an "adjournment contemplating dismissal"; it has the effect of probation without any record of the incident,

providing Muller complies with the conditions.

If by May 8 (6 months from Muller's last appearance before the justice) he has not broken any law, the case will be dismissed and no record kept. However, another scrape with the law will result in a resumption of charges and Muller will face punishment for both offenses.

Houghton Shuts Out Rutgers 3-0 In District 31 Soccer Championship Game

Last Saturday before an overwhelmingly enthusiastic crowd Houghton defeated Rutgers University at Camden 3-0. The game was well played by both sides despite the playing conditions. With the assistance of 30-40 students the soccer team spent much of Saturday morning preparing the field for the game. Rutgers was a very fine passing team especially up the middle where they were the strongest. A large part of their skill was neutralized, however, by the playing conditions and Houghton's speed and conditioning worked to our advantage on the muddy field.

Rutgers started strong threatening to score on several occasions. Most of their shots were taken from long

range, however, and goalie Joel Prinsell, who recorded his eighth shutout of the season, was able to stop 10 first half shots. Halfway through the first half Alvin Hoover scored on a break-away shot which the Rutgers goalie misplayed. From this point on the momentum shifted markedly to Houghton. Taking complete charge in the second half Houghton added two more goals, one by Paul Stevenson and another by Alvin Hoover, to clinch the victory and the District 31 crown.

This Saturday Houghton battles District 19 champion St. Mary's for the Area 7 title. The winner will go to the national tournament in California.

International Commentary Continued

(Continued from Page Two)

ism is taking place in other countries as well, however. Late last year socialist-minded Labor governments fell to Conservatives in Australia and New Zealand. Then in early October of this year the socialist Social Democratic party of German Prime Minister Helmut Schmidt almost lost to the more conservative Christian Democratic Union party of Helmut Kohl. This was the strongest showing for the CDU in recent elections, making it now the single largest party in the Bundestag (West Germany's equivalent of parliament). Taxes were almost as much of a source of discontent here as they were in Sweden. In the seven years that the Social Democrats have been governing West Germany, taxes and welfare deductions have soared from 27.4% of the average paycheck to approximately 40%. "Taxes are rising and the little man is being squeezed by the socialists," one German voter grumbled.

The change in voter preference in Sweden and Germany has only been marginal, although significant. The greatest potential coup for conservative anti-socialist forces however may be shaping up in Great Britain. The Conservative party of flamboyant and outspoken Margaret Thatcher is now 14% ahead of the governing Labour

party in the most recent polls. Britain is in the midst of one of its worst economic crises in recent history, with inflation rampant and the value of the pound daily falling. Mrs. Thatcher, who is more outspokenly anti-socialist than either of the conservative leaders in Sweden or Germany, lays the blame for all this squarely on the free-spending and business-nationalization policies of the Labor government. In the face of the present problems, the Labor party has come even more under the control of its left-wing, giving Mrs. Thatcher an even easier target. "Not only have you debauched the currency," she has jeered, "you have debased Britain. Our only hope so long as you are in office is one of debt and decay, and the best thing you can do is to go." The Labour government's support is growing noticeably smaller in the face of her attacks. It won an extremely crucial vote two weeks ago in Parliament by just one vote, and got that only by summoning even its ill members and a nursing mother to the floor to vote. If Mrs. Thatcher becomes Britain's first woman prime minister, it would truly be a setback to the cause of socialism in the industrialized world, and her pronouncements of the world-wide demise of socialism might have a little stronger ring of truth.

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A couple of weeks back the Star staff predicted the winner of the three man basketball tournament. On November 9 their prediction was proven correct. Mix Breeds edged Poore Boys and Makin by the score of 25-23. The game went into overtime before a victor could be decided. Congratulations should go to the winners, a team consisting of Mike Pitts, Tim Fuller, Jeff Spear and Bill Horn. Although they were the winners there was a lot of very close competition throughout the tournament. All eight teams showed that they could play with any other.

November 16 marked the opening of another year of houseleague basketball. Two leagues are in operation with a total of thirteen teams involved. "A" league consists of seven teams and "B" league consists of six. With the addition of the five teams participating in class league a total of eighteen teams are engaged in men's houseleague basketball.

Women's houseleague opened its season on the 13th with a turnout of seven teams.

As for the list of coming activities, the one closest is the Free Throw Contest on December 10. You are urged to participate.

Jimmy Carter: Friend Of Education Is Expected To Approve Federal Support

CCNS — President-elect Jimmy Carter is seen as a friend of higher education by members of the Washington, D.C., education community.

"Jimmy Carter's election will probably lead to improved relations between higher education and the White House," according to the November 8 issue of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, a Washington-based publication.

Carter is not expected to veto nearly as many appropriations bills for higher education as presidents Nixon and Ford have in the past years, a change that is sure to endear him to most educators.

In addition, one of Carter's campaign promises cited better financing of higher education as a major issue, with Carter stressing the need to put higher education on a sound fiscal basis.

"The federal government and the states must develop strategies to support institutions of higher education from both public and private sources," stated the Democratic platform on which Carter ran.

Carter personally called for "imag-

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inative reforms to strengthen colleges and universities in times of financial difficulties." One such reform he supports is federal encouragement to state governments to set up grant programs for students attending high cost private colleges and universities. He also said he would support tax reform legislation that would "give proper considerations to private philanthropy in education."

The Democratic platform, which supported full financing of the basic opportunity grants, also supported federal cost-of-education payments to colleges "to help cover per-student costs which far exceed those covered by tuition and fees."

Carter also suggests that colleges and universities should become more efficiency-minded themselves. He urged greater emphasis on education of the elderly in order to "employ more teachers, utilize facilities more fully, and also provide an invaluable service to the community."

He encouraged schools and universities "to pool or share resources."

One of the biggest changes Carter has supported for education is the creation of a separate department of education instead of the current Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This is a move favored by most educators, and the department would probably be headed by a Carter appointed academic.

In addition to Carter, two other newly-elected officials are considered friends of higher education. S. I. Hayakawa, former president of San Francisco State University, and Daniel P. Moynihan professor of government at Harvard University, are expected to give higher education a boost in the Senate.

The Houghton Star

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