



Organist Marie-Claire Alain has made over eighty recordings and has given numerous recitals on European television and radio.

Artist Series Tonight Features Organist Marie-Claire Alain

Tonight's Artist Series, consistent in the season's presentation of internationally acclaimed artists, features one of the world's most prominent organists, Marie-Claire Alain. The program begins at 8:00 p.m. in Wesley Chapel.

Born in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Marie-Claire Alain was one of a family of musicians, of whom her brother, Jehan Alain, composer of "Litanies," is the most famous. A true prodigy, she became the organist of the local church at the age of eleven, replacing her father Albert Alain.

Entering the Conservatoire National de Paris at the age of eighteen, where within six years she won first prizes in Harmony, Counterpoint, Fugue, Organ and Improvisation, Miss Alain earned the Diploma in Music Pedagogy.

A frequent artist on European radio and television, Miss Alain

has given many recitals and has made many concert tours in most of the European countries. Since 1956 she has been a regular professor at the Summer Academie of Haarlem, Holland, where she teaches performance and interpretation of 17th and 18th century French music.

Following her brother's premature death in 1940, Marie-Claire Alain devoted herself to the organ to take her brother's place and to make known this brilliant young composer's works. Not a composer of organ music herself, she feels the work of Jehan Alain well expresses her own musical thoughts. She does enjoy improvising, using this as her ideal medium of expression.

Two important principles dominate Marie-Claire Alain's interpretations of organ music. First, her programs must be new and attractive. To accomplish this, she focuses on one central thought and inserts lesser known or even unknown works into each recital. These compositions require revitalizing through a

technique of phrasing and registration in keeping with their true spirit. Secondly, the organ virtuoso has a complete knowledge of the technical aspects of her instrument. Her concern is as much with composition and harmonization, as it is with the mechanical and operational problems which reveal the organist's close contact with her instrument.

Having traveled widely, Miss Alain is familiar with the old organs of France, Germany, Holland and Denmark as well as the more modern instruments. She believes that each organ in each country has a particular individuality and that the organist's art consists in selecting the compositions best suited for the instrument.

Creator of some eighty recordings, including the "Integral Work of J. S. Bach," Miss Alain has won many "Grand Prix du Disque" and has been selected as one of two organists who will perform for the 1972 American Guild of Organists' national convention.

the Houghton

STAR

VOL. LXIII No. 11

Houghton College, Houghton, N.Y. 14744, December 11, 1970

Oratorio Society Presents Handel's 'Messiah' Sunday

At 3:00 p.m., Sunday, December 13, an old tradition will be dusted off and revised in the Wesley Chapel: the annual presentation of G. F. Handel's *Messiah*. The last performance of the *Messiah* in Houghton was in 1967. Since that time much interest from music students, townspeople, faculty and staff prompted choral director Donald Bailey to revive the famous work for a presentation by the Houghton Oratorio Society. One of the reasons for the performance was to bring the townspeople and the college students together in a united musical effort in praise of God. With an average attendance of 300 in the chorus and 30 in the orchestra, Mr. Bailey believes that "our efforts towards achieving a community organization have been quite successful. In addition to many individuals, both the Houghton Church and the Office of Public Relations have been extremely helpful in aiding our efforts." Mr. Bailey hopes that the *Messiah* can be presented annually with a possible format of performing the Christmas portion during the Christmas season one year and the Easter portion during the Easter season the next year.

Students selected as soloists

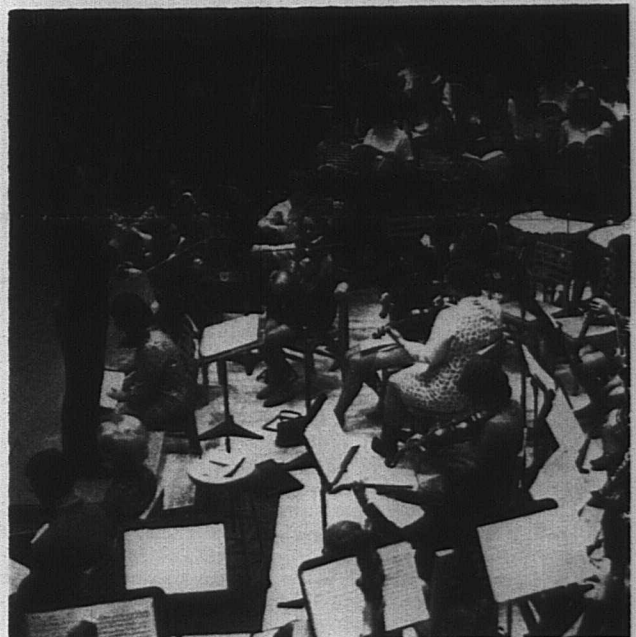
for the presentation include: Jeanne Ziegler, soprano; Susanna Stowell, contralto; Robert Batdorf, tenor; Mark Ross, baritone; and Larry Wright, bass. Patricia Manfredi and Mary Reed will be pianist and organist respectively. The expectation of a capacity house prompted the need of admission by ticket. The tickets are free for both the matinee at 3:00 p.m. and the evening performance at 7:00 p.m. They may be picked up from Miss Grace Soderberg in the Office of Public Relations.

When asked for a few comments concerning his view of the oratorio itself, Mr. Bailey replied, "Handel's *Messiah* is probably one of the most disputed oratorios of all time. From the beginning, people have argued whether the oratorio was basically religious or secular in nature. The famous English conductor, Johannes Somary, states that 'concerning its first performance, the Dublin newspapers referred to *Messiah* as an 'elegant entertainment.' This view is certainly in opposition to a great number of dedicated listeners in the world today. In some peoples' view, the work is not religious in the sense of being liturgical, but is instead a secular work musically and a religious work textually. This is not really such an opposing dichotomy as it might seem. Much of the work was based on the

dance rhythms of the orchestral suite.

"In addition to the suite, the oratorio was influenced by the style of both Italian opera and English madrigal. Actually the chorus "For unto us a Child is born" was originally a duet in a previous secular work composed by Handel. However, this secular aspect does not detract from the

(Continued on Page Five)



Professor Donald Bailey conducts the combined orchestra of 30 and chorus of 300 during a practice for this Sunday's presentation of Handel's "Messiah."

Dean's Office and Houseowners Discuss Men's Housing Improvements and Rules

A meeting between the Office of the Dean of Students and Houghton householders who rent rooms to College men was convened on November 24. The purpose of the meeting according to Dean James H. Mills, Jr. was to "give attention to increasing the standard of outside housing so that students will have a better choice of rooms." About 50 houseowners and 375 male students will be affected by the results of the conference.

In order to improve the quality of outside housing for men, the College will reopen Nielsen and Ortlip houses for the fall semester of 1971. In addition, Leonard Houghton will be in use during the second semester of the present school year. Dean

Mills hopes that the increase in the number of available rooms will press householders into converting more rooms into singles and to improve and increase the facilities that they offer. It was also suggested that large housing facilities such as Leonard Houghton could be rented entirely to upperclassmen who were majoring in a specific area.

A second item discussed at the conference was the alleged misuse of the visiting privileges of women at some houses. In order to preserve the rights of privacy to the roomers, women will be permitted in lounges only when proper chaperoning is provided and when partitions between the lounge area and the living area of the house have been installed.

The householders and Dean's Office also discussed the possibility of price increases for room rentals. Toward this end, the College will inspect and reappraise the rooms during Christmas vacation. Prices will be adjusted in proportion to College dormitory housing. At this time, the Dean's Office will also inspect lounge facilities in order to designate which houses have lounges in which visiting will be permitted.

The Office of the Dean of Students also advised the householders to take seriously the College policy of communication with the Dean's Office as to vacancies so that a complete list of available rooms can be published for student use.

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The Lonely Student

How many times have you heard students, faculty members, and staff members gloating over the friendliness and concern of the people who make up Houghton College? If this means that everyone says "Hi!" when you pass them on the sidewalk, then, yes Houghton is certainly friendly. If this means a willingness to "bull" with anyone about anything, then, yes, our community is concerned.

But if this means being a deep friend of lonely, hostile students who feel a lack of love in their lives, then to a degree, friendliness and concern is lacking here. Within the past three years, this writer has seen myriads of students transfer from Houghton. Some of them have been close friends; others haven't. Some of them broke the rules during their matriculation; some didn't. Some of them were attractive people; some weren't. Many of them professed a Christian faith, but some utterly rejected all forms of Christianity. Almost to the last man, however, they left feeling bitter, oftentimes lonely, and sometimes even unloved.

Now the usual thing to do at this point is to rail at the rules, the Administration and Dean Mills for having "warped" ideas about the Christian life. But this writer isn't going to do that. In his opinion, the blame lies squarely on the shoulders of the students. How many times do we overlook other students' needs for our own concerns? How many times do we ostracize those who break the rules or have poor attitudes toward the College rather than loving them and trying to help them because oftentimes the students who break the rules are the ones with deep needs, psychologically and spiritually? What we must do then is begin to know other students and love them and we can do this only as we begin to talk with them about things more important to their well-being than the weather, last night's basketball game, or your own personal problems. The lonely student is all around us, will we make him feel wanted?

B.J.G.

The Affirmation of Life

Often in the evangelical society there is a tendency to discourage the physical life in preference to "spiritual things." Enjoyment for enjoyment's sake is an activity which is looked upon as something less than good Christian living. How many "Christian Parties" have we attended, both at home and here at Houghton, which ended with a sermonette by a prominent "spiritual leader", as if the party could not be a "Christian Party" without the added spiritual emphasis? How often do we feel compelled to start our social activities "with a word of prayer" as though prayer somehow sanctifies the whole activity? How often do we hear phrases such as "living the spiritual life of discipline," or "suffering for the sake of the Gospel," as though they were "spiritual phrases"? Indeed, activities done with the attitude of "just having fun" are often thought of being on the borderline of sin.

This editorial is not a plea for complete negligence of morality, but rather it is a plea for Christian living. Eternal life begins right now, within this space-time reality, not only after death. Thus, we as Christians are the only ones who know what it means to live a whole life. God created us with both body and soul and neither one is more important than the other, for both have their proper emphasis and it is the union of these two aspects that gives Christianity its distinctiveness over any other philosophy. Let us, then, stop classifying activities into categories of spiritual and non-spiritual and let us start viewing things in the total perspective of Christian living. Our criteria for life should not be preconceived ideas of "spirituality" passed on to us from the era of negative Gospel ethics, but rather, it should be whether or not this certain activity adds to the development of my personality and talents as a Christian.

D.J.R.

the Houghton STAR

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Cliff Palmer
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"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

Incarnation and Involvement

by Irwin Reist

The modern mind labors under serious misconceptions about the nature of reality. Contemporary man believes that ultimately there is or will be no mystery to life. If we work zealously and love intensely, the secrets of life will be unraveled to us. The avenue which has been and is being followed in pursuit of this final truth is inevitably materialism, that which is final about existence is the empirically verifiable. Any thing which cannot be subsumed under this all-embracing umbrella simply awaits further examination. Yet present-day man is sending out signals of perplexity; his intense preoccupation with the sensory, the physical, the subjective is not freeing him, but binding him to the certain conclusion: if the meaning of life is to be found on this plane only, this life remains meaningless, for it does not yield truth finally, but an ever-yawning expanse of chaotic facts, experiences and conjectures which drive one to despair.

It is Christmas time. Christians trumpet the astounding message: "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." In so doing and speaking Christians declare that God is, that God has spoken, that God is involved in the affairs of men. It is not that Christians "have all the answers"

ready to pump into the billowing balloon of man's vacuum. Rather, it is that the breath and speech of God has swept into history impregnating it with essential life and possibility. Because it is the incarnational religion, Christianity confesses mystery behind immanent existence and within it. The Church of Christ as "the pillar and ground of truth" proclaims "Great indeed is the mystery of our religion, God was manifest in the flesh." The incarnation of the eternal, personal Word of God is a mystery, but nonetheless a fact of history. The Eternal has become historical; the Divine, human; the Transcendent, immanent. God's name at Christmas is Emmanuel, God with us. This means that the Incarnate Word is involved with man.

Yet the mystery behind the event of Christmas does not mean vague religiosity or nebulous spirituality. As Archbishop William Temple has put it, "Christianity is the most materialistic of religions." The Word was made flesh. The Christian faith is not a monastic escape to the desert or a vacation trip to an island of decency. Jesus of Nazareth spoke with whoreds, dined with wine-bibbers, had compassion upon adulteresses, confronted hypocrites, challenged institutionalism. He sweat as it were great drops of blood in prayer. The message of Christmas then is that while the material is not final, it is essential and important. Christmas calls us to offer

our material possessions up to God thru Jesus Christ as a sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving. The material is not self-explanatory; its purpose is to point beyond itself. Those who misuse the material are called to Him who can redeem it.

The Christmas history announces that the meaning of life is to be found by accepting it, confessing its sinfulness, offering it back to God through Christ who sums it up in Himself, and living it for the sake of others. Good works are done then not for our sakes, but for the glory of God and the good of helpless men. They are not preamble to evangelism; they are a confession that Christ has come and sanctified this life which can be God's arena of activity thru us. And yet Luke tells us that "when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child." The Christian not only works, he always witnesses to what has happened at Christmas. God has become incarnate and is involved with men. He calls men to identify themselves with Him in Jesus the Christ of Nazareth. This means that Christians are to be involved then with God in Christ and with all men and all of life that men may come to Him. "God was in Christ... ye know the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who though he was rich yet for your sakes he became poor that you through his poverty might become rich... and has committed unto us the message of reconciliation."

Letters...

Dear Editor,

Perplexed and bemused by the page two poetic endeavor enigmatically entitled "Three Fragments and A Moral for Lionel Basney", we conscientiously took it upon our humble selves to ferret out (carefully research) the detailed background and subtle motives of the poem, thereby bringing this poem into the realm of experience for not only your vast reading public, but also for those subscribers who are readers of occasional verse (or occasional readers of any verse). To put it in a "turtle-shell", we gained an audience with the Poet and he most benevolently pontificated his position and dogmatically related the ritual of his (w)riting.

The poem was created in the struggle against the ever-encroaching bleakness and hues of gloom which brush the lives of all artists. In other words, Mr. Lionel Basney and Mr. John Leax were employed in painting their office. Attempting to fend off the weariness and monotony peculiar to this employment, Mr. Basney proceeded daily to spew forth abundantly obscure bits of treasured trivia accompanied by the quasi-dare/admonition that Mr. Leax envelop said treasure in his poetry. Masterfully rising to meet the challenge, Mr. Leax created his poem incorporating turtle shells with the treasured tidbit that a man's brain would boil at 107 degrees.

We hope this elaborate explanation will be sufficient in illuminating the mystique enshrouding the conscious artistry behind Mr. Leax's creative piece. Humbly yet zealously submitted,

Diane Phillips
Sue Santor

Send a Christmas Card To an Enemy this Year

The American Red Cross is asking you to send a Christmas card to the President of North Viet Nam.

The idea of it probably shocks you. Especially when you consider that 1,300 Americans are believed to be prisoners in his country.

But that's exactly the reason for doing it. He has the power to guarantee that our boys will be treated humanely. That they won't be starved. Beaten. Humiliated. Or tortured.

Plead with him to release the names of the prisoners. To allow communication between the men and their families. To let the Red Cross inspect the prisons to insure proper medical treatment and living conditions.

Ask him to see that the prisoners are treated like humans. Remind him that he is bound by the Geneva Convention which his country signed in 1957. And by the Istanbul resolution adopted at the International Red Cross Conference in September by almost every government and Red Cross Society in the world.

Believe it or not, he'll listen to you. Because the leaders of North Viet Nam are very conscious of American public opinion. And if they think there's anything to be gained from bowing to it, they will.

Send yours to: Office of the President, Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, Hanoi, North Viet Nam. And write now.

If you ever sent a Christmas card out of duty, send this one.

Charivari

by Diane Phillips

Ceremonies in Dark Old Men, Dec. 11, Nazareth College Art Center, Rochester, \$2.50.

Handel's Messiah with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Dec. 19 at 8:30 p.m. & Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m., Kleinhans, Buffalo, \$3.00.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Jan. 10, Kilbourn Hall, Eastman School of Music, 4:00 p.m., \$3.00.

Soprano Sylvia Friedrich-Donner & baritone Mac Morgan, soloists in concert, Dec. 12-13, Strong Auditorium at U. of R., 8:15 p.m. Eastman Polyphonic Choir, Dec. 13, the Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word, Rochester, 8:15 p.m.

Contemporary Chamber Ensemble & Jan de Gaetani, soprano, Dec. 17, Hunter College Playhouse, N.Y.C., 8:40 p.m., \$2.00-\$4.00.

"God rest ye merry gentlemen"

A CHRISTMAS SKETCH

by Norman Campbell

Basil peered into his cell. It was Christmas eve, there in the small Trappist monastery where he lived; and all the brothers had retired for five hours of solitary prayer. That meant Basil too. He did not feel like praying.

Moonlight flooded through the open window. Basil glanced at the stone floor sparkling with — no, it couldn't be — frost. He looked down at his own bare feet. Incredible that, after two years, his feet were as sensitive as on the first day. But he must not stall. He padded gingerly into the room, and knelt before a small wooden altar towards the middle.

God rest ye merry gentlemen.

Let nothing you dismay.

For Jesus Christ our Saviour

Was born on Christmas day.

Those students again! Not half a mile down the road from the monastery stood a little Wesleyan college; it'd been there for upwards of seventy years. Evidently they liked singing, thought Basil with a grimace. He'd often heard them in chapel.

Introibo ad altare Dei,

Ad Dei qui laetificat juventem meam.

Somehow those Latin psalms hadn't any punch. But he mustn't let himself get distracted. He fixed his eyes on the northwest corner of the ceiling.

No! There, in black relief against the moonlight, was a large roach. As a monk Basil was fairly stalwart, but he simply abhorred bugs — especially roaches. He hated dirty, scaley things in general; and there was one now, crawling towards him across the ceiling.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

"Blessed is he that cometh in the name of . . ." but that couldn't apply to roaches — godless little brutes. For the moment it'd halted.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;

Let earth receive her king.

Drafted students! Suddenly Basil pricked up his ears. Someone was coming down the hall. Maybe he'd have company, someone to talk to. The smack of bare feet grew louder and louder. A shadowy form appeared at the door.

"Basil. Ps-s-t. Basil! They've posted the Christmas Day Order of Labor (Ordo Laborum). You listening? You're to clean the henhouse, Basil, the henhouse!" A malicious giggle, and the figure vanished.

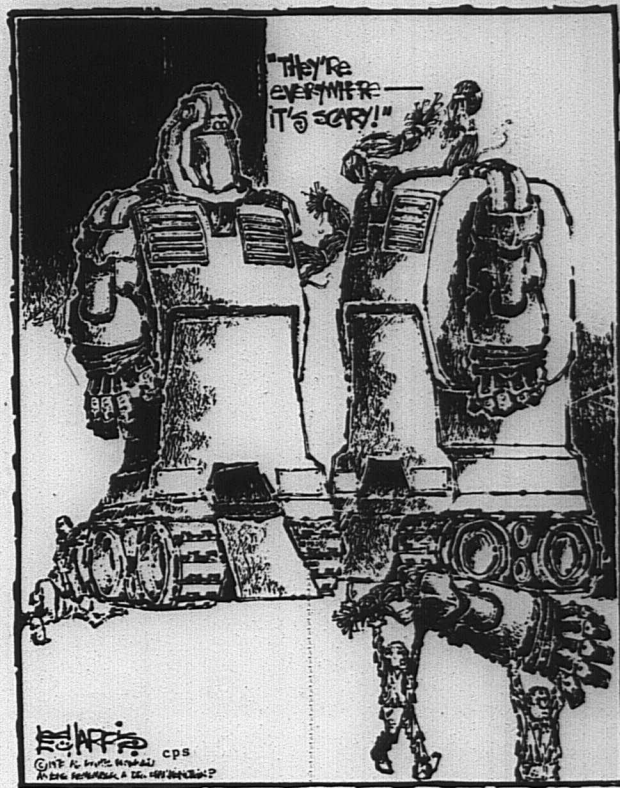
Basil gritted his teeth. Gregory, son of a —! (He crossed himself.) He had no doubts: only Gregory could have talked the abbot into giving him the job. The henhouse! "Ugh!" thought Basil, and then — with an effort, "I will bless them that hate me."

Although he hadn't been conscious of it before, water was dripping from somewhere into the room. In December! Plink — a drop splashed on the altar just in front of him. Plink, plink. It was getting too close for comfort; Basil wriggled to one side without getting off his knees, trying to keep the thread of his prayers. Moving, he felt (as if for the first time) just how scratchy his hairshirt was. Ah! it tickled, and he raised his hand . . . but wait. The shirt was supposed to be uncomfortable and

itchy; the brothers used it to "mortify the flesh" during Lent and special holidays. He restrained his hand.

We wish you a merry Christmas.
We wish you a merry Christmas.
We wish you a merry Christmas.
And a Happy New Year.

They were getting closer. Plink. A rivulet of icy water spattered his neck and trickled down his back. He grated his teeth. Plink. Plink, plink. Smack. The roach! It's horny little feet scurried over his shoulder. Oh, loathe-some! LOATHESOME!! And then, from nowhere, a snowball sailed through the window, catching him on the side of the head. Hot profanity seethed in Basil's breast. What was he trying to prove, anyway, kneeling hours on end in an unheated cell, when all Christendom was in bed? Why had he become a Trappist, at the mercy of good-for-nothing misfits like Gregory? And those students! Furiously Basil crossed himself, and returned to prayer.



A Dubious Lineage

The Origin of the Specious

Ed. Note: The following article is taken from *INKLINGS*, published by the Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

A couple of years ago we added something new to our Christmas decorations — a traditional holiday wreath, slightly modified by the inclusion of an inverted Y to form the internationally recognized symbol of peace. It seemed to us that the idea of peace went naturally and well with Christmas.

Then we began to be told how wrong we were. We were told that the peace symbol is nothing less than Satanic in origin, and has been used by the practitioners of Black Magic; that it represents an inverted cross, and is a symbol of the Anti-Christ. What's more, and maybe worse, it also claims Communist origins, and as such is a symbol of the Communist philosophy and its goals.

In short, we were told that our use of the peace symbol — especially at Christmas — was both unchristian and un-American. Not because peace itself is inconsistent with either Christianity or Americanism, but simply because of how its symbol had originated.

We aren't really convinced that these assertions regarding the genesis of that symbol are entirely accurate, but the notion that a thing's origins are absolutely determinative of its validity and application was intriguing. A quick check of the *Britannica* proved enlightening.

Take December 25, for example. Originally (A.D. 274), that was the date set by the emperor Aurelian as the birthday of the "unconquered sun." It took something like 50 years before the church at Rome began to celebrate the birthday of Christ on the same date. If Christmas is to be understood only in terms of its origin, it is nothing more than a long outdated pagan rite.

Or consider the manner of gift-giving, which is sometimes

thought to symbolize the gift of God's son. Actually, the practice of exchanging presents can be traced to the Roman festival of Saturnalia, held in honor of the god Saturn. It was only later that gifts were adapted to, and adopted by, the Christian celebration of Christmas.

But interesting though the question of its origin may be, what is most important about Christmas is not how or when it came into existence. It is important for what it says. Christmas says that Christ was born, and that the message of love He

brought is still worth hearing. What Christmas says is much too important to relinquish, even if our celebration of it didn't get started in the right fashion.

That's also true of the peace symbol. It reminds us that good will toward others is better than hatred, that peace on earth remains worth working for. And that's a message too important to abandon, even if it is true (as we've been told) that the Communists actually want peace, too.

Merry Christmas, Peace. They go well together. Whatever their origins.

The Challenge of New Guinea: Adventure With a Purpose

by Donald Bray

New Guinea is called "the land time forgot." But not anymore. New Guinea is changing rapidly. The old mixes with the new: bark-clad natives ride in 1970 cars, country and western music blares from radios in grass huts of the most remote areas, multi-tonned bulldozers create roads that are paved by individually, hand-laid stones. Only a generation, in the Highlands, separates today's young leaders and students from the "stone age" living of their parents.

This confusion of the old with the new, the fantastically beautiful rain forests, soaring mountains, myriad rivers, unique people merge to make New Guinea one of the most fascinating places on earth. As this country races toward nationhood and as it develops economic and political viability, the church is faced with the challenge of developing a strong national church that will stand the fires of independence, with its own identity and with a capability of ministering to those around her in a life-giving manner.

For the church to develop in this fashion, she needs educated

pastors and — just as important — educated laymen. Thus a great thrust of our mission in New Guinea is in education. For this we need teachers with a vitality and a commitment to make a mark on the lives of the future leaders of the young church world. We feel this opportunity should be open to the graduating young men and women of our colleges.

A great opportunity for educationalists who are not called to vocational mission service lies in short-term volunteer activity. In New Guinea the government pays an adequate living wage to qualified mission teachers. Thus a volunteer would only need to make arrangements to cover his travel expenses.

We read much of the idealism of American collegians today. Here is an opportunity for service to mankind, the church and to Christ. This is an opportunity for cultural expansion, educational experience, involvement in shaping the destiny of a nation and a church. Here is adventure with a purpose!

(If interested, write Wesleyan Gospel Corps, Box 2000, Marion, Indiana 46952)

News Briefs . . .

Following ANDRE KOLE'S performance at Auburn University, Texas to a crowd of 5500, 1186 indicated a decision for Christ, among them 30 athletes on full scholarship and 15 girl leaders and internationals. In addition to those receiving Christ, 1023 more students want to meet and discuss the claims of Christ. An estimated 300 students will attend the first Leadership Training Class.

For the first time since 1968, Houghton College recently won a DEBATE TEAM TROPHY. The team of Senior Steve Hiltbrand and Sophomore Gary Baylor, debating the issue of wage and price controls, won a third place trophy at the debate meeting held in East Stroudsburg, Pa., on December 4-5.

Houghton College received a KRESGE FOUNDATION GRANT of \$25,000 toward the construction of the new Science Building. The Foundation had promised to supply the last \$25,000 toward the project if Houghton College could raise the other needed \$2.5 million by Dec. 15, 1970. As the College was within \$2,000 of reaching their goal, the Foundation decided to grant the promised money. Although this grant completes the fund-raising for the actual construction, another \$15,000 is still needed until everything associated with the Science Building, such as the equipment and sidewalks, will be paid off.

PROF. IRWIN REIST has just published an article, "The Christology of Irenaeus", in the latest *JOURNAL OF THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY*, Vol. XII, Part IV, Fall, 1970.

Houghton College Farm has been notified by the Holstein-Friesian Association of America that EARLE COURT RAG APPLE ANNIE 6397678 has been awarded 3E designation for body type conformation. A cow may be designated 2, 3 or 4E according to her history of previous "Excellent" classifications within specified age brackets. Among the 87,200 Registered Holsteins scored for body type last year, less than two per cent attained "Excellent" status. Thus, the achievement of multiple "E" designation makes the individual cow a more valuable asset for herd improvement purposes in the dairyman's breeding program.

The chemistry faculty and student chemistry majors cordially invite members of the campus and community to the 4th floor Science Building to view their uniquely adorned Christmas tree boasting ornaments ranging from MOLECULAR MODELS of organic compounds to ribbon-filled CHROMATOGRAPHY COLUMNS.



Mr. Herschel Ries

ELWA Means New Life to Africans; Involvement for Engineer Herschel Ries

ELWA — Eternal Love Winning Africa. Many of us have heard the call letters of this Christian radio station located outside Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, but few Christians know anything about this most famous branch of the Sudan Interior Mission or about the people who have given their lives to the operation of it.

One such person is Mr. Herschel Ries, chief engineer at ELWA. Son of Dr. Claude A. Ries, long-time chairman of Houghton's Division of Theology, Mr. Ries graduated from Houghton College. He attended New York City's RCA Institute for one and one-half years and during his years in the army took courses in electrical engineering at the University of Nebraska.

Meanwhile, the Sudan Interior Mission was formulating plans for a Christian radio station to be built outside Monrovia, Liberia and in March of 1953 Mr. Ries, his wife "Sammie" and their two small children went out to help. The station began broadcasting in January of 1954, after the new occupants of the compound — five missionary families — had constructed roads, houses and other needed buildings.

Today the station compound

consists of about one hundred forty acres of land approximately ten miles from Monrovia, Liberia's only bona fide city. Seventy foreign missionaries and one hundred forty African nationals make up the staff, working not only in the station but also in the compound's hospital, out-patient clinic, dental clinic and schools.

As chief engineer at ELWA, Herschel Ries supervises the planning of technical facilities, and the purchases of large equipment, and generally "keeps ELWA on the air." ELWA is not a continuous programming station; rather morning, noon and night, from five different studios, five different programs are aired simultaneously to remote and urban areas in Ghana, Ivory Coast, Dahomey and other countries in the Western section of the continent. In addition to several African dialects, the programs are in English and French. Tapes of such programs as "Back to the Bible" are used, as well as tapes made in remote studios and sent to ELWA for airing. All voices heard over the air are African. When asked about the listening audience, Mr. Ries replied that transistor radios are available everywhere and thus the audience is enlarged. Mrs. Ries com-

mented that if there is one radio in a village everyone gathers around to listen.

What type of feedback does the station receive? Mr. Ries says that letters come in by the thousands. These letters are channeled first into the correct language department. Next, they are divided into letters which need personal answers and those which can be answered with printed literature. Although such printed matter is difficult to obtain, work has been done in major languages. In addition to the counseling services, Bible correspondence courses are offered in French and English, the materials used being Bible studies printed by the Plymouth Brethren.

ELWA enjoys a good relationship with the Liberian government. The station has equipment which allows good news coverage, and this is appreciated by the government. ELWA also sends representatives to the weekly Presidential press conference.

Asked about plans for the future, Mr. Ries, who will be returning to Liberia in January, answered that at present the station control rooms are being converted into a new unit with each control room having identical equipment. A stronger transmitter for local broadcasts is projected, also.

Working at ELWA has meant temporary, but lengthy, disruptions in the Ries' family life as each one of the three children has left Liberia to attend high school and college in Fillmore and Houghton. Mrs. Ries admits that this has been difficult but comments that she is kept so busy at the station that she has little time to be lonely. Herschel and Sammie Ries obviously enjoy their work — their attractive smiles and eagerness to discuss the station and their experiences testify to this. God is doing exciting things at ELWA, and this couple counts it a privilege to be involved.

Urbana Convention Promises Opportunity for Commitment

With over 10,000 other Christians, 85 students and at least two faculty members of Houghton College will be attending the sixth tri-annual Urbana Missionary Convention at the end of December in Illinois.

The president of F.M.F., Dave Brown, commented on his feelings as the time of the conference draws near. "I'm really pleased with all the kids that are going. But I'm also afraid that some of the kids that are going will go just to get on the bandwagon; they had better be careful, because they may never get off again."

Mr. Brown has high hopes for the convention. "I'm convinced that if kids really go with open minds, there will be some fantastic opportunities to be grasped. It could be, as Michael Griffiths said in the last Ur-

bana film, just another emotional high — or, it could be a time of real commitment. College kids in our society are looking for something solid to commit themselves to, and this is a great chance. Everyone should take a wheelbarrow with them — the mission boards hand out an incredible amount of literature. There will be over 100 mission boards represented."

Dave Brown candidly admits that there is much work to be done in Houghton. "The pledges and interest in Urbana signify to me the interest in missions of the students. It also says something about our own program; I guess it needs to be upgraded. I'm hoping that the spirit of commitment will begin developing right here among the students that will be going."

There are problems for the convention planners at Urbana. Dr. Paul Little has requested prayer for the convention, because there is the possibility of outside agitation and disruption of meetings. There is another problem — at last report, there were only 150 Bible study lead-

ers; 850 more are needed. Convention leaders are trusting God for more student volunteers.

"I believe there is real value in the idea of getting together," says Dave. "When you look around and see nearly 10,500 people, wow! We know that all those people won't end up on the mission field, but the potential is fantastic. There will probably be some there who aren't saved. They will see something they won't forget."

"They will be giving out David Howard's book at the convention. It should impress kids with all that students have done for world missions in the past. College students long to give themselves to something, but the devil likes to keep us in the middle of the road. I should emphasize that this is not a condemnation for those not going to Urbana."

Dave has no reservations about recommending the Urbana Convention. "I'm so convinced of the worth of this thing that if I had the money — and I don't — I'd offer everyone their money back if they didn't feel it was worth it."



Members of the Music Education Club attended last Saturday's special showing of a group of 18th century violins, violas and cellos (German, French, English, Viennese, Italian) and some 20 French violin bows, one dating back to the late 18th century. Owners of the fine collection include members of the Baroque Nonet, Mr. Sherman Bolles and Professor Eldon Basney.

Revision of Sociology Program Planned to Increase Relevancy

by Diane Frederick

Plans are presently in the making to advance the Houghton sociology major to a more practical and relevant course of study. These plans are to be carried out mainly at the Buffalo campus, whose urban setting lends itself more readily to a program of in-depth experience in social work.

The changes in the program will not directly affect the present sequence of study here. Right now we have included in the sociology curriculum a social work practicum, which allows sociology majors a chance to work for one semester of their Senior year with the County Social Services unit in Angelica.

Now there is hope of expanding this type of on-the-job training in social work within the year. Beginning next fall, Hough-

ton students would be allowed to go to the Buffalo campus and take a fifteen-hour semester. Included in the fifteen hours would be three hours of psychology, three of sociology, three of social work and six hours of field experience in the city. After completing these courses, the students would return to Houghton and finish requirements for graduation with a sociology major with a concentration in social work.

The state has yet to approve this new program, but Department Chairman, Dr. J. W. Shea, is optimistic and foresees no problems. In discussing these changes, Dr. Shea went on to suggest that the student involved in this curriculum would do well to go out and work for a year after graduation and then go on to get a Masters or Doctorate degree.

Lanes Construction Awaits Arrival of Pre-Fab Building

Work has begun and is visibly progressing on the bowling-lane project. Taking advantage of good weather, the maintenance men have poured the concrete for the floor and footers and the site is being readied for the arrival of the building. The building is expected to arrive here about December 11 according to Mr. Fiegl, and construction will begin immediately. Volunteer help will be needed and appreciated to erect the structure.

The building will be 50' x 150' and will house the eight alleys and also a snack or concessions area with vending machines.

Financially, funds have been increasing steadily with a total of \$3,193 in cash and pledges raised to date by students. Dr. Luckey has begun soliciting donors for a matching fund. In this fund, the students are to raise \$5,000 to be matched by a group in the process of being enlisted. Two \$1,000 gifts have been received so far.

Over 200 Children Join in ACO Christmas Activities

Underprivileged children from across the county will again laugh and romp in the second annual Christmas party sponsored by Allegany County Outreach. To be held December 14 from 4-8:00 p.m., it will include over 200 kids ages 3-16, from Friendship to Farmersville, each one with a special Houghton student friend and each one with a great capacity for love.

Junior Ginny Forthmann described the party as "the best opportunity we're going to have to get Christ's message across." For purposes of heightened interest, the party will be divided, with the younger kids down in the Community Room and the kids from age 10-up in the campground dining hall.

The program provides for a general making-friends time, followed by music to create the Christmas mood, plus games and excerpts from "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" performed by the Music Education Club. Highlighting the party will be a narration of the Christmas story by Ursula Grueber, with a film-strip and music background.

Santa Claus, aided by his elves, is also planning an appearance, which in many cases will be the only one this season that the children will know. Hopefully there will be two presents

to a child: one practical clothing gift, such as mittens or a cap and the other a toy — a model, doll, stuffed animal or game. Regarding this aspect of the party, letters were sent out to 63 toy, clothing and stationery companies throughout the state, requesting help in the form of surplus goods. The anticipated response, together with \$650 received to date from interested students and faculty, are to be the party's material support.

A beef stew supper will be served to all the children, after which the big brothers and sisters will present to each child a Bible donated by the Gideons.

Party organizers, including chairman Dave Post, have been working hand-in-hand with ACO and all report with great enthusiasm that "the Lord has really blessed" and "been answering prayer all over the place." One excited worker exclaimed, "These kids — you watch them — it's just thrilling to see the Lord work." Another explained that after the party she wants "each child to walk away knowing and understanding the message of Christmas. That's what we're aiming for, that's what we're praying for, because that's what Christmas is." Other comments include "learning a total reliance on God," and "It's the

Lord getting it done." The enthusiasm is unmistakable.

Much yet needs to be done in the line of assigning kids to students, contacting parents, getting transportation, making decorations and food and completing program details. But the committees express appreciation for the active interest, concern and willingness to help already demonstrated by the Houghton students.



Junior Fran Wood listens to a talkative seven-year-old during the party arranged by Allegany County Outreach at Halloween.

Annual Madrigal Dinners Presented by Chamber Singers to Sell-Out Crowds

Indicative of the fact that the Christmas holiday season is once again here, the Houghton College Chamber Singers presented the Fifth Annual Madrigal Dinners during the week of December 5-Dec. 12. The thirteen member ensemble, conducted by Donald L. Bailey, gave the performances in sixteenth-century English costumes. The dinners, featuring a menu prepared by Mr. Horace Emmons and extensive decorations, were given on Dec. 5, at Lyon Hall, Houghton Buffalo Campus, Dec. 8 at the Castle Restaurant in Olean, New York and on Dec. 10 and 12 at East Hall, Houghton College. In addition to these three presentations, excerpts from the program were sung at a chapel, given in costume, on December 11.

The three-part program opened with an entry number entitled "The Wassail Song" and was followed by the "Boar's Head Carol" which included as one of the props an authentic stuffed boar's head on a platter, loaned to the College by Mrs. Mary Richards of Scio, New York.

Following the invocation, the first segment of the program featured madrigals of the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries. Included here were three songs concerning animals, "El Grillo" (the cricket), "The Cuckoo has Fallen to Her Death" and "Counterpoint of the Animals." Also were featured Warlock's "As

Ever I Saw", with Robert Batdorf as soloist and "Hard by A Fountain" and "Rest, Sweet Nymphs", accompanied by a recorder.

Following the dinner, featured as the second part of the program were contemporary settings of carols. The first four, "Caroling, Caroling", "All on a Christmas Morning", "We'll Dress the House" and "Ah, Bleak and Chill the Wintry Wind" were lovely carols set by Alfred Burt. After "The First Nowell", Nancy Enchelmaier was featured as soloist for "Balulalow."

Concluding the program were traditional carols ranging from the reverential "A Child is Born" to the jubilant "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." Another traditional number, "The Sussex Carol" featured Gordon Finney as soloist. The final number was another singing of the opening "Wassail Song."

A unique feature of the program was the costuming from the 16th century, best described by the word "colorful." The men wore tunics, doublets and tights in matching colors with velvet hats with brilliant plumage. The women's two-color floor-length gowns were full-skirted with long sleeves and V-necks. Their unusual hats were pointed with chiffon veils attached at the top.

Although the dinners were sold out two weeks after ticket sales opened, the idea of these dinners is not for profit. The main purposes are to acquaint residents of nearby communities with the talents and accomplishments of the students at Houghton College and to be of service to these communities, yet the first and foremost goal is to wish all a Merry Christmas in the name of Christ.



The Chamber Singers culminate a week of concerts with a Madrigal Dinner this Saturday evening in East Hall.

University Radicals Propose Berkeley-NLF Peace Treaty

BERKELEY (CPS) — The mecca of student radicalism is apparently going back to working within the system.

But the aims are no less radical. Using the method of initiative, a group in Berkeley is planning to circulate petitions to place on next April's city ballot a proposal for a peace treaty between the people of Berkeley and the National Liberation Front of Viet Nam.

The petition, which if passed

by the Berkeley citizenry would become a city ordinance, first needs enough signatures to equal five percent of the entire vote cast in the last municipal election to make it on the ballot.

At this time, that means approximately 1,800 signatures, which can easily be collected from the registered voters attending the University of California at Berkeley.

The petition, in addition to authorizing five representatives of the city to become delegates to the NLF and Viet Nameese people, demands that the United States withdraw its troops from Southeast Asia and cease to support the present South Viet Nameese government. It also declares that no Berkeley citizen will serve in the war.

If the proposal were to pass, Berkeley would have to secede from the Union. The U.S. Constitution explicitly prohibits the signing of treaties by any local government.

Intended

Phyllis Hussey ('72) to Allan Conover ('72)
Debbie Rutherford ('73) to John Vosburg
Sharon Pepper ('73) to Mark Jordan ('70, West Chester State)

Work by Deans Mills and Weir Results in Revamped Resident Assistants' Program

In the past two years, the Resident Assistants at Houghton have evolved from a single upperclassman striving to keep the inmates of her wing in some semblance of order, to a group of young people who are trained to deal with each individual student and her problems. The credit for this new approach must be given to Dean Weir and the training program for Resident Assistants.

This year's program has many refinements over last year's. Before the students returned en masse this fall, from September 4 through 5, the Residence Hall Workshop was held. The work-

shop featured informal discussions with Dean Weir and Dean Mills on the responsibilities and methods of counseling, instead of more formal addresses and filmstrips. Throughout the year, two meetings are held each month. At the first, all RA's and Proctors attend a lecture dealing with one phase or problem the RA's may encounter, with a discussion period afterwards. Then later in the month, the RA's from each hall meet with their Resident Director in an informal dinner meeting. At this time the Resident Director applies the suggestions offered in the earlier meeting.

Besides these large-scale gatherings, each Resident Assistant has an individual meeting with the Resident Director at least once a month. These tend to be evaluation sessions, as well as times to work out problems that the RA may have encountered, and times of prayer.

This whole program has been shared by the RA's from Roberts Wesleyan and Alfred in exchange visits to Houghton. The success of the program is obvious, in that its objective of enabling the Resident Assistants to work more effectively with other students has been reached.

ORATORIO SOCIETY . . .

(Continued from Page One)

work's overall impact since the main theme of *Messiah* is the story of the redemption of man through the person of Jesus Christ. The story itself is highly dramatic and lends itself to just such music as Handel has composed.

"I am firmly convinced of the musical worth of *Messiah*. My main concern as a Christian and a musician would be that the performers and the listeners worship the true, personal "Messiah" rather than a musical presentation of an oratorio entitled *Messiah*. This is the primary goal of our 1970 performance. I invite you to come worship with us on December 13."



Center Dave Frasier goes up for shot in Houghton's losing effort against St. John Fisher.

Highlanders Drop Alfred, St. John Fisher Matches

by Ken Woodruff

The 1970-71 Houghton Highlander basketball season is underway, and the Highlander Varsity appears headed for another dismal season. In their opening games Houghton was smothered 100-70 by the Alfred Saxons and then fell to St. John Fisher by an 87-79 count.

On the brighter side the newly formed junior varsity team boasts an even record 1-1 as they easily destroyed Olean Business Institute 115-69 in their original encounter. They were later defeated 87-63 by the Fisher junior varsity.

Last Wednesday Houghton traveled to Alfred for a scheduled home game finding the cement court of Alfred's gym not to their liking. Many turnovers resulted in the early minutes — and the Highlanders soon found themselves down 18-4. Houghton eventually settled down managing to play Alfred even the

rest of the first half. When intermission came the score was Alfred 45-29.

At the outset of the second half the Alfred Quintet, super fired-up in the first 8 minutes, outscored Houghton 27-8 and thus upped the count to 72-37. Subs began pouring into the game. Four minutes later the score read 82-44. The Highlanders finally began to play ball with Harold Spooner (11 pts.) and Sim Kilpatrick (8 pts.) leading the way. The subs chopped 10 points off the Alfred lead. Steve Babbitt (14 pts.) and Dave Smith (10 pts.) did the night's best shooting. Yet as a team, the Highlanders made only 34% of their shots compared with Alfred's 52%. That statistic alone indicates why Houghton ended on the short end of the 100-70 score.

Houghton's cold shooting again proved to be its downfall against St. John Fisher, as the Highlanders made 39% of their shots compared to Fisher's 48% mark. Bill Johnson came off the bench to lead Houghton with a 16 point tally. He also picked off 15 rebounds. Ed Johnson hitting for 16 points, Dave Smith (11 pts.) and Dave Clark (10 pts.)

spearheaded the Highlander attack!

Houghton found themselves down by only a 40-36 margin at the half, and very much in contention. But they were unable to catch Fisher and only got as close as 8 points, spending most of the second half trailing by as much as 16 points. Final score was 87-79.

A quick analysis: Tim Bowditch has shot 18% so far, Dave Clark 23% and the Highlanders as a whole have shot 36.6% thus far. Only one way to win — put the ball in the bucket. Improved shooting is the only answer.

The Houghton junior varsity, led by Roger Robinson's 40 points and 34 rebounds, smashed O.B.I. 115-69. Roderick Robinson (Boonie) had 22 points and 14 rebounds, and Jim Spurrier chipped in 15 points. Against the Fisher J-V, Harold Spooner had 18 points in a losing effort. Spurrier (16 pts.), Boonie (12 pts.) and Roger Robinson (14 pts.) were also instrumental in the Houghton attack. A twisted ankle to Spooner, a very sore big toe for Roger Robinson and hitting a very poor 34% of their shots, were all Fisher needed to win 87-63.

Chickenfat and J-House Claim Early League Basketball Leads

After one month of house-league basketball two teams are definitely on their way to the A & B league titles. In A-league, the Chickenfat Rebellion is once again on the top having a 4-0 re-

cord with only 3 games to play. No one seriously threatens them.

F.A.S.T., the team that trails the Fat are 4-1, but their one loss was to the Fat. Since the teams only play each other once

during the season, an upset is the only hope for the F.A.S.T. to tie for the A-League championship. Trailing these two teams are the Hungries with a 3-2 record, Wet Noodles 2-2, Eli's Coming 2-4, Bachelors 2-3, Nubs 1-3, and Speed Kills 0-3.

In B-League, the J-House boys, champs in houseleague football, are leading with a 5-0 record, followed by the Refriders with a 4-1 record. In this case, like A-league, the Refriders' only loss was to Johnson House. However, an upset here is more likely to throw the race into a tie. It looked as if J-House might run away with the league title, but the Refriders, the dark-horse of the league, have put on a charge and are within a game of the leader. Following close behind these two are the Baker's Dozen with a 4-2 record, but only one game remaining. Trailing these three teams are the Klunkers 3-2, Yorkwood 1-2, Fellowship of the Ring 1-3, Roy and the Boys 1-3 and the Cellar Doors trailing the field 0-6.

Barring upsets, J-House and Chickenfat should finish on top. (Results as of Tuesday, Dec. 8)

Women End Season With Even 4-4 Volleyball Record

December 2nd brought the women's varsity volleyball season to a close. The team completed its first varsity season with a 4-4 record.

The highlight of the season had to be our defeat of Roberts in the Brockport Invitational Tournament, the First Annual Western New York State Volleyball Tournament. Houghton took second place honors, losing only to the host, Brockport.

In the first round Houghton played Geneseo and won the match with 15-10 and 15-11 scores.

Roberts and Houghton clashed in the second round. Here Houghton avenged her previous loss to Roberts, swamping them

in two games by scores of 15-3 and 15-1.

Houghton faced Fredonia in the third round and again took the match in two games. The first game score was 15-5, but the second game proved tougher, the final being 17-15. Houghton and Brockport tangled in the final championship round, but Houghton could not put things together, losing 15-1 and 15-5.

The final match of the season was against Fredonia again. Playing the first day after vacation proved unfortunate, for we were unable to emerge victorious. For our first varsity season an even record is commendable. Next year a winning season should be within easy reach.

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