

Houghton Star

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Dr. Paine resides safely in Nha Trang during Viet stay

by Lois Gridley

Dr. and Mrs. Paine and their two younger children may be having an exciting time during their visit to Viet Nam, but the excitement has not included any hair-raising escapades to date. Rumors that they have been in battle zones or under fire are entirely false according to Professor Hugh Paine, the president's brother.

A travel itinerary that in-

cludes Viet Nam in its current state automatically evokes thoughts of danger; the Paines were prepared for the possibility of difficulties. However, their visit with their daughter's family in a potentially war-torn area has been a peaceful one.

The Paines were met in Saigon on their arrival in Viet Nam by their daughter Carolyn, her husband John Miller and their children. The Millers had

lost their possessions when they had to leave their station and Carolyn and the children had recently stayed in bunkers for two nights but after a few days of organization in Saigon the Millers were ready to travel with the Paines to Nha Trang, a coastal city that is one of the safe areas of Viet Nam.

At Nha Trang a conference is being conducted for CMA missionaries in Viet Nam. This conference was formerly planned for Kontum, which became a highly unsuitable location when it was overrun by the Viet Cong. So although the original destination of the families was that now dangerous area, it had already become certain that the conference would have to be moved when the Paines first arrived. They are now busy with the two weeks of meetings of the conference schedule, finding little free time in which to write letters, and will remain in Viet Nam until the end of March.

Easter for the Paine family will be in the tradition-rich Holy Land. They plan to stay in that area during April and will go there after leaving Viet Nam.

Trustees approve working plans for Science Building

Wednesday night the Board of Trustees approved the working drawings of the proposed \$2 million Science Building. The go-ahead was also given to proceed into the second stage of drawings for the proposed Campus Center. At the same time, the planning of a new dormitory was approved.

The Campus Center is estimated to cost between \$1,750,000 and \$2 million. Construction of this structure, tentatively planned for across from the Houghton Health Center, may possibly begin in the Spring of 1969.

During the Easter break, the Bent Cent and Pop Mill's house will be the first buildings to be torn down in preparation for construction of the Science Building. The Student Affairs

building will remain till summer.

The Science Building will be a five story structure, housing the departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Student laboratory and faculty research are also planned. Two elevated lecture rooms, one seating 75 students and the other 175 students will be available for special forums and lectures. Well-equipped animal and greenhouse facilities will comprise the fifth floor.

Calvin Seerveld relates art to the spiritual

by Robert A. Zinke

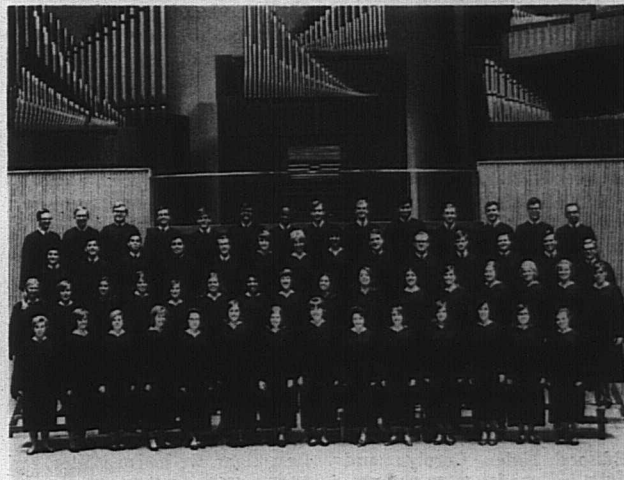
The aesthetic mood set by Dr. Huizenga and the book of the semester was augmented this

week in a two-day series of chapel talks and discussions by philosopher Calvin Seerveld. Dr. Seerveld, who is presently a professor of philosophy at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois, gave an appraisal of avant-garde trends in art and raised the questions, "What is art and what is its relation to creation, redemption, and sanctification?"

After receiving his A.B. and M.A. degrees at Calvin College and the University of Michigan respectively, Dr. Seerveld studied in Rome and Switzerland under the Fulbright Scholarship Program. He received his Ph.D. in philosophy from the Free University of Amsterdam. Since his return to this country, he has published several books and written articles for *Christianity Today* and other magazines.

In the March 1, issue of *Christianity Today* Dr. Seerveld writes that humor is a strong characteristic of Christian art. Commenting on modern secular art, he notes that "from music to sculpture to poetry, artistic expression seems to have lost any sense of humor," and our only laughter comes as "an embarrassed response to the nitrous oxide and frenetic tickling of tricksters." In previous articles Dr. Seerveld has urged the dissatisfied church to produce "something Christianly different."

Dr. Seerveld spoke not only in Thursday and Friday's chapels, but also in the Poetry Seminar on Thursday and in Problems of Philosophy. An open question-answer period was also conducted in Presser Hall on Thursday and that night in a colloquium. Five years ago Dr. Seerveld



The Oberlin College Choir

Robert Fountain directs Oberlin Choir in concert

Friday, March 22, the well-known Oberlin College Choir will perform in Wesley Chapel. Their repertoire includes Renaissance motets, and part songs, Bach's Cantata No. 4, contemporary choral works and American folk songs.

Under the direction of Robert Fountain, the sixty-two singers will present the first concert of their spring itinerary here. Fountain, Dean of the Oberlin

Conservatory of Music, has led the choir since 1948. A conductor of great ability and persuasion, Fountain adds understanding of the human voice and its capabilities to a musical concept of the choral art. The group includes thirteen instrumentalists.

The Choir was organized in 1929 by Olaf C. Christiansen as the Oberlin A Cappella Choir. In its thirty-nine years of existence, this choir has gained world acclaim. Their performances have taken them from the East, through the Midwest, to the West Coast. Four years ago they traveled to the Soviet Union and Rumania where, during a nine-week tour, they were praised for their "flawless performance" and "impeccable professionalism."

The Oberlin Conservatory of Music was founded in 1865 as a private conservatory. In 1867, the Conservatory officially became part of Oberlin College. The Conservatory has 244 students enrolled in its program. Of the sixty-two members of the Choir, twenty-seven attend the Conservatory; the remainder come from the College. The Conservatory's close relationship with a liberal arts school distinguishes Oberlin from most professional schools.

Clark Mitze, of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, wrote: "Robert Fountain, conductor of the group, deserves commendation of the choir's musical maturity, extraordinary ensemble and freshness of choral sound. His beat is exceptionally large but it seems to accomplish the necessary communication and that is what is necessary."



Dr. Calvin Seerveld

Cadet program planned

This summer several collegians from the Rochester area will earn \$720 in eight weeks. They will be participants in the library cadet program designed to teach a library science through first-hand experience.

To be eligible, one must be a junior who attends a four-year college or who resides in the Pioneer Library System which includes Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Wayne and Wyoming Counties.

Approximately fifteen library cadets will be chosen based on academic records, personal interviews, letters of reference and applications which are available in the Placement Office. Get involved: there's more to librarianship than you realize.

FMF sponsors Christian actor-athlete-evangelist for chapels

by Sandra Duguid

Neither evangelizing basketball players nor Christian film participants appear frequently in chapel services. That is why Overseas Crusades' missionary Rev. Bill McKee may prove an interesting member of next week's chapel line-up. A guest of FMF, he will speak Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Rev. McKee is a former member of the "Venture for Victory" basketball teams which have toured the Far East under the Overseas Crusades unique basketball evangelism program. He and his wife have appeared in

two Christian films, "Above All Else," filmed in the Philippines, and "Inhale the Incense," filmed in Hong Kong.

During eight years of missionary service in the Philippine Islands, Mr. McKee proclaimed the Gospel in numerous city-wide, church, and campus evangelistic crusades. During his last term, five teenage Bible clubs were organized in the Philippines and Okinawa.

His ministry includes evangelism in other countries in addition to the United States and the Far East. He has been used by God to stir revival fires and direct young people to foreign service through church missionary and youth conferences and meetings in colleges and seminaries.



Rev. Bill McKee

INDUCTED INTO SOCIETY

Linda J. Adcock and Sharon A. Smith, former members of the Class of '68 and presently members of the senior class at Columbia, were recently inducted into the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau at the Department of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine, at Columbia University. Sigma Theta Tau is a national honor society in nursing. It purposes to recognize the students with superior academic achievement and leadership potential. Each girl will receive her B.S. degree from Columbia University this year.

FMF TREASURER'S REPORT

\$16,800 Goal
10,200 Met

\$ 6,600 to go yet.
Freely you have received.
Maybe you would
Freely give.

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Ad space 6.7% (20.5 col. in.)

In the good old summertime

The ring is almost full of hats. Some say that's a good sign for so dangerous a political year. The most far reaching question in the minds of both major and minor politicians now that some declarations of intent have been made is, "What will happen over the summer?"

Unless some drastic action is taken in the next few weeks, it seems almost inevitable that the Viet Nam crisis will drag on into the summer months. If that does happen, and no positive move is made toward a lessening of racial tension, it appears that there will be fighting in the streets of Saigon, and fighting in the streets of Philadelphia. This could present a very frightening set of problems for the candidates to solve in their speeches.

Right now it is definitely a blow-for-blow battle as to which problem candidates should devote their speaking time. Viet Nam has a slight edge, but as Congress, the House in particular, has sent the open housing proposals to

committee, more and more racial tension will build up in the cities. The existence of this critical situation demands that more careful consideration be given to individual candidates by individual voters than has been exhibited in either of the last two elections.

If things were nervous at Democratic Headquarters last week when McCarthy gained an edge over Johnson in the New Hampshire primary, it must be totally chaotic now with Kennedy's announcement of his candidacy. The Republicans have their problems, too. The major question at the 1625 Eye St. address these days seems to be, "Which speech shall I echo now?"

The only hope for this situation rests, as it always does, with the voters. We must carefully consider all the issues. We must begin now to follow the developments in the political picture. Besides providing a sound base for a wise decision in November, this careful scrutiny will probably give all of us a few hearty laughs.

Missionaries' co-worker reports from Viet Nam

Editors' Note: Carolyn and John Miller (daughter and son-in-law to Dr. Stephen Paine) and Eugenia Johnston (a Houghton alumna who spoke in Chapel last semester) are presently in Vietnam with Pat Bonnell.

Dear Friends,

The Vietnamese New Year had been ushered in with the usual blast of fire crackers and guns, and then a stillness had allowed us to fall into a sound sleep. Suddenly at 2:15 a.m. the blast began again and with little hesitation Judy Wallace and I moved into our sand-bagged bunker while we listened to the mortars, rockets, and small arms fire. The battle grew fiercer as the night wore on, and we were in much prayer for our three families living on the other side of town. Only occasional bullets hit our houses on the Workshop Center that first night.

The next morning we did not know the situation in the rest of the country, nor even in Kontum. Our Workshop Center was out on the north-west edge of the city of Kontum, between an American military camp and a Vietnamese military camp. That

first night, we learned later, the enemy tried to take the Provincial Offices and put their men in. The Post Office and market place were burned, along with several homes of foreign civilians.

We had just sat down to dinner when a barrage of small arms fire opened up, sending us into the bunker for 45 minutes. Between 3:00 and 4:00 in the afternoon, Carolyn Miller (John was still in Da Nang), Eugenia, Judy and I read together Psalm 33 and had prayer. Eugenia had stayed with Carolyn and her three small children the night before, and it was decided that Judy and I would stay with them this night, rather than in our own house.

The American military, who had to destroy our buildings because the enemy was using them for cover, have graciously offered to help us rebuild in another location. Pray for the Lord's guidance in all of this.

I had intended, before all this happened, that this letter would be about my visit to Khe Sanh at Christmas. Little did we know at that time that Khe Sanh would be as it is now. The town

itself was overrun and had to be bombed. All the Vietnamese and Americans were evacuated, but our Brou friends were too great a number to be lifted out.

Your servant in Christ,
Pat Bonnell

On socks

Dear Editor:
QUESTION: To "The View from There." Who is my fellow non-conformist?

Sincerely,
R. Jacobson, Mathematics

Art-wise

Dear Editor:
Concerning ART, everyone has a right to his own opinion — with knowledge or without. And there is much of ART today that causes us to STOP, LOOK, and even "LISTEN" (kinetic). I am surprised, though, that one criticism against our exposure to some avant-garde art should come from our very clever literary "wayouters!" We are not surprised when our campus traditionalists complain.

Our purpose is to expose our campus to as many varieties of contemporary (modern and traditional) trends as we are able to secure through the kindness of these artists in letting us borrow their work.

We might remember that with each show someone is learning tolerance, because we're all different. But could it also be that ART-WISE, there is something ELSE that could be learned?

Sincerely,
Marjorie O. Stockin

A Prayer for Understanding

by Professor Roberta Fair

Lord, open our eyes that we may see the view from here.

Help us not to be so near-sighted that we can only see the color of our professors' socks and fail to see the needs of the millions who do not own a pair of socks.

Remove the scales of prejudice from our eyes that we may realize that others may enjoy the colors we despise — the soft Christmas glow on the stones of the Lucky Building or the art display in the Chapel basement.

May we look for good in others rather than for their foibles, frailties, and failures.

Open our eyes to see opportunities whereby we may see Thee and others rather than ways that we think Thou and others should be serving us.

Help us to see the administration as the self-sacrificing men Thou hast raised up to keep Houghton going and not as The Enemy who is constantly trying to take away our lollipops and deprive us of all enjoyment.

May we see the problems that confront the administration, the faculty, and the world, and seeing may we pray that we may contribute to the solution not to the cause of those problems.

Open our eyes to see the hundreds who have tried to come to Houghton and have failed because there was no room, and if the view from here is so intolerable, help us to make room for those who want to see.

Help us to see the truth, and if the truth fits, help us to accept it. "It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a rebel who has no heart for truth. A rebel doesn't care about the facts. All he wants to do is yell." (Proverbs 17:16 and 18:2, Living Psalms and Proverbs.)

And finally, Lord, help us to see beyond the present, to understand immaturity, to love, and to forgive, knowing that many of those who yell the loudest will send their children to Houghton because it dares to stand for something. Amen.



Houghton Star



ESTABLISHED FEB., 1909

MEMBER

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The view from here by Ted and Pete

Rights and Responsibility

Last Friday evening witnessed the opening of Willard Houghton Memorial Library to the student body. Now, those of us not attending the Artist Series, flicks or "sub races" will be able to engage in the higher pursuits of intellectual endeavor. Perhaps this recent and seemingly passionate interest on the part of many students will manifest itself in other areas of concern with the library. For example: will these same interested students make an effort to help alleviate the undemocratic process of "carroll saving"; what about the cating of candy, oranges and bananas in various parts of our resource center and then leaving the remains for the janitor; how about the boisterous whispering and junior high antics which so often occur; and perhaps most important, what about the care of our books? The fact that the library is presently "losing" approximately two-hundred and fifty books a year seems to indicate a definite need for self-evaluation by at least a portion of the student body.

Hopefully next year's library staff will be larger, the hours extended and the service even better. Let's hope likewise that student conduct, student care and student respect for the library, its staff, its contents and its building will witness a marked improvement.

A Concrete Quad?

As we reminded you last week (just before the big snow) Spring is almost upon us. This means the return of sunglasses, cut-offs and other such paraphernalia. Similar manifestations such as the rise of the "couple ratio," the increase in study breaks and the re-entry of frisbees, skateboards, etc. give further evidence of Spring's advent.

Along with all these Spring fever signs comes the age-old and seemingly inherent temptation of "let's cut across the grass." Each year neat little foot paths have a way of developing across the Quad, between East Hall and the chapel and in various other locales. Last year the grounds crew combatted this problem in one "danger zone" by pouring a sidewalk over the path. But is this the ultimate answer? How many of us would really be in favor of a gray cement sidewalk running across our quad?

We would like to remind you, as the National Safety Council annually does concerning highway speed, that the extra few steps and seconds saved in "cutting across" are relatively few in number. Of course, as few pay much heed to the Safety Council's warnings few will pay heed to ours. But all the same, don't you agree, a whole lawn looks much better than one scarred by careless paths?

Question of the Week???

Exactly what is the relationship between an umbilical cord and student government? (political analogy of the year)

pwk

Leader refutes Stout's position on democracy

Dear Editor:

Last week while Student Senate vice-president Thomas Gurley shouted "Hallelujah!" for student involvement on one side (the right), Mr. Stout, heretofore unknown to me, emphatically stated on the other (left?), "student body pitted against the administration!"

I'm sure most students on Houghton campus are aware of the various and sundry failures of the democratic system. HOWEVER, I would like to

present what I consider to be concrete evidence in support of the governmental system upon which our Christian forefathers founded our country.

Mr. Stout stated: "... industry does not run democratically." Quoting Dr. Carl R. Rogers, leading psychologist of the day regarding industrial workers: "With conditions of pay held constant, some groups of workers were shifted to a new task and carefully instructed in the way to handle it and in ways of increasing efficiency on the

new task. Other groups were shifted to the new task, and permitted to discuss, plan, and carry out their own way of handling the new problem. In the latter group productivity increased more rapidly, increased to a higher level, held a higher level, and morale was definitely higher than in the groups which had been instructed." Sorry, Mr. Stout, industry, too, is realizing the error of her way.

Mr. Stout also stated: "HOUGHTON COLLEGE IS NOT A DEMOCRACY!" He failed to tell us what it is! Would you, sir, care to modify that statement? Or at least clarify it? Are we to assume you mean Houghton is, then, an autocracy?

Let me again quote Rogers:

"In the well-known study of autocratic, democratic, and laissez-faire groups conducted by Lippitt and others, it was found that in the democratic group where the leader's role was one of interest and permissiveness, the group took responsibility upon itself, and in quantity and quality of production, in morale, and in absence of hostility, it exceeded the records of the other groups. In the laissez-faire group, where there was no consistent structure, and no leader interest, and in the autocratic group where behavior was controlled by the leader's wishes, the outcomes were not so favorable."

I would add, in closing, that popular opinion holds Dr. Rogers to be a very humble man.

Sincerely,
Georgia Leader



I guess Spring has finally sprung!

Senate Speaks Communication



Needless to say, all of us were encouraged by the response and responsibility demonstrated by the students at the discussion forum two weeks ago. Both the student body and the Administration had something to say to the other and communication was effected. The result was a course of action which, under the circumstances, was acceptable to both. The Senate also endorses this temporary solution to the immediate problem, but still maintains, on principle, the extension of library hours as soon as possible.

Next Tuesday evening the students will be afforded another opportunity to express opinions and questions as the Senate sponsors a second discussion forum. This meeting will be held in the Fancher Auditorium at 9 o'clock. The Administrative Committee has received invitation to be present to answer students' questions and clarify administrative positions in matters of student concern. The main topic for discussion will be revision of the **Student Guide**. Come with your suggestions for revision or change; these will be considered by the Senate Guide Revision Committee and then recommended to the Student Affairs Committee from the Senate.

The Student Affairs Committee has recently set up a sub-committee for Guide revision which will be working with the Senate throughout the rest of the semester to attempt to up-date the Guide while also appending it with the College's philosophy of the "rulebook." We feel that the open forum is an especially effective way for students to communicate opinions to the Administration through the Senate, and we anticipate active participation by all involved in the affairs of the school — students, administration, and faculty.

Perspective . . . by Gene Cole

WE CAN END THE DRAFT

The controversy over the President's recent decision to end graduate deferments and to begin drafting oldest men first has again called to public attention the defects of the Selective Service System. Traditionally, victims of conscription have been poor and less educated; now, this generation of college students has been singled out to atone for past inequities. One-half to two-thirds of next year's quota will be filled by graduate students.

Cries for reform have multiplied, but revising the draft will not eliminate its defects. Injustice is inherent in any system of selective service.

Other Defects

Nor is this the system's only flaw. It is also militarily inefficient. Personnel who have had extended training are required to maintain our highly technical military. Yet, according to General Lynn Smith, 43 percent of the Army has less than one year's experience. The reason is not hard to find — 95 out of 100 draftees quit after serving their two years. The draft is geared to quantity, not quality.

In fact, it even discourages quality. A system of unequal, involuntary servitude produces lower morale, which reduces the prestige of the armed services, discouraging many competent young men from choosing a military career.

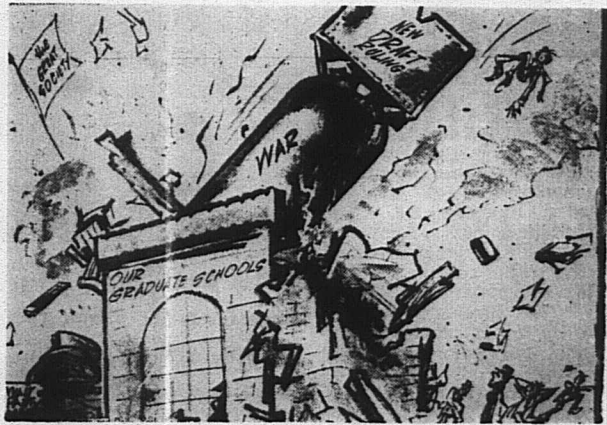
A Voluntary Military

The draft has failed to produce the type of men our army needs. What, then, is the alternative? Senator Mark O. Hatfield has proposed a voluntary military. Such a system would involve higher pay and increased benefits for servicemen. Efficiency would be increased by attracting better-qualified personnel and retaining them. Walter M. Oi, while consultant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense, made an extensive study on the feasibility of a volunteer army. He concluded that the decreased rate of turnover would mean that the services would need to attract only 75,000 additional sure volunteers per year.

The most common objection would be cost. Mr. Oi states that to compete with civilian opportunities, military payroll

would have to be increased one-third. He calculates that increased efficiency and reduced training budgets would more than offset this. Furthermore, in comparing costs, we must take into consideration the fact that the present system is mostly financed out of the pocket of the drastically underpaid draftee.

Again, we come to the inequity of the present Selective Service System. Because of its undesirability, conscription traditionally has been America's last resort. The revoking of individual liberties requires strong justification; it requires that there be no alternative. But there is.



Revolution Report!

by Nora Swindler

This week the Report features two of the "forgotten works" of CSO — Bible Clubs and Released-Time Classes, and Nursing Home Visitation.

Bible Clubs and Released-Time Classes have grown from last year's twenty-one teachers in five places to the current thirty-six teachers in eight towns. These minister to approximately 390 children each week.

Released-Time classes are taught in Belfast, Friendship, Cuba, Arcade, Nunda and Black Creek (at a school for the mentally retarded). Bible clubs meet weekly in Arcade and Centerville.

The major difference between the two types of work is that the released-time class occurs during school hours when the children are allowed to attend "religious instruction," while Bible clubs meet after school in homes.

Nursing Home Visitation is another little-publicized group with an amazing large number of members. Thirty to forty students each week talk to approximately one hundred and fifty patients in six nursing homes.

Most of the work involves showing concern for these older people by talking with them, by reading the Bible and by praying with them.

Miller presents a "new" look at Viet Nam

Editor's Note: This letter to the Editor is printed for critical and scholarly evaluation by both students and faculty.

Dear Editor:

I have often been tempted to respond to some article or another in the *Star* in the past but have successfully resisted. With the appearance of Mr. Jon Balson's letter of February 23, however, comes a viewpoint that is particularly disturbing. It is so because it is the sort of reasoning that keeps us engaged in a war that, whatever its legal status, is certainly immoral. The reasons given tend to give the feeling that the war we are fighting in Viet Nam is not immoral but on the contrary that "right" is on our side. For this reason the reasons are seductive and need to be exposed for what they really are. These reasons, for practical purposes, represent the official position of our government, fail to tell the story of the history of the situation in Viet Nam and for this reason can justly be classified as propaganda. In a very summary way I would like to help correct the impression that the reasons Mr. Balson gave tell the whole story or even that they are good reasons.

The "Word" and Ho

In the first place, the "word" given in Geneva represents an abstraction. What happened was that the U.S. set up a government in Saigon intended to be temporary, i.e., until official elections could decide what government the people of Viet Nam wanted. We then gave our "word" to the U.S. established government to protect it, a move very understandable, but one that ought not to be represented as an agreement with another country. Our prime concern in Viet Nam at that time was not the establishment of a proper government but the prevention of a feared Communist take over. Such a fear represents well the mania of Communism that characterized the temperament of the U.S. during the early 50's and not only flavored our relationships with other countries of the world but also explains such a phenomenon as the McCarthy hearings. However, this fear prevented a proper analysis of the situation in Viet Nam.

Ho Chi Minh, as a young college student in Paris, became convinced that his country, then Indochina and ruled by the French, had a right to enjoy the privileges of self-determin-

ation, just as the French people themselves. This was in the thirties, and though the depression made its impact on the economics of France as everywhere else, France was still by far better off than his homeland. He became determined that his country should obtain a social revolution of the sort that would bring the economic privileges to his people that were now uniquely the possession of westerners. Anyone only partially familiar with the desperate social plight of the Orient at this time can sympathize with Ho's concern and conviction that his people should enjoy a better life.

The War Years

With the coming of WW II, France lost her grip on Indochina to the Japanese. Throughout the war years Ho fought an underground campaign against the Japanese, aiding the British and U.S. war effort there to such an extent that historians agree that it is questionable that this portion of Asia could have been regained as quickly and as well without his help. In return for this he requested of the U.S. that after the war his country not be returned to France, but that they should be given their independence and the right to determine their own government. The correspondence with President Roosevelt shows that Roosevelt agreed that this should be the proper course. Unfortunately, Roosevelt died in office before the end of the war, Truman was not aware of the correspondence from Ho, France was an ally liberated from an indignity, not to return Indochina to France would be to hand her another indignity. Thus, Ho Chi Minh's homeland went back to the possession of France.

Ho knew from experience that he could not get his badly needed social revolution from France (though he did try, until he was accused of being a communist by the French and forced to go underground again). He learned that he could not get the help he needed from the U.S., he would get it from the Zulus if he thought that they would help him; Red China volunteered.

A Question of Position

In the light of this it is at least questionable that Ho can be considered a thorough-going, hard core communist; less still that the Vietnamese people are still. What explodes this as a myth is the fact that the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples are historically unable to appreciate one another — there is an ingrained antipathy and distrust between the groups. The idea that if Ho becomes the dominant leader in Southeast Asia that Red China will be able to expand her "warlike" tendencies just does not fit the facts. Ho is out to get a social revolution for his people and he does not care under what label it comes. To enslave himself to another people, least of all a people that are distrusted by those of whom he is the leader, would be to destroy his intentions at the start.

What is far more likely to happen if Ho were to become the leader in Southeast Asia would be that a united Viet Nam would be the very worst become an Asian equivalent of Czechoslovakia. At the best, with the help and cooperation of the U.S. in building her economy and achieving her social revolution, Viet Nam would become an independent Asian Switzerland.

Spell of Fear

Such clear considerations as these, however, weigh little to a group under the pathological spell of the fear of an international plot on the part of communism to dominate the world. In such cases, as any psychologist knows, when the fear dominates the person, there is pure response, a patterned reaction without thought. Much like a wild animal that feels itself cornered and in danger, the response of the U.S. was simply to strike back at "communism." It is a deep national tragedy that we allowed foreign relations to be determined on such grounds.

This explains further why the U.S. did not sign the Geneva Accord in 1954. To do so would be to commit ourselves to guaranteeing elections no matter what in two years. We were not sure that the communist plot could be stopped in that time; if it could be stopped, then we would allow the elections and if not, we would not be forced to allow them. It is an irony that a democratic country could allow itself such a line of reasoning. It becomes even more pathetic when we see what was taking

place in South Viet Nam under the government that had been set up by the U.S. and maintained in power by us.

Years of Corruption

In the two years from 1954 to 1956, the Diem government, despite a good start toward reform, became so corrupt that nearly all the land, up to this time held in small farm units by individual peasants, was bought up through mortgage manipulations by officials in Saigon. These absentee landlords then rented the farms back to the former owners at rates averaging one half the yearly harvest. Two thirds of the remainder went to Saigon in taxes. If Viet Nam was economically underdeveloped during French rule, the condition of the average peasant was by far worse under the rule of the government set up by the U.S. The communist "infiltrators" had little difficulty in convincing the people in the hamlets throughout the countryside that there was need for a change. The people wanted and intensely needed a change.

Furthermore, it should be remembered that the economical wealth of Southeast Asia is centered in the fertile Mekong Delta. Ho would not be able to effect his social revolution without having access to this. Thus, the needs and interests of both Ho and the people in the countryside of South Viet Nam coincided. This is the reason that the communists were "in control" of 60-90% of the villages. The villagers were ready to take anyone's help; the only direction they could possibly go was up and the life that they were now living was not worth living. In the light of the stirrings of civil strife, Diem asked for more U.S. aid (we had already supplied the French in their struggle with the Viet Minh and this continued after the French turned control over to Bao Dai — a playboy absentee monarch of sorts who spent most of his time on the French Riviera — we never did keep this part of the Geneva agreement, despite our avowal to do so). . . . its own defense" means the defense of a corrupt puppet regime, one that the U.S. should have repudiated on moral grounds. But morality aside, we felt that stopping the communists was more important.

Freer Elections

The conditions for a free election did exist, then, but the U.S. was caught in a dilemma. If we allowed the elections the communists would surely win, for they offered the only living option in the minds of the people to a corrupt, foreign dominated and fortified government. If the elections were not allowed, some other means was necessary to do away with the regime in the view of both the U.S. and the people of Viet Nam. In the light of such a dilemma, the rumors of ambassador Lodge's complicity in the coup that overthrew Diem is understandable. It is understandable, but morally repulsive if true.

In short, our "word" to defend Viet Nam was to ourselves and not to a government that represented the interests of the people. To remain in such a situation, causing the deep political and social upheaval that our presence does, the agony of that war precipitating atrocities on both sides, is the most morally odious set of behavior that can be imagined. It is hard to come to the decision that one's own country might be morally wrong. Perhaps the Nazis in Hitler's Germany or the French in Algeria, but not America. None the less, the madness of our foreign policy in the early and middle 50's has drawn us into just such a position. If we had allowed our policy to be guided by what was the morally right thing to do rather than by what was expedient at the moment, perhaps we could have written U.S. history in Viet Nam differently. This is undoubtedly the inbred weakness of a pragmatic philosophy of government.

I sincerely hope that the students at Houghton will rethink their own commitment to or acquiescence of such behavior on the part of our government.

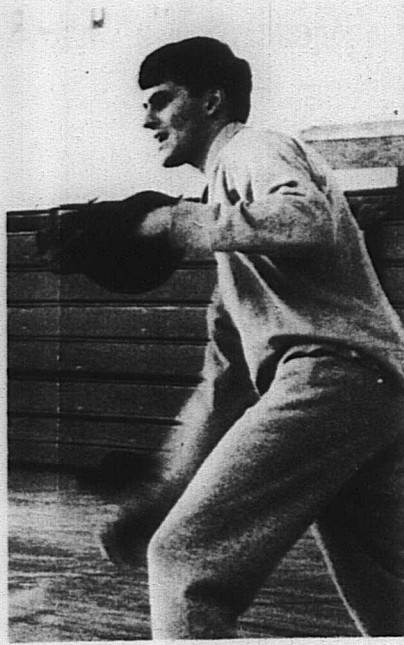
Yours,

Myron Miller

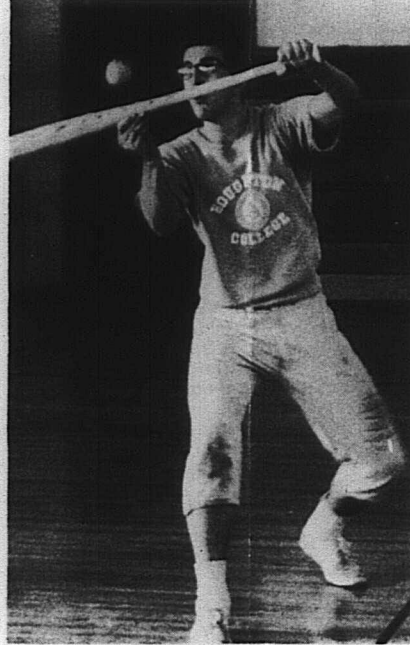
Assistant Professor of Philosophy,
Nyack Missionary College (on leave from Houghton College);
Ph.D. Candidate at New York University;
Supply Pastor at the Ramapo Presbyterian Church;
Husband, father and citizen, not only of the U.S. but also of Mankind and Christ's Kingdom.



Jim Calder



Lee Dominguez



Jim Miller

Juniors ahead in class V-ball with 4-0 record

In an abbreviated season, the Juniors have pulled away from the other classes with a spotless 4-0 record beating the Seniors twice and the Sophs and Frosh once, having to go three games against the latter two teams. The Sophomores, with a 2-2 record have beaten the Seniors and the Freshmen while losing a close three game set to the Juniors and dropping two in a row against the Frosh. The Freshmen, also with a 2-2 record, have won their last two matches after a faulty start. They have beaten the Seniors and the Sophomores, and almost upset the Juniors but fell apart in the third game losing 15-4.

Last in the standings are the Seniors, who have had trouble finding enough men to make up a team. In the one game in which they had enough players, they lost to the Sophs in three games. Their record is 0-4. There is still a possibility of a three-way tie if the Frosh and Sophs both beat the Juniors, but it will take a lot of doing.

9-game baseball schedule planned

Spring, at least Houghton's damp version of it, has once again arrived, and with it the baseball season. Although there will probably be no change in the amount of moisture to be endured, there will be one major difference this spring at Houghton — intercollegiate baseball.

For about two weeks the prospective team members have been loosening up pitching arms, regaining hitting eyes and generally preparing for the upcoming 9-game schedule that begins with a double-header at Mansfield State, April 27.

Coach Wells, who will direct the team this season, remarked that it is rather difficult to try to evaluate the team's full po-

tential at this early date. He did state, however, that if our pitching holds up as expected, chances for a winning season are not beyond the realm of possibility, in spite of our difficult schedule.

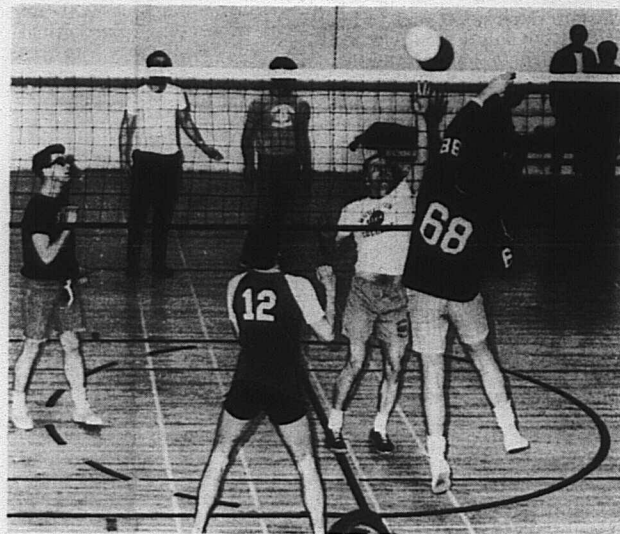
Forming the nucleus of the team are five lettermen from last year's Purple-Gold series.

BASEBALL SCHEDULE			
April 27 — Mansfield	doubleheader	away	
May 1 — R.I.T.	home		
May 4 — Messiah	away		
May 11 — LeMoyne	doubleheader	home	
May 14 — Kings	away		
May 15 — Utica	away		
May 22 — Brockport	away		

Mike Holmes and Robb Wells are back as pitchers and are expected to carry the brunt of the mound duties. Bill Foster at shortstop and Randy Johnson at third base are also back, along with Paul Lamos and Lee Treichler for the outfield. Del Searles, a letterman of two years ago, is back after sitting out last season with a knee injury.

Along with these veterans, newcomers Dave Kreller, Ken Gauza, Larry Rieck and Larry Schwab are expected to win spots on the team. In commenting on a potential starting lineup, Coach Wells emphasized that no one has any spot wrapped up at this point, and that he intends to try men at more than one spot to find their best position.

The season will feature three home games — a doubleheader with LeMoyne, and a single game with R.I.T.



Spikers up!

Sixteen teams participate in house volleyball competition

by Ken Woodruff

Houseleague basketball has passed away, but Houseleague volleyball has come along to replace it. There are 16 teams represented this year, and because of the large number, the league has been split into two divisions. The teams were chosen at random for the respective divisions, unlike basketball where the best teams were placed in their divisions according

to ability.

In the A Division, the Snarks and Eddy's Angels are currently in first place, as both clubs have a 5-0 record. Only half a game back of the pacesetters are Fred's Boys at 4-0; and two games behind the leaders are the B.V.D.'s, who are 3-2. The Barrons, Hess House, Maude's Men, the White Caps and the Knights make up the rest of the division, and all will prove to be tough opponents for any of the front-runners.

The Net Knockers are setting the pace in the B Division, as

they are 3-0. Close behind are the Spike-Nards at 1-0 and Rhoades' Runners, 2-0. The Psychedelic-Spikers, Aunt Jemima's and Chickenfat Rebellion are still within striking distance of the leaders as they are all 1-2. The Bickom Bachelors make up the remainder of the division, still looking for their first win.

The league will run till Monday, March 25. After the games on the 25th, the top three teams from each division will be matched against each other in a playoff to determine the season's champion.

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