

How Children Learn Apathy or Action

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will that they are defeated only because they believe there is no way.

But there is a way! People can be educated to action. Its potential is in the churches as never before.

Last September, Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff spoke at a meeting of Presbyterians in

Cleveland, Ohio. His address was strong, but, as often happens, the question-answer period outshone it. One questioner described a situation wherein a well-run program was stopped because political pressures were used to shut off the funding. The program was advancing poverty-stricken Negroes in the south. Those threatened and opposed to this, used pressure, allegedly, to force the program's

cancellation. The questioner asked what can we do about situations like these? (Again, the will with no way.)

Senator Ribicoff replied, with a broad grin, "Why there is only one thing you can do about a situation like that . . . raise hell about it!" He then went on to elaborate this thought. The religious community, he said, is the most potentially powerful

political group in the United States today. Not any one congregation, not the Protestants, the Roman Catholics or the Jews acting alone, but the religious community united behind any action can get what it wants. The Senator pointed out that every group coming to Washington is there to ask for something for itself . . . except church groups. By and large

when they appear, it is to ask for something for others. Because of their selfless concern, congressmen listen to what they say.

So, there is a way. The Judeo-Christian tradition has always held ideas about the way society should be. If we can band together, establish a common front on particular issues, we can begin to see some of the Judeo-Christian ideas come into reality. Remember, we are, in the eyes of a U.S. senator, the most potentially powerful political force in this country today.

Now I found Senator Ribicoff electrifying because I had already seen some of what he was talking about happen. Here in the northwest part of our city, we have a Maplewood Neighborhood Association. People from the churches compose most of the membership. They come out of the Roman Catholic Church and the several Protestant denominations. (I, a Presbyterian minister, am currently chairman; John Saxe, a Roman Catholic layman, is our effective secretary.) I, for one, am convinced that the day for one man acting alone to bring about change is over. But many men, acting together, is such a group as a neighborhood association, can accomplish much.

Assemble 350 people as we did last January to meet with city officials on the issue of vandalism, and there will be changes. Establish a zoning committee, and indiscriminate granting of variances can be stopped. Other neighborhood associations in this city and across the nation, relate the same story. Out of our common religious convictions there are things we want done. There are things we want stopped. Working together, we face the moment in history when much that has been just talk in the churches can become action in the communities.

And by our action we will show our children—and our neighbors—that we care about them and about the world we all live in. Where there is a will, there is a way! The big question remains, is there a will? Yes? Yes! Then, let us act!

Theater News

D'Oyly Carte

by EUPHRA WYATT



The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company — I thought I had developed a definite allergy to Gilbert and Sullivan but before the veteran conductor, Isadore Godfrey O.B.E. (Order of the British Empire) had concluded the overture I appreciated the delicate blending of wit and sentiment that has made the G & S light opera timeless.

I honestly enjoyed "The Pirates of Penzance" almost as much as the dedicated G & S fans in the audience. The company — a very good looking one — are intelligently satirical in their humor and brightly serious in their love songs. Their voices are uniformly above the average.

Valerie Masterson is a freshly unaffected colatura soprano; Christine Palmer a rich contralto. Donald Adams, the Pirate King, had a voice appropriate to his large stature; John Reed, the Major General, is a comedian of the calibre of Mary Green. I am grateful to Mr. Hurok for importing the D'Oyly Carte. Don't judge Gilbert and Sullivan from amateur performances.

The Ana-Phoenix Repertory Company — Founded in 1953 by T. Edward Hamblen and Norris Houghton, the "Phoenix" commenced a partnership in 1965 with APA a group assembled by Ellis Raab in 1960.

This Association of Producing Artists was an itinerant company playing from the Pacific to the Atlantic, including Bermuda, with seasons at Ann Arbor and Princeton, whereas the Phoenix had its own theatre in New York — a great barn of a house on Second Avenue near Twelfth Street. When they moved to a small theatre on East 74th Street the APA joined them.

Now they have bought the Lyceum built in 1902 by Charles Frohman for repertory which went out of fashion just as its construction was finished. It offers a large stage, plenty of storage room and numerous comfortable dressing rooms. Last season it was crammed for "You Can't Take it with You." This year it already has two hits.

The School for Scandal — Although Society with a capital has changed since 1777, wit and human nature are constant and the lines which amused London two centuries ago are as crisp as ever now in New York.

They are also crisply spoken by the excellent company directed by Ellis Rabb who delivers the Prologue and plays the arch hypocrite Joseph Surface. Mr. Rabb gets his laughs but seems too sanctimonious to have fooled all his clever friends. Sir John Gielgud played the part more lightly in 1962-63.

Rosemary Harris (Mrs. Rabb) is the most charming Lady Teazle I have ever seen. Ethel Barrymore in 1931 was, of course, beautiful but inclined to stateliness. Miss Harris has the healthy high spirits of the country girl whose head has been turned by a taste of fashionable London but who is so young and pretty that Sir Peter Teazle is forever forgiving her extravagances.

Sydney Walker as Sir Peter stands up well with Sir Ralph Richardson in the Gielgud production in which Miss Barbara

Rutherford will never be surpassed as Mrs. Candour which is now played much more naively by Miss Helen Hayes.

Audience enthusiasm is aroused over Charles Surface's auction of his ancestral portraits and the celebrated scene in which Sir Peter discovers Lady Teazle — who, is innocent — under suspicious circumstances and in which Sheridan mingles laughter and suspense from every possible angle. From every angle it also a delightful evening.

Right You Are If You Think You Are — Pirandello's curiously involved drama on the elusiveness of truth as applied to human relationships is played to a rousing climax in an English version by Eric Bentley, directed by Stephen Porter.

Even the Governor demands to be told at the end if the mysterious Signora Ponzia, whom no one has met, is the first or second wife of the man who has just arrived in town to take over a post in the government. And is Signora Frola, Ponzia's mother-in-law really mad?

Miss Helen Hayes is magnificent as this unhappy widow. Sydney Walker, so good as Teazle, is Ponzia. Also worthy of mention is Donald Moffat as the skeptical onlooker, "Right You Are" has a balance between tragedy and comedy but is always provocative.

Don't Drink the Water — A farce has actually arrived on Broadway set in all unlikely places — an American Embassy behind the Iron Curtain. Father Drobney has been living there for seven years as a refugee, finding his only relaxation in trying to be a Houdini.

He never does learn how to escape from a straight-jacket but it comes in very handy with the Chief of Police at the end. In an introductory speech Father Drobney tells us that the Ambassador's son is adept at making diplomatic errors and sure enough, when a family of three Americans escapes the police by rushing into the Embassy, Axel never proves that although Mr. Hollander was trying out his new camera, he always forgot to change the film.

Mr. Hollander, a caterer from Queens, settles down in the Embassy to everyone's discomfort except Axel who becomes engaged to the daughter. The situations continue to be funny in an honestly obvious way until the Hollanders' riotous escape. Lou Jacobi and Kay Medford and Anita Gillette are the family from Queen's with Anthony Roberts as Axel.

Les Ballets Africains — The dances and the dancers come from Guinea, the former French



FEATURED ROLES in McQuaid High School's production of "Murder in the Cathedral" are played by Larry Compa and William Strohmeier.

McQuaid Students List 'Murder in the Cathedral'

Sacrilegious assassination is the climax of T. S. Eliot's play, "Murder in the Cathedral", which will be performed by the McQuaid Dramatic Society at St. John Fisher College tonight.

"Although the play takes place in 12th-century Canterbury, thousands of miles and hundreds of years away, its themes are as contemporary as Dallas and Watts. It portrays the individual Christian conscience martyred to the needs of secular society. The struggle of Thomas Becket, politician and priest, sinner and saint, is today's struggle — the individual in conflict with himself and with his society, searching for elusive norms which can be found only by wrestling with himself and with his time."

Mr. Richard Hunt, S.J., and his stage crew have created the setting. The speaking chorus of the play, originally spoken by "the women of Canterbury", has been divided into individual and choral speeches by acolytes, monks, workmen, and housewives. The play's director is Father William O'Malley, S.J.

Thomas Becket will be played by William Strohmeier. The three priests who speak for the clergy are Andrew Hanushevsky, Peter Toney, and Chris Fasano. Lawrence Compa, Ronald Catanes, Frank Coccia, and Paul Hraber play Becket's tempters, and Thomas Coughlin, Mark Wawro, John Pelkey, and John Hedman are the Knights who murder him. A supporting cast of thirty is led by James Martin.

Curtain time is 8. Tickets are available at the box office or at McQuaid, or they can be purchased through any McQuaid student. James J. Hasson, president of Division 7, Monroe County, Ancient Order of Hibernians is organizing another "Flight of the Gaels" to Ireland from Monday, July 10 to Monday, July 31, 1967. Limited seating is available for this 21 day trip which is on the first come first served basis with personal travel plans fully independent throughout the period. All Hibernians and friends are welcome, since membership in the A.O.H. is not necessary to travel. Those persons wishing to visit other European countries will leave the group in Ireland and rejoin for the journey home. The fare from Rochester to Shannon and return is expected to be \$296.50 with traveling 2 to 12 years of age children at half-fare. The price will be proportionately higher for those traveling further in Europe. Full professional service is available for all private itineraries. For information on the next meeting date and for reservations, call James Hasson.



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