Hippie, love revolution

Dionysus has no analysis

By JOHN KING

If you really groove on anti-war, love revolution, hippie things, you don't need Dionysus in 69 -- but you'll enjoy it.

If you don't because you're too socialized and haven't thought about it, go see it. It won't change you because you won't understand it -- but enough of it might sink in to do you some good.

If you don't groove on anti-war, love revolution, hippie things on their own as a be all and end all you'll understand why I'm not raving about Dionysus.

Because Dionysus in 69, still on at the Studio Lab Theatre and now in its fourth month, is a beautiful well-performed play with no political analysis.

The plot behind Dionysus is a simple modernized adaptation of Euripides' The Bacchae. All the people groove on the communal T-groupie love revolution under the "god" Dionysus -- except the king.

Dionysus (a she in the 69 version) turns the people against the king and completely blows his mind until, at Dionysus' command, he screws her. Under her hypnotism the people, including the king's family, kill the king as a sacrifice to her.

When they realize who they have killed they cry all over his body. Dionysus condemns them and the audience for not joining her love revolution in the bottom of their hearts.

The acting and the facilities for audience participation are superb.

And the analysis behind the new plot (which even includes a quick analysis of women as second class citizens) is partially correct -- it just doesn't go far enough.

Certainly the love revolution idea is a good one, but it is also utopian and can never come about because of the inherent contradictions of its analysis of our society.

The love revolution will never come about just through love. The hippies tried in their hey day and not only couldn't gain the support of the mass of society and turned that mass against their ideals, but found in most cases that it was a phoney love revolution they were trying to practise themselves.

As long as we continue under our present capitalist economic system the idea won't work because too many people will always be too selfish and will corrupt the revolution from inside.

If you are a liberal -- like most members of our society right now -- you'll have to think hard before you can understand Dionysus, yet alone this critique.

As one critic told me after the performance last Friday: "I'll never understand this one as long as I live."

Think harder, friend, Not just about Dionysus, but about the world we live in. Make your critique a world critique -- and a real one -- not just a superficial critique of one play. Then maybe you'll start to understand.

If you (and the cast of Dionysus, too) think some more you'll understand why we need an economic revolution before we can get a political or a cultural revolution, of which the love revolution is only a part.

But you're going to have to look into yourself far deeper than you ever have before.

York Briefs

Harbinger staff supported

The Global Village is hosting a benefit concert on March 8 from 1 pm to 1 am to raise fine money for the three Harbinger staffers who were recently convicted of "having obscene matter for the purpose of circulation."

The 12-hour gig is expected to see performances by Lighthouse and Scarecrow (with Hair's Kid Carson.)

The three were fined \$500 each or three months in jail on Feb.25 after a court decided that a drawing of a woman giving birth to a child was obscene.

The judge also refused to grant a stay of executing sentence until the fine money could be raised.

Pollution forum tomorrow

Winters College Council is sponsoring a forum on pollution tomorow afternoon at 1 p.m. in the Winters JCR. Speakers will include Ontario Minister of Energy and Resources Management George Kerr, NDP MPP and critic of government pollution policies Fred Burr, CHUM radio commentator Larry Solway and a representative of Gulf Oil of Canada Ltd. Stanley Burke will act as chairman.

Americanization teach-in set

The Americanization of Canada is the topic of a teach-in at the University of Toronto this weekend.

Sponsored by the U of T NDP Club and the Waffle Manifesto Movement, the teach-in will open Friday night at 8 pm with a panel discussion of "the politics and economics of independence" by former federal finance minister Walter Gordon and Mel Watkins, author of the Walkins report on foreign ownership in Canada.

Saturday's session includes discussions on the Americanization of Canadian universities, organized labor and independence, English Canada and Quebec, and Canadian foreign policy. Speakers include Carleton University professors Robin Mathews and Jim Laxer, Council of National Trade Unions Montreal president Michel Chartrand, NDP MP Andrew Brewin and U of T graduate student Danny Drache, author of a report on Americanization at U of T.

Admission for students is \$1.25.

COMING SOON

see page 8

U.K. students sit-in

LONDON (CUPI) - Students, demanding to see the confidential files their universities keep on them, spread their protest to five campuses across Britain last Thursday, with sit-ins and warnings of raids on administrative offices.

At Oxford, students defied a court injunction and occupied an administrative office for the third day in succession. They demanded

to see files kept on their political activities.

At the University of Manchester, more than 3,000 students continued the occupation of the university's administration block this week with the same demands as Oxford students.

Students at the University of Sussex said they would raid the administration offices if they are denied access to the files.



The Studentbank closes in 5 minutes and this idiot's got to prove himself!

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Media board needs students Board of Communications, CYSF's just-started watchd

The Board of Communications, CYSF's just-started watchdog over EXCALIBUR and Radio York, needs three perfectly ordinary students to try to represent their friends and make the body legal.

The board will receive complaints about the campus media, make investigations and a top-level inquiry if necessary, and tell the CYSF what to do about the investigation results.

The BOC also serves as a formal body to keep the CYSF politicians off the backs of the media, and ensure them a fair trial, if such is warranted.

Interested students should contact Elliott Strom, the CYSE com-

Interested students should contact Elliott Strom, the CYSF communications commissioner, in the CYSF offices, N 108 in the Humbuilding.

Parties' fate to be discussed

Prominent politicians representing a cross section of the liberal political parties will be at York this afternoon to discuss the fate of political parties in Canada today.

The forum, in the Winters dining hall from 1-5 pm, will start off with a band concert, followed by the panel discussion at 2 pm. A question period and an informal coffee hour will follow.

Among the members of the panel will be Quebec NDP vice-president Laurier Lapierre, federal MPs Gordon Fairweather, David MacDonald and Perry Ryan, Ontario provincial secretary Robert Welsh and would-be Toronto politician Margaret Campbell.

THE EAST IS RED!

... A Forum on Communist China ...

March 9 - 11 — 011 Founders

TUESDAY

MONDAY

11:00 Freedom in China

> 1:00 Hear Norman Endicott

Expert on

11:30 Party Cadres

1:00 Foreign Policy

-- Hear member of external affairs' Department.

> Hear Joseph Starobin (ex-member Communist Party)

Sponsored by some students in Communist China 311

WEDNESDAY

12:00 Women in China

2:00 Cultural Revolution

4:30 Film by Edgar Snow

Keele & Finch Branch, 3930 Keele Street.