

1972

## News from Hope College, Volume 3.1: January-February, 1972

Hope College

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### Recommended Citation

Hope College, "News from Hope College, Volume 3.1: January-February, 1972" (1972). *News from Hope College*. 240.  
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# news from HOPE COLLEGE



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## Gordon J. VanWylen Named Ninth President

Gordon J. Van Wylen has been appointed the ninth President of Hope College.

Dr. Van Wylen, who is Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan, was the unanimous selection of the Hope College Board of Trustees who met on campus Jan. 20-21.

His appointment, which will be effective July 1, culminates an 18 month search for a President. The office has been vacant since August, 1970 when Dr. Calvin A. Vander Werf resigned after serving as President for seven years.

Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale of New York, a member of the Board of Trustees, was chairman of a Presidential Search Committee which considered more than 100 candidates for the office. The Search Committee was comprised of trustees, alumni, faculty and students.

"AN EMINENT SCHOLAR and a skilled administrator, Dr. Van Wylen is a man of wide ranging interests warmly devoted to Christian higher education," said Hugh DePree, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

"Colleagues laud his rapport with his faculty and students speak of his humility, integrity and boundless compassion.

"As we begin another era in Hope's history all of us anticipate new achievements of attainment and service in the fulfillment of our unique role," DePree added.

Dr. Van Wylen has been a member of the University of Michigan faculty since 1951 serving first as an Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

"We accept Dean Van Wylen's resignation with very deep regret. He is, and has been, one of our outstanding Deans," said University of Michigan President R.W. Fleming.

"THE HOPE PRESIDENCY represents a new and different challenge and one which he has decided, after careful consideration, to take. We send with him our warmest best wishes and our complete confidence that he will be a distinguished President."

Dr. Van Wylen, 52, grew up in Grand



Rapids, Mich., graduating from Ottawa Hills High School in 1937. He attended Calvin College from 1937 to 1940 and the University of Michigan from 1940 to 1942 on the 3-2 plan, receiving the A.B. from Calvin College and the B.S.E. (Mechanical Engineering) from the University of Michigan in 1942.

UPON GRADUATION, he took a position as an engineer with the du Pont Company, and in 1943 entered the V-7 program of the U.S. Navy. Upon completion of Midshipman School, he received a commission as Ensign and after further training in submarines, was assigned to the U.S.S. Hardhead which was being built in Manitowac, Wis. He made six patrols on the U.S.S. Hardhead in the South Pacific.

After the war, Dr. Van Wylen returned to the University of Michigan for a Master's degree and taught at the Pennsylvania State University from 1946 to 1948. In the fall of 1948, he began doctoral studies at M.I.T.

Upon completing his doctoral studies in February, 1951, he joined the faculty of the University of Michigan as Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1955, to Professor in 1957, and was named Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering in 1958.

In 1965 he was appointed Dean of the

College of Engineering. The College of Engineering has 3100 undergraduate students, 900 graduate students, and a research budget of about \$8 million per year.

DR. VAN WYLEN'S main field of interest is in thermodynamics and cryogenics (extremely low temperature technology). He is the author of a textbook, *Thermodynamics*, which was published in 1958, and has been translated into Arabic and Hindi.

He has co-authored three books with one of his former students, Professor R.E. Sonntag, *Fundamentals of Classical Thermodynamics*, appeared in 1965, *Fundamentals of Statistical Thermodynamics* in 1966 and *Introduction to Classical and Statistical Thermodynamics* in 1971. He is the co-author and author of a number of papers which have appeared in the literature.

Dr. Van Wylen has been active in a number of scientific and professional societies. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and a member of Sigma Xi and Tau Beta Pi, an honorary engineering society. He has served as a consultant to a number of federal laboratories and agencies and industries.

HE HAS BEEN active in the development of the Indian Institute of Technology at Kanpur, India, a new technical university in India which has been developed with the assistance of nine of the major colleges of engineering in the United States through funds from the U.S. government. Currently he serves as Chairman of the Consortium Steering Committee of IIT/Kanpur.

He has also been active in a number of community and religious affairs. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and Scripture Union, and is a member of the Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church.

He is married to the former Margaret DeWitt of Grand Haven, Mich. She is a graduate of Duke University and The University of Michigan Medical School. She also studied for one year at the Biblical Seminary of New York. They have five children, Elizabeth Ann, a freshman at Calvin College, and Stephen, 17, Ruth, 15, David, 14 and Emily, 8 at home.



# Remarks by Dr. Gordon J. VanWylen on the Occasion of his Appointment as President of Hope College

The following statement was presented by Dr. Van Wylen at a news conference called to announce his appointment as President of Hope College.

I should like to begin with a brief statement made in anticipation of the question that you might very appropriately ask, Why did I choose to accept the invitation of the Board of Trustees of Hope College to become the ninth President of this institution?

I am delighted to accept the Presidency of Hope College because Hope is truly one of the outstanding liberal arts colleges in the nation. Assuming the Presidency of this institution, and all the challenges that this entails, presents new opportunities for personal growth, will permit me new satisfaction as an educator and enlarge to opportunities for me to make meaningful contributions to the world of higher education.

There is an increasing imbalance in American higher education which threatens America's dual system of public and private educational institutions. Though more than half of my years as a student were spent in private institutions, all of my academic life has been in the public sector. I now wish to make whatever contribution I can to the private institutions. Hope College offers a truly unique opportunity in this regard.

**OUR NATION** needs church-related institutions of higher education that offer a rich Christian dimension to campus life at the same time that they preserve intellectual freedom, a free spirit of inquiry, and maintain relevance in their academic programs. Hope College has a truly distinguished record in this regard. I welcome

the challenge of working in this environment and promoting the concept nationally.

There are many issues and challenges currently confronting higher education. Educators need to devise new ways to cope with diminishing resources, declining public confidence, student disenchantment with the traditional curriculum, the demand for greater productivity in the educational sector, and the skyrocketing costs of a college education.

I firmly believe that the answer to these problems will be found in the small colleges like Hope where the college community can be more responsive, more constructive, and more positive in its attempt to solve these problems.

I also made my decision to accept the Presidency of Hope College because I had been urged to do this by my many friends in the Reformed Church of America, and by many professional associates throughout the nation who admire the work of this college. Finally, I ultimately made this decision because I was convinced, along with my family, that this was the right decision for us at this time. I'm delighted to be able to be a part of Hope.

**INITIALLY, I SHALL** attempt to become acquainted with all of the people who make up the Hope community, the administration, faculty, and the student body. I hope that all those who are now involved in the work of the college will continue to offer their dedicated services. The dedication and competence of Hope's faculty, administration and Board of Trustees has enabled Hope College to achieve its very distinguished record.

The high quality professional administration at Hope College, which is headed by Executive Vice President, Clarence J. Handlogten, will free me from the details of day-to-day administration. I am hopeful that the administrative team will continue to work together as it has so successfully for the past 18 months so that I might work directly in the areas requiring my attention.

I recognize that I am very fortunate to become President of a college that has attained fiscal discipline and a distinguished record of balanced budgets and cost control. The excellence of its development program and the volunteer involvement in the soliciting of funds for financing Hope's educational program has been so successful to date that I will be relieved of one of the greatest burdens that has hindered many Presidents of the small private colleges. I commend all of those who are engaged in this effort — the Trustees and the volunteers who have given leadership and the staff which has provided the guidance, direction, and support.

I was impressed to learn about processes to involve faculty and students in policy formulation and implementation that have been created here at Hope. I thoroughly endorse this concept and certainly will share the decision process with the students, faculty, and administrators who have an interest in the decisions being made. While leadership is a desirable characteristic for a President, that leadership must involve the collective wisdom of all those who are affected by the decision. The rules of personal relationships in the educational community are changing and educational administration must change with them.

**HOPE COLLEGE HAS** a very bright future. The last 18 months have demonstrated that the College can progress without unifying the decision-making powers and all authority in one person in one office. I intend to share the responsibility for leadership and the guidance of this institution with those who legitimately have a claim to it.

Hope College is indeed fortunate to have men like Dr. Vander Lugt, who has served so ably as Chancellor. I am also most impressed with Hope's Board of Trustees, who have maintained the forward movement of the College during this period when Hope has had no President. Special recognition is due Chairman, Hugh DePree and Secretary, Willard Wichers.



## Kresge Challenge Grant Is Matched!

Efforts to match a half million dollar challenge grant for construction of an Academic-Science Center have succeeded!

In 1970 the Kresge Foundation offered Hope \$500,000 if the College could raise an equal amount for constructing the Academic-Science Center.

Stanley Kresge, Chairman of the Board of the Kresge Foundation, announced the challenge met on January 18 when he authorized payment of the grant during a meeting with Ekdal Buys, former chairman of Hope College Board of Trustees, and Lee Wenke, Director of Development. Buys and former Hope College President Calvin A. VanderWerf played instrumental roles in receiving the Kresge Challenge in 1970.

While construction on the \$4 million facility is underway the College continues to seek funds to furnish and equip the building as well as retire a long-term, low-interest Office of Education loan.

The building will contain several memorials. The library will memorialize longtime chemistry professors J. Harvey Kleinheksel and Gerrit Van Zyl. A memorial will be established for Dr. Frank N. Patterson who was professor of biological

science from 1909-26. The Pre-Medical area will feature memorials recognizing prominent medical missionaries who have served the Reformed Church in America.

Information concerning commemorative and memorial gift opportunities may be obtained by contacting Lee Wenke, Director of Development, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423.

The new Academic-Science Center, part of the college's \$10 million Centennial Decade Master Plan, will house the departments of biology, chemistry, geology and psychology. The building will be ready for the 1973-74 school year.

It will be located on College Avenue between 12th Street and Graves Place near the Van Zoeren Library and Physics-Mathematics building.

The new Center will replace the existing science building which was constructed in 1942 when the college had an enrollment of 500 students. The existing science building will be remodeled for other instructional purposes.



Stanley S. Kresge (left), Chairman of the Board of the Kresge Foundation, and William H. Baldwin (right), President of the Kresge Foundation, review with Ekdal Buys the final report of the Academic-Science Center Challenge Grant Drive.



Site clearance work for the new Academic-Science Center was completed during early January.

### ACADEMIC-SCIENCE CENTER PLEDGES & CONTRIBUTIONS

Office of Education Grant	\$1,000,000
Kresge Challenge Grant	500,000
Foundations - Corporations	243,000
Trustees	160,000
Alumni	61,000
Individuals	21,023
Churches	157,500

**TOTAL \$2,142,523**

## Jack DeWitt Heads 72-73 Annual Fund

The appointment of Jacob H. (Jack) DeWitt as National Chairman of Hope's 1972-73 Annual Fund Drive has been announced by Hugh DePree, chairman of the Board of Trustees.

DeWitt, a 1932 Hope grad, is retired Chairman of the Board of Big Dutchman of Zeeland, Mich. He and his brother Richard contributed a major gift which made possible construction of the DeWitt Student and Cultural Center.

In an address to the Board of Trustees during their January meeting DeWitt noted that some \$800,000 in unrestricted funds is needed each year to balance the College's operational budget.

"These funds are absolutely necessary if Hope is to maintain faculty salaries, operate new buildings, continue its scholarship program and provide an educational program of highest quality," DeWitt said.

An imbalance is developing between the

amount of gifts received for the Annual Fund and gifts for Capital purposes according to DeWitt. In the last five years Annual Fund giving has increased 24% while contributions to Capital projects have soared 565%.

"There is a need to establish greater parity between our Annual Fund and Capital Fund Drives," DeWitt stressed.

Hope is recognized as a national leader in voluntary support. In 1967 the College received the highly prized Mobius Strip Award from the United States Steel Corporation in recognition of its outstanding Alumni giving program. Year-after-year Hope is ranked among the leading colleges and universities in the percentage of alumni donor participation and the amount contributed per capita. Last year some 32% of Hope's alumni contributed an average of \$62.97 to the college for its various program.



JACOB H. (JACK) DE WITT





Dr. Van Wylen's first visit to campus as President-designate was a busy one. He was interviewed by the news media, addressed a meeting of the faculty, and talked informally with members of the student body.

Photos of Dr. Van Wylen by Dan Saul, a senior from Grand Haven, Michigan.





## A statement to the students from President VanWylen

The central mission of every college relates directly to providing the finest educational opportunities for every student. These opportunities involve not only formal educational programs in classrooms and laboratories, but also the informal associations between faculty and students, among students themselves, and the total campus community.

**HOPE COLLEGE** FOR over 100 years has held that life is a trust of God. The purpose of our educational programs must be to enable each student to prepare himself to utilize this gift of life to the fullest. Therefore, each student must be recognized as an individual with different needs, talents, interests and abilities. A personalized education is necessary to achieve the purpose and goals of a Hope College education.

When a new president is chosen there is much speculation concerning the nature and style of his administration. What new direction will the college take? What revisions will be made? What is his philosophy of education? In time these are revealed.

Perhaps it is in order to enunciate some principles which will guide me as I begin in this new role.

The past is prologue. It cannot be ignored nor can it be repeated. Yet with the passage of time the situation requires a constant re-evaluation. Change for the sake of change is not really very useful. More progress can be made, I think by gradual, thoughtful reform than through crusades and grand designs.

**CERTAINLY THERE IS** much at Hope College that needs to be examined and studied. Issues such as the age of majority, curriculum reform, governance, etc., are to be ignored only at great cost to the institution. The process and method of dealing with these issues is most important and will determine whether Hope continues to progress and mold together as a community or whether confrontation and its debilitating effect will dominate our lives.

Longfellow has written:

*Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labor and to wait.*

Perhaps this verse contains some useful advice for us as we look forward to working as a community to develop our educational experience together.

**IT HAS BEEN REPORTED** to me that for many years Hope students needed a student center. They worked for it. Their requests for such a facility were well articulated and the meeting on the lawn



President VanWylen talks with student newspaper photographer Tom Siderius, a sophomore from Waterloo, Ia.

of the president's home to demand some attention be given to the project was conducted in such a way that President Vander Werf, the Board of Trustees, the Reformed Church in America and Hope Alumni were motivated to work together to make it a reality.

The building was not realized at once, nor could such a structure have been offered to the student body at that time. The plans were refined and enlarged far beyond the original proposal to include a theatre and book store, and an expanded fund raising effort was undertaken to finance the project. Today Hope has one of the finest student centers of any college in the nation and also one of the finest theaters.

**HOPE HAS BEGUN** construction of a new science center. Now we can look forward to securing a new physical education center. Because of your success with the student center and the effective student participation in the design and funding of that project, I am confident that the physical education center has been brought much closer to reality.

I eagerly look forward to joining with you in the spirit of a community that shares and works together. During the months ahead I hope to spend some days on campus and will attempt to arrange informal visits with various groups of students.

I extend to all those in the Hope community my great appreciation for the confidence and trust which they have shown in me and will do my very best to fulfill these responsibilities.



## News in brief . . .

The Hope College Ministry of Christ's People Christmas Tree Fund this year was earmarked for the Rev. Abraham Maja of the Bantu Presbyterian Church of South Africa. Mr. Maja was a student at Western Theological Seminary for two quarters this year and recently returned to Pretoria, South Africa, to resume his work as pastor of several rural congregations. The \$1,100 sent by Hope students to Mr. Maja will assist him in purchasing a small automobile for use in his large parish. Mr. Maja, previously, was forced to rely on public transportation to take him from church to church.

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Hope led the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association All-Sports Race at the end of fall sports competition. The All-Sports award is presented to the school with the best cumulative standings in all sports.

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Hope will host the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association wrestling meet on March 1 in the Holland Civic Center.

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Death claimed the lives of two faculty members during December.



Prof. Melka



Prof. Palmer

Mrs. Linda D. Palmer, 56, assistant professor of French since 1966, died Dec. 7 at Ionia Mich. County Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Palmer had been a patient there since Nov. 8 recovering from injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Born in New York City, Mrs. Palmer was a graduate of Hunter College. She had recently completed work on her doctorate in French at Michigan State University.

Dr. Robert L. Melka, 39, assistant professor of history since 1970, drowned Dec. 30 when he was swept by an undertow into Lake Michigan. Dr. Melka was fishing near an inlet to an electric generating plant when he was pulled into the lake by strong currents.

Dr. Melka's teaching specialty was modern European history. He received his bachelor and masters degree from Georgetown University in Washington and a doctorate from the University of Minnesota.



When the Hope College book store moved into its new location in the DeWitt Student and Cultural Center it also acquired a new name, the Hope-Geneva Book Store.

The new name is derived from the Geneva Fund, which has for a number of years provided scholarships enabling students from around the world to attend Hope College. The Geneva Fund was established by a Reformed Church family who wished to further international goodwill and world peace. The scholarship funds are awarded to young people of high character and Christian principles who want to attend Hope College and then return to their native countries to become leaders.

The Geneva Fund was used as a capital investment in the Book Store and a portion of the income from the Store will be made available for these scholarships. The new store is a dream come true for E. Duffield Wade, manager of the Blue Key Book Store since 1954. Since the new store is more than twice the size of the previous one, a substantially greater selection of books and other items can be displayed.

## Chapel Choir Announces Tour

The Hope College Chapel Choir, under the direction of Dr. Robert Cavanaugh, will present 16 concerts during their annual Spring Concert Tour.

- MARCH 24 — Central Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.
- MARCH 25 — Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church, Grosse Pointe, Woods, Mich.
- MARCH 26 — Abbe Reformed Church, Clymer, N.Y.
- MARCH 27 — Trinity Reformed Church, Amsterdam, N.Y.
- MARCH 28 — Helderberg Reformed Church, Guiderland Center, N.Y.
- MARCH 29 — Linlithgo Reformed Church, Livingston, N.Y.
- MARCH 30 — Williston Park Reformed Church, Williston Park, N.Y.
- MARCH 31 — The Bowe Street Community Church, Flushing, N.Y.
- APRIL 2 — (Afternoon) Montville Reformed Church, Montville, N.J.
- APRIL 2 — (Evening) Allwood Community Reformed Church, Clifton, N.J.
- APRIL 3 — Reformed Church of Keyport, Keyport, N.J.
- APRIL 4 — Second Reformed Church, Wyckoff, N.J.
- APRIL 5 — Pompton Reformed Church, Pompton Lakes, N.J.
- APRIL 6 — Emory United Methodist Church, Hancock, N.Y.
- APRIL 7 — Brighton Reformed Church, Rochester, N.Y.
- APRIL 9 — Resurrection Reformed Church, Flint, Mich.

Official publication. The Hope Newsletter is published six times a year by Hope College, Alumni House, 112 E. 12th St., Holland, Michigan 49423.

Vol. 3, No. 1 January-February, 1972

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HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423  
newsletter