

Gordon Browne Speaks to Students on Activism

By Eliza Blake

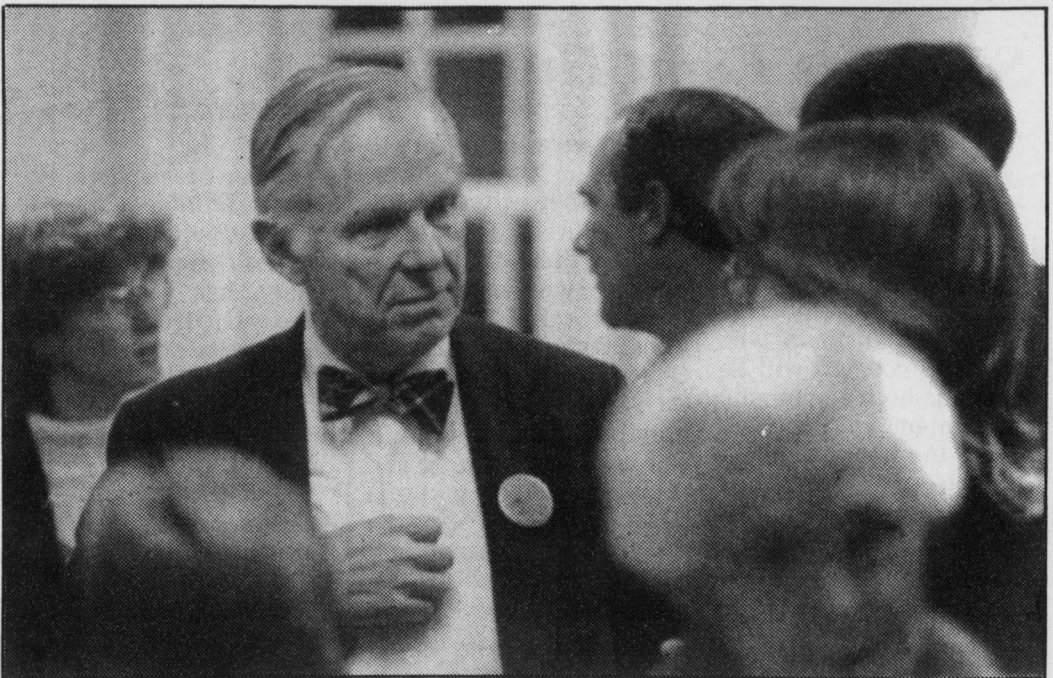
Gordon Browne, Executive Secretary of the America's Friends' World Committee for Consultation, was the Friends' Center Distinguished Quaker visitor for this semester. On October 29, he began his talk, entitled "Can You Save The World In Your Spare Time?" by apologizing for the title. He acknowledges that "of course you can't save the world in your spare time," but that the issue is "whether your life can have any impact at all, whether your life can make a difference." His talk focused on the patience and perseverance that it takes to work effectively for peace and justice.

He talked about some problems of what he calls the "vogue-ish bandwagon effect" in activism. He talked about people who a few years ago could not find South Africa on a map, but who are now being extremely vocal on issues such as divestment.

Gordon Browne advised that when working for political change, to be quite prepared for the lack of glamour. He stressed the importance of clarity of goals and readiness to accept small steps. "Whatever it is," said Browne, "it probably didn't appear overnight and it probably won't go away overnight."

He said, "Your ego satisfaction has to come from someplace else, not from your [political] concern." He warned against turning "saving the world" into a personal identity, because, since change is so slow, frustration, burnout, and disillusion are common.

Although Gordon Browne is quite concerned about these negative possibilities, he is not cynical. He may have seemed a little conservative to some students, but his talk reflected his religious faith in the capability in everyone, not just young people, to change the world.



Browne speaks to students after lecture.

Photo: Eric Buck

Study Abroad - Part II

by Mia Kissil

Guilford's newest offering in the Off-Campus Studies department is the Fall Semester in Guadalajara, Mexico. Only since 1985 have up to 25 students been able to explore the riches of an America much different than the United States.

Robin Hall, a junior who went on the program in 1986 said that her world view was radically changed upon going to Mexico: "... The course lets you see the poverty ... when you go through the center of Guadalajara there are people in the street begging ... [I had] never seen anything like that in [the United States] ...".

Mexico is not all poverty, however. Robin went on to say "... there are so many extremes. [There are] extremely wealthy

[people] as well ... I think the greatest thing the Mexico semester has done is that we [our group] are still all close ... I think (con't on p. 9)

Epicure... (con't from p. 5)

requests for proposals which are being sent to the companies.

The committee is now visiting schools that are served by these companies (Elon, Bennett, and Queens Colleges, respectively). Henry said that the Committee will meet again to share information about what services each school has in order to put things in perspective

before hearing the companies' bids and making a decision.

When asked how the contract cancellation by Epicure would affect the committee's decision, Henry said that "It makes it less of a personal issue, in the sense that we are dealing with people we don't know."

Henry also says that she hopes that the Commit-

tee's good working relationship with Epicure will not change between now and the time they leave.

"Considering the integrity of the management staff we have now, I doubt it." She also wants to encourage students to go to Food Committee Members and tell them what they [the students] want from their new food services company.

Athletic... (con't from p. 5)

up in the Long-Range Planning Committee meeting, to be held on Wednesday, November 11, 1987.

"Money speaks with thees and thous," Rex Adelberger said, "and maybe the only way we will know when the decision is final, is when the money is appropriated and spent."

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