

SCENE 7A

HELEN'S HOSPITAL ROOM

HELEN

Reverend! I've come up with a way to save the pageant.

REVEREND HOPKINS

I didn't know it was in need of saving.

HELEN

Take the Herdmans out of the show and put them in concessions.

REVEREND HOPKINS

We don't sell concessions.

HELEN

Then have them hand out programs.

REVEREND HOPKINS

What programs? We're putting all our money into baskets for the needy.

HELEN

There must be a loophole. They're not even members of our church.

REVEREND HOPKINS

Maybe they'll join.

HELEN

If you're trying to give me a heart attack, you're doing a very good job.

REVEREND HOPKINS

Then it's a good thing you're in the hospital.

*(REVEREND HOPKINS punctuates line by putting potted plant  
in HELEN's lap, then exits)*