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Editorial

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EDITORIAL

The speaker for Dordt College's Commencement this year was Michigan State Senator Robert Vander Laan of Grand Rapids. His address, entitled "Revised Horizons," was primarily political in its emphasis. He spoke as a man seeking to give expression to his Christian faith in the political arena.

One of the things which impressed us most was the Senator's call for a Christian community which is willing to give support and direction to those seeking to make known the will of Jesus Christ for politics. He noted that without the support of a Christian community the work of a Christian political figure is most difficult, if not impossible. He also observed that if the Christian community does not reflect the principles which the Christian politician proclaims, the Christian in politics will be lonely and appear foolish.

Again, this call for a supportive Christian community impressed us. Hopefully it also impressed our graduates and others in the large audience. For Dordt College seeks to be a Christian community--a community of scholars, working to discover and articulate the principles which should direct Christians who are giving leadership not only in politics, but also in the church, the family, the school, the marketplace, the factory, etc. At the same time Dordt, along with other Christian academic institutions, is concerned to bring into being a Christian community which, with intelligent commitment, will support those especially called and qualified for such leadership.

This being the case, we need not be surprised at the articles featured in this issue of

Pro Rege. The authors may not have been conscious of doing so, but their articles do in fact reflect a concern for community. Dr. John Zinkand, in the article entitled "The Work of the Spirit and Neo-Corinthianism," calls us to a consideration of a present-day spirit which, among other things, threatens to weaken and even divide the Christian community. Prof. Daryl Vander Kooi, in "Attack on and Defense of Debate," presents some interesting and challenging thoughts concerning the manner in which individuals and groups within the community of believers should speak to, and debate with, one another. We hope that this and future issues of Pro Rege will demonstrate that we believe "the communion of the saints," and seek to reflect that belief in our academic activity.

One final note--Pro Rege's Editorial Committee has just concluded a long-range planning session. Much of our time was spent in evaluating responses to a questionnaire which had been sent to all the members of Dordt's faculty. As a result of our study and planning, we have decided to solicit shorter articles dealing with more specific issues. We are investigating the possibility of reviewing significant books. And we also hope to be able to include contributions from departments within our academic community which have not been heard from up to this time.

Our readers should remember that these are plans. Whether or not they will be realized remains to be seen as future issues appear.

J.B.H.