

Hams Club at Dordt

Delta Sigma Kappa may soon own a ham radio station. The club is collecting information in preparation for a license application.

Art Van Wyhe and Norm Jordan are the only Dordt students who are licensed "radio amateurs." The Delta Sigma Kappa uses Art's call letters at the present, which are K zero TWB or Norm's letters which are K zero SEJ.

Amateur radio is direct private communication from an apparatus one has built or assembled himself, with other amateurs similarly equipped. The radio amateur is able to talk to other amateurs all over the world.

At present Dordt is limited in transmitting a great distance because of the lack of a special beam antenna. Far-off places to which the students have been tuned (without conversing, however) are Mexico, Australia, Cuba, Hawaii, and South Africa. Art said that he once talked to an ice breaker on Operation Deep Freeze at the South Pole. Conversations carried on are usually with amateurs in New York and New Jersey as well in several other states. After a conversation the parties involved send cards bearing their call letters to one another to confirm the contact. Both Art and Norm have collections of call-letter cards.

When asked what type of conversation is usually carried on, Art replied, "We usually talk about the weather or our equipment. We always find some topic of common interest to discuss."

With a ham ticket one is able to talk by voice, Morse Code, television, or radio teletype. The Dordt students use Morse Code or talk by voice. To obtain a license, one must pass a Fed-

eral Communications Commission examination and an international Morse Code test.

The ham equipment is called a "rig" and the room in which the rig is located is called a "shack." There is a special ham language of abbreviations. Examples are: 73 means "good-bye," 88 means "love and kisses," which are reserved for YLS or "young ladies." XYLS are married

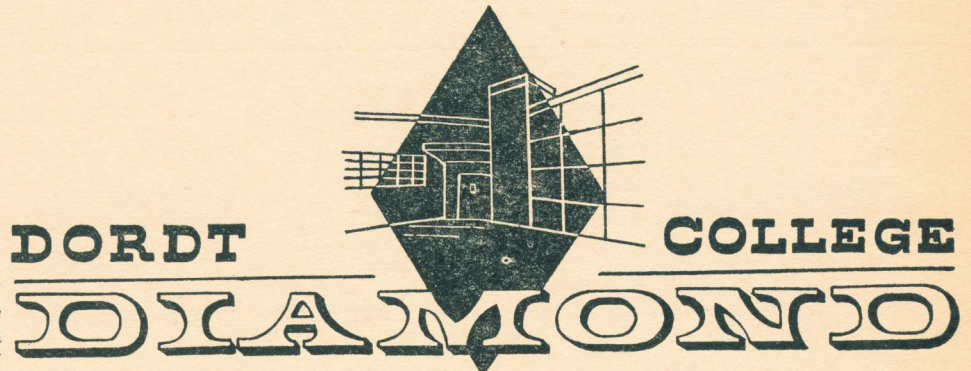
(Continued on page 3)

Van Til Writes and Lectures

Professor Nick Van Til has accepted an appointment to the editorial staff of the **Torch and Trumpet**.

On March 26 Professor Van Til addressed the Algona Chapter that is trying to promote the C.E.F. (Citizens for Educational Freedom). The perspective of the parent-controlled school was Van Til's topic.

Van Til will also lecture at the District 6 National Union of Christian Schools meeting on April 5. His subject is "Teacher Certification—How Much May the State Demand?"



Student Publication of Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa

Volume VI

April 2, 1963

Number Twelve

Coming Events

- April 2—Choir leaves on tour
- April 5—2 p.m. Spring Vacation begins
- April 16—Classes resume at 7:35 A.M.
- April 19—Band and Male Chorus Program
- May 3—Choir Festival
- May 10—Spring Banquet

A.E.C. Biologist Lectures

Students majoring and minoring in biology attended lectures at Dakota Wesleyan University on March 28. The visiting lecturer was Dr. W. Ziegler, a biologist sponsored by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Of special interest to Dordt students were two addresses "Plants and the Bible" and "Evolution and Religion."



Male Chorus in "A Little Hard of Hearing"

THE DORDT DIAMOND

Published fortnightly by the Students of Dordt College, Sioux Center, Ia.

Cynthia Nibbelink

Mavis Assink

Merle Meeter

Departmental Editors,

Nolan Vander Ark

John Hilbelink, Marj Meyer

Ken Vande Griend

La Verne Rens

Lee Plasier

Sandra Williamson

Reporters: Harold De Jong, Jane Buteyn, Greta Vander Ziel, Joyce De Vries,
Bill Vis, Deanna Ledebor.

Typists: Joyce De Vries, Mary Hooper, Marcia Van Andel, Faye Schuurman

Editor

Assistant Editor

Faculty Advisor

"Diagonal"

"Noteworthy"

"Scientechnic"

"Spectrum"

"Athletes' Feats"

"Touchstone"

Editorial

—Ben Vanden Brink

Parents in the Christian Reformed community must realize that their young people are becoming indifferent to reprimands for misbehavior and immorality. Young people are saturated with euphemistic and psychological sermons on gross immorality. Reflections and diagnoses of the immorality problem are repetitious and ineffective. The modern conceptions of discipline and immorality have, in their results, shown their true value. Moral degradation in society is increasing and is beginning to permeate the lives of Christian Reformed young people.

Christian Reformed young people are also beginning to attend only "good" movies and to stay out late "for reasons that are none of your business"; they are burning up their extra energy by indulging in questionable activities. Their minds are being invaded by the modern philosophy that discipline and Christian morals are antique, and that the fashion today is to adhere to the modernistic broadmindedness which leads to a hedonistic life.

Sermons and psychological excuses for misbehavior have proven unsatisfactory in curbing the spread of immorality. Virtuous debates about the ideals and behavior of young people have replaced concrete and responsible actions. Christian young people need and thrive on rigid and proper discipline in accordance with the Word of God.

Young people are circumvented by deceptive and worldly ideals, and therefore need to be grounded on sound biblical principles to guide them in their decisions; principles which will help them realize that sinning is against God, not merely against fellow man—that sin is absolute, not relative.

* * * * *

—Ivan Groothuis

Recently, something was done about Dordt's discipline program. The board of Dordt College had set up a program of rules and regulations which they thought would be most beneficial for the students. But the "bored" of Dordt College set up their own rules which they thought would be most beneficial for deteriorating student life. This "bored of education" evidently thought rules were to break. Their new program was established, and to everyone's amazement, no contradictory measures were taken.

The new bored's plan suited some students fine: after-hours' card games, drinking parties, plus theater attendance for the less radical. Another result was a breakage in the line of Dordt's curfew regulations. And, thus, respect for Dordt's rules slowly leaked away.

Since the Board is the foundation upon which Dordt College rests, and as weakness was discovered in Dordt's discipline program, the Board realized that they had these alternatives: either let Dordt College collapse or stop the leaks with the reinforcement of the old policy.

Happily, the latter was done. I suppose many of the students are imprecating the tighter regulations. But the more responsible students realize that the Board is not after the infrequent late-nighter as much as the chronic offender.

* * * * *

—Charles W. Van Beek

At the March 14th chapel service, we heard our President give us a few new rules of conduct. Really, they were not new rules, but existing rules reaffirmed. The first paragraph under "Student Conduct" in our handbook summarizes President Haan's talk quite well.

If one wants to incite conversation, all one has to do is mention rules. After that chapel service, these rules were discussed in many groups. The pros and cons were quite vocally pitted against each other. At least there is interest in this subject.

EDITORIAL — Continued - - -

Consider what Dordt would be without rules. I am sure that most of us are here because Dordt is a Christian College. If we wanted to attend a college that was otherwise, we certainly could attend one nearer our homes at a considerable saving. Mr. Ribbens reminded us quite graphically that there are those secular colleges. Perhaps a worldly college is what we desire—or just a little bit of the world at Dordt.

However, we are fortunate in having Dordt College. Rules are necessary to keep it Christian. I do not believe any of the rules of our college conflict with the standards set forward in our churches; our rules demand a life of consecration and dedication to Christ.

If this is too much to ask of us, then we may as well pack our bags and leave. I don't think Dordt was started as a mission field, but as a place to train Christian youth for greater service. Let us hold to that purpose.

Abuse Of Meal Rights

—Stan De Vries

At Dordt College we have many privileges which we do not always appreciate until they are withdrawn. One of these privileges concerns our daily eating habits. The food is good and the cost is very reasonable, and yet we complain and connive so as to get "more for our money" or "something for nothing."

Last year Dordt students received rebates for meals if they were gone for a week end. That privilege was abused and had to be discontinued. This year we have the privilege of purchasing five-day or seven-day meal tickets. But we are abusing this privilege, too. Some students purchase a five-day meal ticket; then they come to the college commons on Saturday and Sunday mornings to receive free meals, since Mrs. Wassenaar is not there checking the list.

On Saturday and Sunday evenings some students have friends who take a little extra food so that they can eat together—from the same plate. Then some of these same students buy a Sunday noon meal at the college commons because they think they are getting much for their money. Consequently, some students pay for only one meal each week end and yet they eat nearly all their meals at the college commons.

I know it is very tempting to try to save every penny we can while we are in college, but "who are we kidding?" Those students who abuse this privilege may cause the whole student body to suffer. Will this abuse raise the cost of meals for next year? Will we still be able to buy five-day meal tickets next year? (Perhaps a card to be punched would be the solution.)

Hams Club At Dordt - - -

(Continued from page 1)

or "ex young ladies."

Radiograms are a free service of radio amateurs. They are like telegrams but are relayed by radio anywhere in the world. Art remarked, "This service is open to anyone. We will send a message anywhere for any Dordt student who asks us to do so."

Art has performed public services with his radio ability. He received a public service award for taking a part in relaying messages during the South Dakota storm in 1960 when communication lines had been cut off.

Art commented, "Not many Dordt students know about the ham equipment at Dordt. We have records for practicing the Morse Code and books and materials for study. We will be glad to answer questions for anyone interested in obtaining a license."

Norm Jordan added, "Ham radio operation is a hobby for everyone—both young and old. Boys and girls of 8 have obtained licenses, as have people of 75."

Instructors

—Dave De Haan

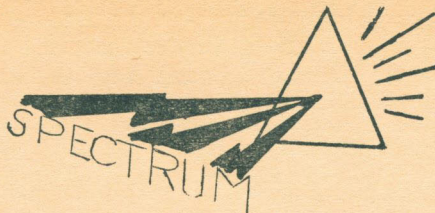
Take of Mississippi River fog thirty parts; malaria ten parts; gas leaks twenty parts, odors gathered in a chemistry lab at sunset, twenty-five parts; odor of slush fifteen parts. Mix!

The mixture will give an idea of a Sioux Center Saturday drizzle. It is not as fragrant as mothballs nor as thick as pea soup; but it is enough and will serve.

Who would come to school in this miasma besides some students for breakfast? Several Dordt instructors! They are one important aspect of Dordt College not often mentioned in our school paper. Sometimes teachers are referred to as "resource persons"—and that is an accurate designation. Our instructors are our closest-to-hand helpers. They are just as eager for us to succeed as we are, and they have been through the experiences we are now having. They probably understand us much better than we think they do.

Like most college instructors, Dordt instructors have a good sense of humor and are not too much concerned when our reactions do not quite come up to their expectations. They remember their own difficulties in keeping the craft of learning glossy when an important family member arrived or when spring leaves held more allure than the leaves of the textbook.

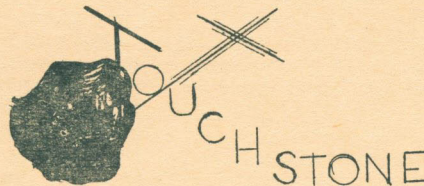
Through experience they have gained perspective, a sense of values. That, incidentally, is the meaning of sense of humor—the ability to see things in proper relationship, to divide the important from the unimportant or less important, and to give each aspect its due attention.



One observation we have made since our arrival here in September 1962, is that Sioux Center has no labor unions. The workers of this community seem to have no organization through which they can speak collectively, and which is able to arrange meetings where common interests may be discussed.

With Sioux Center's growing need for more homes, the possibility of a construction company's coming in from the outside is quite obvious. This may mean, however, that with such a company the "neutral" labor union will move in also.

It is true that these unions have done much good in the past. But we also know that, in many instances, they have become a menace to our democratic society.



—Dave Netz

Americans live with and by tradition. Modern American culture is based on traditions.

Take, for instance, the traditional actions of the American working man after he comes home from a hard day at the job. He comes into the house, throws his coat into the closet, and flops down in his favorite easy chair. After a few moments of quiet meditation, he picks up the latest newspaper. He glances over the front page; then quickly turns to the sports and comic sections.

But stop. Let's turn back to the front page and notice what it contains. The headlines amplify a new domestic problem in the United States, while the majority of the remaining articles deal with state and local affairs. But if we examine closely, we find a small article entitled, "Another U.S. Airman Killed in Vietnam."

Why are these important foreign problems given so little attention in our newspapers? William J. Lederer in his book, *A Nation of Sheep*, tries to answer this question. He shows the inadequacy and incompetency of our foreign news services and indicts government censorship which alters press releases for "political reasons."

—Jake Kits

Compulsory unionism is the rule today in the ranks of organized labor. The closed-shop system denies thousands of men the right to decide for themselves which union they will join, or, indeed, whether they will join at all. The exercise of freedom, for many, means the loss of their jobs. The non-Christian unions are out to destroy or limit one of the fundamental liberties we enjoy, the freedom of association.

This writer suggests the forming of a local labor organization, based on Christian principles, before we are compelled to become members of a trade-union which endangers our basic freedoms.

A Canadian statesman once said, "Freedom always faces dangers. A free people remains free only through daily acts of courage. We deny our freedom if we don't speak when there is something to be said."

* * * * *

—Joe Stravers

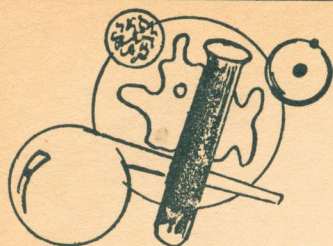
A bill before Congress would exempt the Amish from paying social security taxes. A people of sturdy qualities of independence and self-reliance, the Amish believe in providing for the old age of their own families, not expecting someone else to do it for them. Hence, they object to being taxed for something they will not accept.

This may come to most of us as something of a shock in an age when it is customary to call on the federal government for cradle-to-grave security through subsidizing grants-in-aid, and a long list of handouts and generosities.

Although social security is widely regarded as an important social advance, it may evoke the opposition of others when, and if, Christian Scientists and other sects are required to pay taxes for medical care they refuse to employ. It may also evoke opposition to those who pay for Christian education for their children and must also support public schools which they will never use.

Most opposition, however, may develop later. The present generation has considerable reason to be pleased with social security because it voted itself a real bargain at the expense of future generations.

Today's older worker will receive social security benefits many times above the small sum he pays in taxes. But, according to the government's own figures, the youth who will be the work force tomorrow may expect to pay as much as \$1.60 for each dollar of benefits he may receive. This may not be necessarily bad, but it surely is not equitable.



Sciencetchnic

—Case J. Boot

Walking Eagle, the Stoney Indian chief, was born on the Kootenay Plains, between the Columbia Icefields and Rocky Mountain House, Alberta; he is not very sure about his age, but he feels he must be past 75. During his boyhood, his tribe was ravaged by many diseases; the epidemics reduced the Stoney's number, but it did not diminish their courage nor lower their vitality.

Many of the Stoney Indians have been converted to Protestantism by the McDougall missionaries, and serve the Manitou of Manitou piously, but often they are caught brooding over the Happy Hunting Ground conception in competition with the Biblical view of a golden, glittering heaven, which seems too materialistic to them.

Ever since the Stoney Indians came in contact with the Europeans, they have served them loyally as hunters, trappers, guides, loggers, and farmhands.

Walking Eagle rules his tribe very wisely; he spends much time at his woodcarvings, but his main hobby is meteorology: his weather forecasts

Chapel Speeches

—Greta Vander Ziel

"In personal contacts with the eminent scientists of our state universities I have been especially concerned with their little regard for faith and their high esteem for knowledge." Anyone who was in chapel Thursday will recognize these words as introduction to Mr. Boertje's chapel address in which he discussed the importance of faith. Mr. Boertje pointed out that the modern man accepts

have achieved considerable eminence in Alberta; letters from all parts of the West confirm the accuracy of his predictions. He prepares his annual long-range forecast at the end of October.

Asked how he predicts a long cold winter, the weatherman says: "I have seen many bears around, and the lynxes and the cougars are bolder; deer, moose, and elk herd already. The animals are like people who band themselves together when threatened; if we were to have a mild winter, the animals would have stayed up in the mountains."

To verify his hypothesis, the meteorologist kills a deer and examines the spleen. "When a deer's spleen is straight and tapered at the end, it will be a mild winter; but when the spleen is crooked, it will be a hard winter. Then the chief will add somewhat derisively: "The white hunters who can kill a deer can't tell a spleen from a heart; and if they could, they would not know whether it was straight or crooked."

facts only when they are "proved."

Concerning an authoritative criticism on art as it appeared in *Art News* (which Mr. Boertje quoted), Mr. Boertje stated, that the "pseudo-learned man is capable of confusion quite beyond the capacity of the unlettered." In other words, man often uses complex terms as an index of superiority. (Perhaps some biology student may take comfort?)

Quoting from the *Case of the Reluctant Revelation*, Mr. Boertje pointed out that many educated persons will personify Mother Nature without knowing who or what she is.

The story of the Piltdown Man was included to show that man does not always relate true facts; he twists and distorts the facts he has.

Mr. Boertje takes the Calvinistic approach to knowledge: One cannot see God in general revelation, unless through special revelation, one has come to know God.

Church Attendance

—Gail Fey

After chapel exercises on Thursday, March 14, the student body of Dordt College was given a set of rules set up by the faculty and board members. These rules concerned late hours, card playing, drinking, and church attendance.

One rule that students are talking about is the rule pertaining to church attendance. The rule was stated like this: "No student attending Dordt College may attend a church other than the Christian Reformed Church without permission."

Is this precept fair to those attending Dordt College who belong to the Protestant Reformed, Orthodox Presbyterian, Lutheran and Reformed Churches? Definitely not! If Dordt College makes a rule such as this, it should not accept students who attend these various churches.

Dordt has some of its students room and board in the homes of people from the Reformed church. Many of these householders feel that this rule is not right. They like having their boarders visit church with them occasionally, but this is now no longer possible without permission.

Many students feel that the board and faculty members do not trust them. If students are old enough to leave home and attend college, they should be trusted to visit another church occasionally.

Rules are good and I know Dordt students need standards to follow. The order of attending church twice on Sunday is commendable, but the new ruling is much too narrow-minded. To my knowledge, Dordt students do not attend other churches constantly and, therefore, this rule shows a bias that is completely out of place.

(Editor's Note: President Haan assures us that Dordt students who are members of other churches are permitted, even recommended, to attend their own churches. The rule is designed to urge church attendance on a delinquent minority.)



Trumpet Duo—John Hilbelink and Jim Jouvstra. Jerry vander Pol is at the Organ

A Page for the Notebook of Student Teachers

"The teacher should lead the student to the threshold of his own mind."
—Anonymous

* * * * *

"Suffer no excessive word to pass your lips whereby the little ones may stumble."
—Thomas Kempis

* * * * *

"Tact is after all a kind of mind-reading. . . . Sympathy is of the mind as well as of the heart."
—Sarah O. Jewett

* * * * *

"The most exhausting thing in life is being insincere."
—Anne M. Lindbergh

* * * * *

"A teacher must have an aptitude for vicariousness, an already accumulated wealth (of knowledge) . . . and a readiness to be forgotten."

"I must have a broad background of knowledge that does not appear in speech. . . . Why prepare more than is used? . . . I cannot teach right up to the edge of my knowledge without a fear of falling off."

"A teacher does not live for himself, but for his pupil and for the truth which he imparts. His aim is to be a colorless medium through which that truth may shine on opening minds; . . . the teacher must keep himself entirely out of the way, fixing young attention on the proffered knowledge and not on anything so small as the one who brings it."

—George Palmer

* * * * *

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning (essence) of wisdom Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. . . . Take fast hold of instruction: let her not go: Keep her; for she is thy life."
—Proverbs

* * * * *

"For naught so vile that on the earth doth live

But to the earth some special good doth give."
—Shakespeare

* * * * *

"The ill-timed truth we might have kept—

Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung;

The word we had not sense to say—
Who knows how grandly it had rung."
—Edmond R. Sill

* * * * *

"Erudition—Dust shaken out of a book into an empty skull."

"Positive—Mistaken—at the top of one's voice."
—Ambrose Bierce

* * * * *

"It is the literature that we read with the least effort that can have the most insidious influence on us."

—T. S. Eliot

* * * * *

"Culture is to know the best that has been said and thought in the world."
—Matthew Arnold

"Instead of dirt and poison, we have rather chosen to fill our hives with honey and wax; thus furnishing mankind with the two noblest of things, which are sweetness and light."
—Jonathan Swift

* * * * *

"And gladly would he learn and gladly teach."
—Chaucer

* * * * *

"The Classics refuse to yield their riches to the casual acquaintance."

—Lambert Flokstra

* * * * *

"Always do right. This will gratify some people, and astonish the rest."

—Mark Twain

* * * * *

"Beautiful things grow rich with the emotion they have aroused in succeeding generations."

—W. S. Maugham

* * * * *

"Prejudice is a vicious kind of mental slant pushed up out of your culture that makes up your mind for you before you think."

—Carlyle Marney

* * * * *

"When you write for children, do not assume a style, but think your best and write your best."

—Anatole France

* * * * *

"A man once told me that he had read all the books that mattered. Cross-questioned, he appeared to have read a great many, but they seemed to have made only a slight impression. . . . How many had been hammered on the anvil of his mind, and afterward ranged in an armory of bright weapons ready to hand?"

—Winston Churchill

* * * * *

"We cannot teach what we are not, although we may sometimes hope to teach what we are."

—Bennett Weaver

* * * * *

"In your haste to cover a subject, be careful not to bury it."

—Anonymous

* * * * *

On Educating: "We are—or should be—laboring to make ourselves unnecessary. The fencing master's reward should be the day when the pupil can pink and disarm him."

—C. S. Lewis

* * * * *

"All learning is creative, intuitive, characterized by sudden insights. . . . The slower learner makes only short intuitive leaps."

—Freehill

* * * * *

"The teacher's *obiter dicta*, his incidental remarks, constitute a penumbra of value surrounding the hard core of subject matter. This is the essence of his teaching."

—Gordon Allport

Athletes' Feats

—Lee

Track and Baseball

Monday, March 18, marked the introduction of baseball and track. The meeting, held under the supervision of Mr. Sjoerdsma, was concerned with development of the program.

Mr. Sjoerdsma has advised trackmen to do some early conditioning before organized practice begins. Track meets so far feature an invitation to the Trojan Relays at Worthington, an attempt to work out a dual meet with Worthington J.C., and some further competition with other junior colleges. Organized practice will begin soon, depending on the weather.

Baseball practice will very likely begin the week of April 1. Depending again on the weather, practices will be scheduled twice a week until competition can be arranged. Plans are to purchase equipment sometime during the week of March 25. No definite schedule has been established as yet. Eighteen men signed for track; twenty-one for baseball.

* * * * *

Variety in P.E. Program

—Joann Vogel

Has the radical change in Dordt's physical education program been an improvement? I think it has. The new arrangement has been widely accepted by the student body. Participation has been good thus far. There is an appealing variety and freedom of choice. One does not have to force himself to exercise at a certain time. In the former program one had to participate in physical education at a given time whether he was fit for it or not.

This form of physical education does more than just develop the body or the skill in a particular game. It also provides a type of amusement for the students. Dordt students are finding out that one does not always have to look far for recreation.

Our present syllabus gives many students a chance to acquire skill in some otherwise overlooked sport. Our society would do well to place more emphasis on individual participation in sports rather than stress spectator sports. I feel that one derives more pleasure from active engagement in sport than from mere observation on the sidelines.

* * * * *

Athletes and Actors

—Adrian Van Heyst

Before me lies a Bible and a section of the daily press. The Bible is opened at Acts 13. Next to it is the sports section of a daily newspaper. Both have a place in our lives. The one has a permanent place—the other a temporary. The place

each has in Christian lives varies greatly.

We, as conscientious Christian students, must beware lest we become more interested in the sports section than in our Bibles. My Bible is open at Acts 13 for a reason. Here is the story of the "track" from Antioch to Rome and of the man who finished the course. Here, too, we read the names of famous men and cities. And here, also, we read of contests.

Why could not the Acts, or any other book of Scripture, for that matter, catch our interest as much as the sports world? No wonder a preacher once said, "I sometimes get angry with the sports world—it gets an attention which the Kingdom of God cannot get—and it gets that attention from the citizens of the Kingdom."

Therefore, let us want to know as much about Paul, Barnabas, John Mark, and the other Actors as we do about the men on the sports page; and about the Ephesian elders and the philosophers of Athens as we do about the New York Yankees or even the "Dordt Defenders."

DIAGONAL

—Linda Visser

A scream rends the air, a loud crash and silence! No, the scene is not a dimly lit street or a dark mysterious alley; it is in—well, let's begin at the beginning.

The time is 9:19½ a.m. and the place is D. University. We are standing outside a classroom door when suddenly a siren—excuse me, a buzzer wails. The classroom door bursts open and a stream of humanity flows out. At the same instant three other doors have opened and they pour forth their occupants. In no time we are caught up in a fast-moving crowd, and woe to the poor soul who finds himself in the northbound lane when he is vainly trying to move south. At last we are traveling at a reasonable speed in the desired direction.

What's this? A pile-up? Oh, yes, remember that scream I was telling you about? It seems some unfortunate young miss has just landed uncereemoniously on her fundament. The culprit causing the accident has been identified as a large brown briefcase—one of the many parked at close intervals along both sides of the hall.

The truth of the matter is that this type of incident occurs every time D. University changes classes. Even though most students carry an insurance policy, a stop must be put to these near tragedies. Perhaps a police officer could direct the herds of rushing people. Come to think of it, he might be trampled in the stampede, so perchance an overhead traffic light would suffice, plus a huge briefcase parking lot for those ever-wandering bookbags.

MISSIONS

—Geneva De Vries

One convert per 240 communicant members was our denomination's "batting average" for 1961 according to the Yearbook. This is a rather startling fact, is it not? Although we may prefer to avoid the issue, we will have to admit that something is wrong with our mission program.

An extreme emphasis on the sovereignty of God, Pharisaism, nationalism, separatism, and traditionalism have had an effect upon our mission program; however, the cause for our failure is more fundamental. Our mission dynamics are becoming weak because our vision of God is becoming dim. I fear that some of us should really be called Formalists instead of Calvinists. Others are like the Ephesians: they have lost their first love.

If we, who have been brought up in the church, manifest no enthusiasm for it; and if we are tacit and indifferent about our religion, we cannot expect outsiders to become interested in our church.

The Christian Reformed Church needs Spirit-filled, witnessing Christians. Our evangelistic program will not be successful unless others can look at us and say:

"And from your eyes He beckons me
And from your heart His love is shed,
Till I lose sight of you and see
The Christ instead."

* * * * *

—Judy Bovenkamp

I consider evangelism or missions to be the supreme task of the church. Evangelism is the bringing of Christ to men through the Gospel. The essence of Paul's preaching was bringing Christ to men and men to Christ. Every church should be a center of missions and evangelism, and every member of the church should be encouraged to participate in this aspect of the witness. The best way to keep the church pure and to maintain its power is to communicate the Gospel. The object of evangelism is to establish and build the Church of Jesus Christ.

Last summer I read the book *Evangelize or Fossilize* by Herbert Lockyer, who says that evangelism keeps the Christian and the church alive, and that soul-winning guards against dead orthodoxy. Many Christians have lost the thrill of Christian living. We are too heartless, lacking zeal and enthusiasm for the cause of Christ. We must learn to lose ourselves in the will of God.

The focus of our church seems to be on self-preservation instead of evangelism. What is it profiting us to sit in church Sunday after Sunday and take in the Gospel if we do not give of this Gospel in reaching others for Christ?

 ★ Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. ★
 ★ Ted Sjoerdsma on the birth of ★
 ★ Joel David, Monday, March 18. ★
 ★*****

Lack of Lockers

—Deanna Ledeboer

Sometimes incoming freshmen, especially those from large public high schools, express an amazement that Dordt students feel free to leave their books, coats, and purses lying about in the hallways and restrooms.

Although this condition implies lack of thievery, it is not as praiseworthy as it may seem. Not only is it messy, but also thefts do occur. I doubt that visitors think past the sloppy condition of Dordt's hallways to consider the implications.

Then too, although theft of money is infrequent, loss of books is not. Books are expensive, and few can afford to buy a certain book twice, at least if it is of the American Literature or Western Civilization variety. Of course, these so-called losses occur only before tests so that the owner has lost not only his book but the notes he has written in the margins as well.

The stranger might ask, "Why don't they put their things in their lockers?" The answer is that there probably are no lockers in which they can put them. The number of lockers in Dordt was probably adequate the first few years of its existence, but it falls far short of present needs. As Dordt students know only too well, there are only enough so that three freshmen can share each locker. Sophomores do not even rate a locker, shared or not.

Of course, more lockers will not completely eliminate stealing, since they are as easily opened by a thief as by the owners; nor will all problems of having student property lying around be solved, but it will go a long way toward making an improvement in the college.

Out Of The Silent Planet

—Dave Netz

Sound waves can be either soothing or irritating. Soft melodic music can relax the mind and untie the knots in our tense nerves, whereas the honking of an automobile horn or a loud shout can put us in a tense, irritable mood.

The art of studying is usually best exercised in quiet surroundings. The American educational system has advocated the use of libraries for studying in school. In the majority of high schools, noise in the library is kept at the level of a mild roar only when a supervisor is present. On all other occasions it is a pandemonium of flying projectiles, perambulating idiots, and giggling girls.

The natural conclusion is that col-



—La Verne Rens

Recently a musical variety program sponsored by the Dordt College Music Department was presented here at the College under the heading "Fine Arts Program." The program, now a semi-annual event due to the warm response of the College's constituency, was presented with a commendable degree of enthusiasm and proficiency.

I, too, enjoyed the program very much. However, to enjoy thoroughly the title "Fine Arts Program" I had to deviate considerably from any former conception of the fine arts. The phrase, to me, brings thoughts of the fields of drama, string and orchestral music, ballet, opera, painting, and sculpture — the beautiful and the pleasing as contrasted to the utilitarian. The other day a fellow student related an incident to me: she had asked some married friends whether they planned to attend the fine arts program. The wife replied in the negative because she and her husband did not appreciate paintings.

If one were to be completely indiscriminate about the classification of music (as quite obviously some are), such numbers as "Sweet Betsy from Pike" might accidentally be

classified as "finer" music. But how naive this would be. Yet, such songs certainly deserve their place in a class as American Folklore or Americana.

The art display, although it had a deadly case of claustrophobia and was the work of elementary education majors, was a beginning toward broadening the program.

There are three logical solutions to the problem — to keep the traditional title merely for tradition's sake, to change the name of the program, or to live up to the name formerly given. Changing the name would undoubtedly be the easiest solution, but living up to the name originally given would be the most fruitful.

Wouldn't it be an aesthetic pleasure to come to a well-rounded Fine Arts Program next fall with more than one facet of the arts holding the spotlight? There could be such things as an all-school art show, excerpts from operas like *Carmen* performed by the band and selected vocalists, various band and choir ensembles, play readings, and humorous monologues, all opening the door to a new conception and experience of the fine arts.

Library Courtships

—Bill Van Hal

The library of a college is the place in which a student can study and obtain ready reference and reading material. It is a place of silence and tranquility. Concentration and comprehension suffer when one hears a group of girls talking and laughing about recent developments with members of the opposite sex. Likewise, when a courting couple woos one another in the library, they have no respect for other persons' privileges. In my opinion the library is not the

place for courtship, but for study.

I have even heard two boys talking loudly to each other from opposite sides of the library. They carried on a prolonged conversation, completely disregarding fellow students who were in the library with the intent to study.

I know many students who never study in the library because it is too noisy. This neglect is detrimental to those students and to the purpose of the library. The library could be a good place to study, but it is not. This is not the librarians' fault. They try to maintain order, but a minority of the students refuse to co-operate.

I suggest that those students who do not want to study stay out of the library. Also, I think that the student lounge is the intended place for courting couples to talk. A courtship not conducted in the library is not doomed. The lounge is also the place to discuss subject material aloud, not the library. And, to all the flibbertigibbets, remember: "A wise man thinks all he says, but a fool says all he thinks."

Only if each person co-operates will the library be quiet and conducive to study. It will sound and look like a room for the promotion of knowledge.

lege libraries will be different. But are they? Often Dordt's library cannot be distinguished from a high school library. The average student's conception of the library seems to be that it is a place for community homework projects and spirited social hours. There is no emphasis placed on the respect for others which should be a fundamental part of every student's education. Instead of creating an atmosphere of general disorder, Dordt students should try to make the library a silent planet in the noisy universe of life.