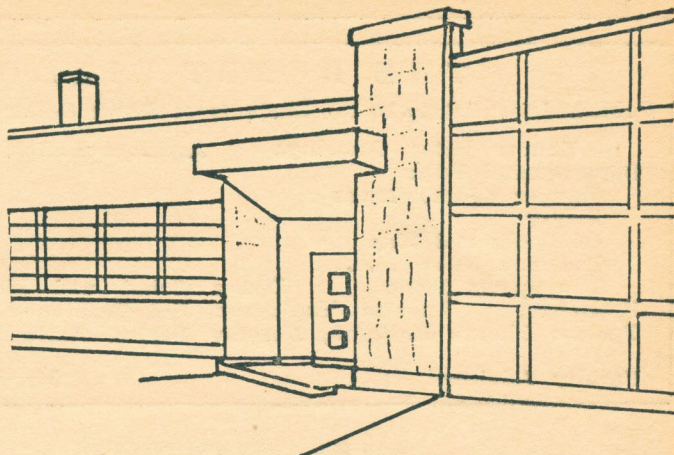


The Dordt Diamond

Student Publication of Dordt College,
Sioux Center, Iowa



Volume III

Friday, October 16, 1959

Number 2

Sixth Annual Reformation Day Rally

Rejoice, ye pure in heart"

October 30, at Public
Auditorium



CHOIR BEGINS NEW SEASON

The fifty-seven-voice Dordt College A Cappella Choir has begun its 1959-60 season under the competent direction of Mr. Grotenhuis. Each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoon the choir rehearses from two o'clock until three-thirty in the music room (the former library). Bass sectionals are held each Monday after the regular rehearsal.

The choir will again make its first appearance at the annual Reformation Day Rally, to be held October 30 in the Sioux Center High School Auditorium. After rendering two selections, the choir will sing a descant while the audience and the Western Christian High School band join in "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

In December the choir plans to present "Our Redeemer is Born," a Christmas cantata composed by Mr. Grotenhuis. The Dordt Boosters' Male Chorus, also directed by Mr. Grotenhuis, will then make its debut by joining the choir in the last four numbers of the cantata.

A representative group from the choir will take part in the Reformation Day Rally at Kanawha, Iowa, October 29. A brass quartet will perform one number and a triple mixed quartet will render three selections. Dr. Zinkand, instructor in foreign languages and a graduate of Westminster Seminary has been asked to speak at this rally.

Dordt College will sponsor its sixth annual Reformation Day rally at the Sioux Center Public High School Auditorium on Friday, October 30, beginning at 8:00 P.M.

The featured speaker will be the Reverend John Vander Ploeg of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rev. Vander Ploeg is editor of *The Banner*, official organ of the Christian Re-



Rev. John Vander Ploeg

formed Church.

Also appearing on the program will be the fifty-seven voice Dordt College Choir, for the first time performing under the direction of Mr. Dale Grotenhuis, and the sixty-five piece band of Western Christian High School, led by Mr. Hazen Brummel.

Rev. Vander Ploeg is no stranger
(Continued on page 4)

THE DORDT DIAMOND

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Temper of the Times

Poetry

Of Books and Men

Did You Know . . .

The Sports Scene

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--EDITORIAL--

Well, here we are again. The '59-'60 school year has begun for Dordt. The frightened Freshmen have become less frightened as the Sophomores have become more sophomoric. The Dordt men have rediscovered that it is easiest to catch fish at sandpits. Beautiful songs about pufferbellies have begun to float through Dordt's halls.

Also floating through Dordt's halls have been some rather ridiculous misuses of the English language. "What does that mean in American? He don't have his German done. Do you git your Latin? I'm shore sick of first period classes. I haven't saw him."

The list could go on and on. Notice that none of the errors listed are minor or archaic. We have said nothing about the misuses of **shall** and **will**, **lie** and **lay**, **can** and **may**, etc. All the errors listed could be spotted by a fourth grader.

Again we can question the success of our educational system. This time, however, it is easier to discover whose fault the failure is. First of all, we can blame the failure on the student himself. Many students have no desire to speak the language the way it should be spoken. Some misuse the language, almost defensively. Some claim that only proud people, people who don't want to be "Dutch," use **yes** instead of **ja** and **get** instead of **git**.

The failure can also be blamed on our school teachers. Those who are "lucky" to get C's in Freshman English, simply cannot be expected to be able to teach children the language in the way it should be taught. "But," you say, "we already have a shortage of teachers. If we make our qualifications tougher we will have even more of a problem." Perhaps, but look at the history of Rome. When Rome took foreign soldiers into its army, Rome was destroyed.

We are not only commanded to give our children a "Christian" education, we must also give our children the best education. This perhaps means that our teachers, as well as our preachers, should be required to have a B average. Certainly, it means that our teachers should have four years of college.

The Temper of the Times

On the morning of October 2, 1959 much of the world viewed a most majestic spectacle—the total eclipse of the sun. For nine minutes the sun rose and the moon progressively shaded more of it. Suddenly the brilliant streak of light vanished and only a glowing solar corona ringed the moon. In Las Palmas, Canary Islands, it was so dark at noon that vehicles had to put on their headlights. This was a spectacle we in the Midwest were not able to see, yet we should stand in awesome wonder as we consider the miraculous way God created this universe.

* * *

Once again the people of southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota are leaving their doors unlocked and allowing their children to venture outside after dark. During the past week many people in the small communities in this area were horror-stricken at the thought of the body of an eleven year old girl being stolen from a grave at Holland, Minnesota. Now that the man who did this deed has been arrested, we can praise the Pipestone and Sioux Falls police department for their speedy and efficient job. (This whole incident only goes to show how twisted a troubled man's mind can become, that he will go so far as to take the body of a dead child from its grave.)

* * *

Well, to the relief of all, especially President Eisenhower, we can say Mr. Khrushchev arrived back in Russia safely. The effects and outcomes of his visit are not yet known.

The people of the United States seemed to be quite impressed with Mr. Khrushchev. True, there are some people who think he is rotten and unlikeable. However, I agree with the commentator who said that Khrushchev had played his cards well. He held his temper when he knew that to be the wisest and lost it when the time was most opportune. His temper made people fear and respect him. They were afraid to cross his path and therefore almost everyone did as they thought Khrushchev wanted them to do. And thus they played right into his hands and he molded them the way he wanted.

As for Khrushchev's impressions of the United States, the majority seem to think that he was impressed with the well-being of the people, the abundance of everything, and the absence of class conflict. Yet, Khrushchev has never admitted this

—p.a.

(Continued on page 3)

Did You Know . . .

that if you want to succeed, you will have to get a move on. . .? Only a hen can lay around and make money.

* * * * *

that when the touring Vienna Choir Boys struck a high soprano note while singing in the Civic Theater in Bathurst, Australia, the ceiling cracked causing mortar and bricks to crash on the stage?

* * * * *

that the rap for drunken driving is a \$2,800 fine, 10 years in the jug, or both—in South Africa?

* * * * *

that you have a good reason to be tired about 9:00 p.m.? If you are normal, here's what happened to yourself during the day. Your heart beat 103,389 times; your blood traveled 168 million miles; you breathed 23,040 times; you inhaled 438 cubic feet of air; you ate 3 1/4 lbs. of food; drank 2.9 pounds of liquids; generated 400 tons of energy and perspired just under 1 1/2 pints. You moved 750 muscles; spoke 5,000 words; your nails grew .00044 inch; your hair grew .017 inch, and you exercised 7 million brain cells. No wonder you're tired at night!

* * * * *

that a philogynist is a lover of women. . .?

* * * * *

that the letters D.D. have a variety of meaning. . .? To policemen they mean driving while drunk. . . to race track addicts, they denote the daily double. . . to members of the clergy, they signify doctor of divinity.

—i.d.

Temper of the Times, cont.

and it is doubtful whether he ever will.

Everyone seems confident that Khrushchev saw that it is quite impossible for Russia to catch up with the United States in seven years, but he is determined to surpass us. What are we going to do? Are we going to go the way of the British who let themselves become surpassed by the United States, or are we going to beat Nikita Khrushchev at his own game?

However, I think the biggest question is whether Khrushchev is sincere in his plea for peace and disarmament, as Drew Pearson believes he is, or whether Senator Humphrey is correct in believing that Khrushchev has declared a new war? A war that is fought with weapons of political maneuver, science, and propaganda. What is your opinion?

Of Books and Men

John Steinbeck is one of the contemporary novelists who has produced a number of books following World War I. He rose to fame during the thirties and has twice won the Pulitzer Prize.

As the author of *Tortilla Flat*, John Steinbeck tells the story of a few unmarried men who maintain a close friendship which ends with the death of their hero, Danny. These men are typical Paisanos. The Paisanos are a group of people who are "a mixture of Spanish, Indian, Mexican, and assorted Caucasian bloods" who indignantly claim to be Spanish. They live in California, and in this particular story, *Tortilla Flat* of Monterey, California.

The hero of the story and his friends may well be described as a small group of derelicts who maintain a high degree of fidelity to each other in their own naive manner. Danny is the property owner. He inherited two houses and he lives in one of these. The other is inhabited by three of his friends. The house that the friends lived in is destroyed by fire and consequently Danny accommodates these three in his own house. This house and Danny's generosity win the hearts of the friends and, although they are asked to pay rent, they never do because whatever money they find, steal, or occasionally earn, they spend on wine. The family of friends soon increases and the house is shared with more Paisanos plus five dogs. As was mentioned before, the friendship ends with the death of Danny and the burning of the second house which was a symbol of friendship.

One of the friends, Pilon, possesses a certain dull-witted logic which comes to expression frequently. When the first house burned because of the neglect of one of the friends, there "perished" in the fire a wine jug with about two inches of wine in it. After the fire, Pilon points out a lesson he has learned: never leave wine in the house overnight. When Danny dies, the friends discover that they can't attend his funeral because they have no respectable clothes to wear for such an occasion. Again Pilon points out the lesson: We must take it to heart that we should always have a good suit of clothes. We can never tell what may happen.

Tortilla Flat is simply told with an easy style and a great deal of humor. The story is also typical of much of modern American literature because it seems to depict the filth and immorality of life as being a subject that really makes good reading. According to Robert E.

P o e t r y

You sadly said your "Goodbyes,"
and parted
From dear ones left at home.
You dried your eyes and then got
started
On this new venture all alone.

On the trip to school you sat and
thought
Of dear ones left behind,
Then like a flash it came to you
That new friends you would find.

Everything seemed so new to you—
You were quiet and quite uncertain,
And even the smile from the friend—
ly Soph
Did little to ease the hurtin'.

Step by step you became familiar
With classes, schedules and faces.
And soon you found that even you
Could keep up with the teachers'
paces.

Then all at once you began to feel
A strong, deep love for Dordt.
And in spring you found it hard to
part
With the classrooms and with the
sport.

Never fear, dear little Freshies,
This will happen to you all.
You, too, will say to dear friends,
"See you at Dordt in the fall."

But we Sophomores have a problem,
too!
At the end of this last year
The time will come for us to say
"Good-bye, farewell, Dordt College
dear." —e.t.

Chapel Speakers

- Oct. 19—Rev. H. Roelofs
- Oct. 20—Velma Brandes
- Oct. 22—Prof. Peter P. De Boer
- Oct. 23—Phyllis Cannegieter
- Oct. 26—Rev. C. Veenstra
- Oct. 27—Marion De Jong
- Oct. 29—Prof. M. De Young
- Oct. 30—Joan De Vries

Spiller, the author is a social reformer and one gets the impression when he reads the book that the author does not agree with the way that the Paisanos live. If one reads the story with this in mind he can see beyond the frankness which characterizes the book throughout. —a.h.

The Sports Scene

The Series is over! The end of an exciting National League race saw the Los Angeles Dodgers battle and defeat the Milwaukee Braves for the right to meet the Chicago White Sox, who didn't have too much trouble gaining the top and staying there in the American League.

For the people of Los Angeles, this was a historical year. It was, of course, the first time a World Series has been played on the West Coast, and you can bet that the fans were all out for the Dodgers. Enthusiasm like that plus the strange ground rules of the Colosseum may have been deciding factors.

Baseball has long been called the national pastime, but in recent years its popularity has begun to wane, or so some people say. True, the attendance at the minor league games has fallen off, with the results that entire circuits are being dissolved, and some of the major league teams are moving to different cities; but after all, why should the big leagues be just for the East? The forthcoming Continental League should bring organized major league baseball attendance within the reach of almost everyone in the United States.

If baseball is waning, something has to be taking its place. Golf has become very popular within the past few years, as have tennis and water sports. But when spring comes around, what game do all the neighborhood kids play, and who are their favorite sport heroes? Usually they turn to baseball. Small high schools may have limited sport facilities, but they usually have a baseball team. And somebody at the family picnic on 4th of July usually brings a bat and ball along. No, I don't think baseball will become defunct for a great many years.

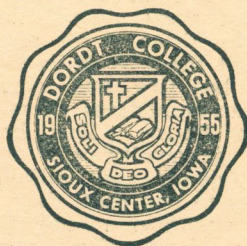
Like many other of our modern games, baseball has an interesting history. It all started back in "merry old England" when some milkmaids and farmhands wanted some fun. They set up a milk stool and while someone threw the ball at the milk stool, another player had to defend it by trying to hit the ball with a stick or his hand. Then the game went a step further and the batter was required to run to a post and back to the stool and pretty soon the game of cricket originated. Through the years, especially in the colonies, the rules changed again and again and finally the game was called baseball although you probably wouldn't have recognized it as such since the game has been continually changing.

The first professional team to be organized was the Cincinnati Red

Stockings, who were organized in 1869. And in 1903, the first World Series was played in which Boston defeated Philadelphia. There's been a lot of baseball since then. And now on to the latest sports news.

Iowa regained its prestige in the Big Ten by romping over Michigan State, 37-8. The defending champions, who lost their conference opener to Northwestern last week, stunned the Spartans with a 23-0 halftime lead. The Hawkeyes were in command all the way. The Spartans managed their only touchdown late in the third period. Iowa, the nation's fifth rated team in total offense and ranked tenth in the Associated Press Poll last week, gained 401 yards. Michigan State's total offense amounted to 193 yards.

The Minnesota Gophers threw a scare into the face of the Northwestern Wildcats. A fourth string sophomore quarterback brilliantly led an 86 yard scoring punch which lifted the second ranked Wildcats to a 6-0 victory. The Wildcats scored the only touchdown after the fourth quarter was two minutes old.



Shown above is the Dordt College Brass Quartet. The members from left to right: hiding behind his baritone, Pete Jouvstra, Bill Nibelink, trombone, Irma Dykstra, trumpet, and Helena Wiersma, trumpet. The Brass Quartet has appeared twice in Dordt's chapel services, once giving the special number, and once accompanying the audience. They will appear at the Reformation Day Rally at Kanawha.

REFORMATION DAY RALLY

(continued from page 1)

to Iowa, having served the large First Christian Reformed Church of Pella, Iowa, from 1939-1945. He began his ministry at East Paris, Michigan, from 1930-1939. He served the church at Lansing, Illinois, from 1945-1950, and then served as pastor of the Grace Christian Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Mich., from 1950-1956. He began his present work as Editor-in-Chief of *The Banner* in 1956, upon the retirement of the previous editor, Rev. H. J. Kuiper.

The program for the rally is as follows:

7:50—Western Band under the direction of Mr. Hazen Brummel
"Lamb of God"—W. Decius
"All Men Now Sing Rejoice"

—J. S. Bach

Opening devotions—President B. J. Haan

Audience with band accompaniment
"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"
"Beautiful Saviour"

"Onward Christian Soldiers"

Dordt Choir under the direction of Mr. Dale Grotenhuis

"Hosianna"—Swedish tune,

arr. by Gearhart

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

with brass accompaniment

Offertory — Western Band

"If Thou Be Near"

—Bach-Moehlmann

Reformation Address — Rev. John Vander Ploeg, Editor of *The Banner*

Audience — "A Mighty Fortress"

—Luther