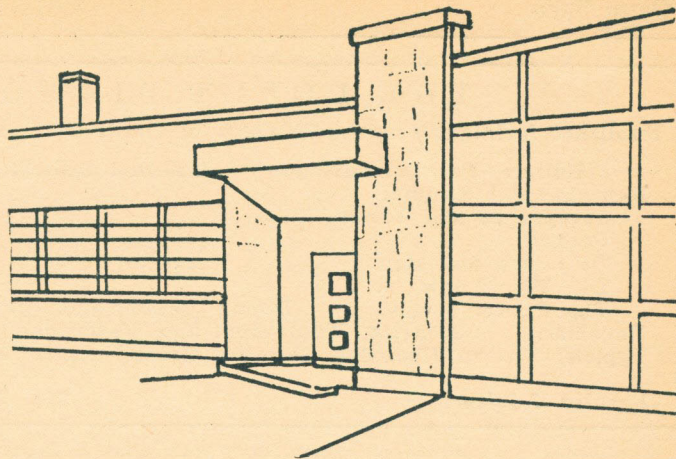


# The Dordt Diamond

Student Publication of Dordt College,  
Sioux Center, Iowa



Volume III

Friday, December 4, 1959

Number 5

## Dordt Choir Presents Cantata

### Signet Staff



Shown above is part of this year's SIGNET staff. From left to right: Joan De Vries, assistant editor; Dr. Zinkand, faculty advisor; Eunice Meyer, editor; Clarence Fransman, business; Owen Bouma, business.

### HANDEL'S MESSIAH TO BE PRESENTED

The seventh annual rendition by the Sioux County Chorus of the *Messiah*, the great masterpiece of G. F. Handel, will be held on the evening of Wednesday, December 9, at eight o'clock. This year's performance will again be given in the Hull Community Building under the direction of Mr. Hazen Brummel.

The soloists this year are: Miss Sara Sue Allen from the Paullina, Iowa, high school—soprano; Mrs.

Barbara Wymore from Dakota Christian High School—contralto; Mr. Peter De Boer from Dordt College—tenor; and Mr. Larry Day from Westminster College—bass.

Tickets can be purchased from members of the chorus. Price: adults, 75c; students, 50c; children under 12, 25c.

Several Dordt students are members of the chorus again this year.

### "OUR REDEEMER IS BORN" TO BE PRESENTED DEC. 16

"Our Redeemer is Born," a Christmas cantata which has been composed by Mr. Dale Grotenhuis, will be presented at the Sioux Center Public Auditorium on Wednesday evening, December 16, beginning at eight o'clock.

The Dordt College Choir, with fifty-five voices, will perform the first part of the cantata. Then, toward the end of the cantata, the Dordt Choir will be supplemented first by the Siouxland Women's Chorus in the singing of "Mary's Lullaby." Immediately thereafter, the Siouxland Male Chorus will join the women's chorus and the college choir in the final three numbers of the cantata: "God So Loved The World," "Let Our Gladness Know No End," and "Psalm 150." "Psalm 150" is scored for both chorus and brass sextet.

Accompanists for the cantata are Miss Annetta Vugteveen, a sophomore at Dordt, and Mrs. Dale Grotenhuis. The narrator for the cantata will be Mr. Peter De Boer, instructor in English.

The program will open with four traditional Christmas carols sung by the newly organized Siouxland Male Chorus. The men will sing "Tell Me Shepherds," "While Shepherds Watched," "We Three Kings," and "The Boar's Head Carol."

Both the Male Chorus and the Women's Chorus were begun this fall under the direction of Dale Grotenhuis. Members of the choruses represent local communities, and have been practicing weekly since October. Both choruses are sponsored by another new organization, the Dordt Boosters' Club, established to provide, among other aims, finances for the carrying out

(Continued on page 4)



## THE DORDT DIAMOND

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

Editor: Peter Andringa	Assistant Editor: Marilyn Nienhuis
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Temper of the Times	Roxine Baker
Poetry	Elaine TeVelde
Of Books and Men	Al Hoekstra
Did You Know . . .	Irma Dykstra
The Sports Scene	Donna Schut and Harvey Blankespoor
Reporters:	Annette Vugteveen, Jim Verbrugge and John Addink
Typists:	Theora Hoekstra, Dorothy Gorter, Anita Kuperus, and Gertrude Kooima
Faculty Advisor:	Mr. Peter P. De Boer

## The Alumni Mail Bag

November 25, 1959  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Dear Editor:

Thanksgiving season is once again opening its eyelids to Christians across the nation. Short recesses are beginning for student and teacher alike. I am now enjoying the first few hours of it rather than slaving on that next paper. It seems to me that this is also an appropriate time to send a note of thanks to **The Diamond** staff for the time they are putting into their work so that we as alumni may reap the benefits.

I began seminary life this fall at Calvin Seminary with much the same feeling that many of the freshmen began Dordt. I entered wondering what it was all going to be about and now at times I leave those "sacred halls" wondering what it was all about. However, one must admit that seminary life proves to be very beneficial to one's spiritual life. One does not realize the abundance of knowledge that the Scriptures contain until he has really studied it.

Sem life reminds me of Dordt in some respects. One of the main similarities is the close fellowship which is enjoyed by all. I hope that Dordt has not lost this distinctive characteristic. We must always remember that we have one common goal which is also Dordt's motto, **Soli Deo Gloria**.

I request your permission to make an appeal for more students to enter the ministry. I realize that it is not the only field which needs workers but it is one. One with a tremendous shortage.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Hofland ('57)

November 25, 1959  
Prinsburg, Minnesota

Editor of **The Diamond**:

After having read "The Alumni Mail Bag" column, November 20, 1959, I felt compelled to make some sort of retaliatory reply to Mr. Nibbelink's bitingly sarcastic criticism of **The Dordt Diamond**.

I wish to comment not only upon the general attitude which pervades the article, but I also wish to say something about its content.

I find it very difficult to decipher the intent with which Mr. Nibbelink writes his letter. Now no one can deny that criticism is appropriate to any endeavor. In fact criticism is that observant something which tempers and moulds an endeavor so that it becomes more effective and meaningful. But the foregoing has reference only to constructive crit-

## --EDITORIAL--

Although this may not be the ideal place to do so, in this editorial I would like to thank Mr. Herman Nibbelink profusely for the excellent constructive criticism which he has so freely offered to the staff of **The Dordt Diamond**.

We appreciate his excellent criticism because he is such a qualified literary critic. He attended Dordt and was editor of the **Signet '57**. Upon graduation from Dordt he matriculated to Calvin College where he majored in English. Also, at Calvin, he contributed periodically to the **Chimes**. And now he is an instructor in English at one of our Christian high schools.

We, the **Diamond** staff, wish to assure Mr. Nibbelink that we agree wholeheartedly with his sound criticism. We agree that our sports editors have failed in reporting adequately and completely all the many sports events of Dordt's vast sports program. From now on we pledge ourselves to discuss in detail such things as the latest ping pong scores.

And we agree that in order for a college paper to be collegiate and Christian, it absolutely may not contain any humor. Humor is infinitely too juvenile and immature to appear in a paper written by college freshmen and sophomores. From now on, we humbly promise to write only those things which are serious and fundamental. After all, humor does not touch our lives vitally. There is no significant room in the life of the true Calvinist for humor!

As was mentioned before, Mr. Nibbelink graduated from Dordt in 1957. Because of this, we are sure that all his constructive criticisms were made in the spirit of brotherly love.

In conclusion, I wish to beg Mr. Nibbelink to forgive the **Diamond** staff for offending his keen knowledge of the English language. We can only hope that in the future we will be able to please him and show to our many high school readers that "dignified, collegiate atmosphere present at Dordt College."

—p.a.



icism. I find it hard to believe that Mr. Nibbelink meant to be anything but constructively critical. However, my impression of his letter was such that I could only conclude that the total effect precipitated by the letter was one of destructive criticism. In addition, such criticism can only be disheartening, discouraging and surely not conducive to any improvement, whatever.

Next, I would like to take exception to the content of Mr. Nibbelink's letter. At this juncture, let me explain that my comments have reference to the particular **Diamond** of Nov. 20, 1959. I assume that this **Diamond** is a representative issue.

Mr. Nibbelink says that the **Diamond's** editorial columns are "... far ahead of time, one year to be exact." Not having read all of the previous issues of the **Diamond**, I am not prepared to say anything about this statement. However, after reading this particular issue of the **Diamond**, I am satisfied that the columns in question are expressions of adequate intellectual, emotional, and scholastic maturity in college freshmen and sophomores.

Mr. Nibbelink's greatest objection to "The Sports Scene" is the purported fact that the sports page occupies itself primarily with non-local sports news. Upon examination of "The Sports Scene" of this particular issue, I find not more than one-fifth of the column space devoted to sports news on a non-local basis. Even conceding this gripe to be legitimate, it must be realized that the acquisition of sufficient sports material on a local basis is extremely difficult because of the limited athletic program of our school.

Commenting upon Mr. Nibbelink's criticism of the "Did You Know" column, let me just say that perhaps Mr. Nibbelink emphasizes the intellectual and the scholastic a little too much. Certainly, these values are most important in any institution of learning. However, we also know that in order for intellectual development to be efficient, the whole person must be taken into consideration. As an afterthought, let me say that Dordt graduates have acquitted themselves well in the world of scholastic competition.

It cannot be denied that there is room for improvement in the **Dordt Diamond**. There is room for improvement in any endeavor. But I am convinced that Mr. Nibbelink's letter would have accomplished more good if it had been more positively suggestive and if it had been written in a more beneficent tone. Knowing Herm Nibbelink personally, in fact, having lived with him for a year, I am just as convinced that his letter was written out of concern for Dordt. A non-concerned individual surely wouldn't have taken the time to write any kind of letter.

Sincerely yours,

Gilbert Blankespoor

## Of Books and Men

Among the new books that have recently been added to the shelves of Dordt's library is one entitled **The Calvinistic Concept of Culture** by Rev. Henry R. Van Til of the Bible department at Calvin College. The book itself is new, having been published during the latter part of this year.

I believe that it would be profitable to follow the introduction to the book as it is stated in the first chapter by the author himself.

The author points out that because Christians have taken the attitude that the Christian's duty lies in proclaiming the gospel, there is a conflict among Christians pertaining to culture. More difficulties are present, e. g. the catholic claims of the church and that because Christians are called upon to bear a cross there will be a conflict with the world. Note here the antithesis.

The world is evil "lying in the evil one" but redeemable, and although sin is universal, yet God's grace is more abundant. God's grace restores man and following that, man is called upon "to be engaged actively in self-purification" which must be carried on by believers in culture. In the days of the early church the church became worldwide and world meant the secular sphere rather than the meaning which it has in Scripture namely "its rebellion and separation from God."

Then Roman Catholicism became the "great system of supplementation... which insured the salvation of its members from the womb to the tomb by baptism, confirmation, eucharist, penance, orders, marriage, and extreme unction."

The Protestant Reformation changed all that, and Calvin has placed culture in its proper perspective, preferring to surpass Luther who needed Christ only for salvation. Calvin needed salvation as the "renewal of the whole man and the restoration of all God's works. For Luther the Bible was indeed the source of saving truth but for Calvin, Scripture was the norm (standard) for the whole existence."

The book is divided into three sections, the first concerns a discussion of Calvinism; the second, the history of Calvinistic culture; and the third, a discussion on the cultural duty of believers.

The thesis as stated is "that if we confess to know God in the face of Jesus Christ... we cannot have true communion with the godless apostatizing culture of our day although we must associate with men of the world. Indeed we are in the world but not of the world."

a.h.

## Did You Know . . .

that America is still the land of opportunity for any man who can invent a new way for people to do nothing . . . ?

\* \* \* \* \*

that money isn't everything . . . ? Often it isn't enough. —F.P. Jones

\* \* \* \* \*

that we are fortunate to be citizens of a country where we can say what we think without thinking . . . ? —John C. Vivian

\* \* \* \* \*

that one reason for our high crime rate is that the long arm of the law is often shorthanded . . . ? —Hal Chadwick

\* \* \* \* \*

that West Texas State College's new football stadium will have outlets so the spectators can plug in their electric blankets . . . ?

—Bill Vaughan

\* \* \* \* \*

that this is a good motto for teenagers . . . ? "If you want to be successful, be like the postage stamp. It sticks to one objective until it reaches it." —anonymous

\* \* \* \* \*

that Nikita Khrushchev used to say that our children would live under Communism . . . ? Now he says our grandchildren will live under Communism. So there's been some progress — we've saved a whole generation. —David Brinkley

\* \* \* \* \*

that the really happy man is one who can enjoy the scenery when he has to take a detour . . . ?

—Wall Street Journal

\* \* \* \* \*

that modern psychology tells us that it is bad to be an orphan, terrible to be an only child, damaging to be the youngest, crushing to be in the middle, and taxing to be the oldest . . . ? There seems to be no way out except to be born an adult. —Woodman of the World Magazine

\* \* \* \* \*

that a "bore" talks mostly in the first person, a gossip in the third, and a brilliant conversationalist in the second . . . ? —Boston Globe

\* \* \* \* \*

that when it comes to consuming food for thought some people go on a permanent hunger strike . . . ? —Sioux City Journal

\* \* \* \* \*

that over 90 million pounds of aspirin is consumed annually in the United States . . . ? This is enough to give a headache — relieving dose every day of the year to every adult in the country. —Science Digest

i.d.



## SIGNET STAFF REPORT

In every high school and college, the chief publication of each year is an annual. There are various main purposes which every staff wishes to utilize in its annual. There is an effort made to recall highlights of the year, e.g., basketball games, banquets, programs, plays, etc. by way of pictures and fitting comments. There are also pictures of staffs, clubs, organizations, teachers or professors, and students, plus other incidental snapshots. Each editor must plan his annual so that he can express some of the spirit present within his school. There must be a subtle distinction between degrees of importance placed on events. Those who look at an annual must see it as a unified whole, they must see an unwritten, besides a verbal, theme.

Dordt's annual is called the **Signet**. In the past it has established an excellent precedent for those which are to be published in the future. This year the editor of the **Signet** is Eunice Meyer. The students of Dordt chose Eunice because her potential in this field is unlimited. Her very able assistant editor is Joan De Vries. Joan has had experience in this field, having been on the annual staff in her high school. Eunice and Joan will receive much co-operation from a well-chosen staff, with the advice of the faculty advisor, Dr. Zinkand. Members of the staff are:

Editor—Eunice Meyer

Assistant Editor—Joan De Vries

Lay-Out—Pat Ver Steeg, Helena Wiersma, Norma Schoolmeester

Business—Owen Bouma, Clarence Fransman

Photography — Dorothy Gorter, Irma Dykstra, Gertrude H. Modderman

Copy—Bill Van Tol, Marilyn Nienhuis, Elaine Te Velde, Donna Schutt, Tom Den Ouden

Art & Copy—Galen Meyer

Typists—Ruth Vander Voort, Eleanor Auwema, Hermina Van Dyken.

Professor Ribbens is also helping a great deal with the photography. Some initial work has been begun on this year's annual. To quote Eunice, "We've begun the preliminary preliminaries!" Putting out an annual is no easy undertaking and involves much work for the editor and her assistant and also the other members of the staff. The yearbook will be published by the American Yearbook Company, Hannibal, Missouri. The **Signet** is usually distributed late enough so that it may contain all the events of the year. This year's annual should prove to be the best yet and should live up to the standards of any critic.

## The Sports Scene

On Thursday, November 19, the Dordt Defenders played host to the Raiders from Northwestern in their opening game of the '59-'60 season. Although the Defenders never held the lead, they gave a good account of themselves in a hotly contested first half. The score at half-time read 33-36 in favor of Northwestern. An excited student body from Dordt had high hopes of seeing Northwestern go down in defeat before the Defenders, but were doomed to disappointment. In the second half Northwestern's hotshots really let loose, although Dordt managed to remain within striking distance until the closing moments of the game.

As usual with the Dordt-Northwestern game, the auditorium was filled with fans, and also as usual, the Northwestern students showed their exuberance by showering everyone with confetti as the final buzzer sounded.

The Dordt students are to be congratulated on their excellent turnout and support of the team. A word of thanks also to the cheerleaders and the band. Let's hope the turnout is just as good for the remaining games, and when we meet Northwestern again, let's turn 'em upside down!

Blankespoor is as good as ever, and was high point man for both teams with 24 points. Vander Stoep and Beernink followed with 22 and 21 respectively. Both teams committed 20 fouls with Northwestern making 12 out of 22 and Dordt 17 out of 29.

	FG	FTA	FT	PF	TP
Altena -----	0	1	0	2	0
De Jong -----	2	2	1	3	5
Verbrugge -----	6	7	5	5	17
Blankespoor --	8	10	9	3	24
Den Ouden -----	5	3	2	4	12
Hoekman -----	1	5	1	2	3
Zylstra -----	0	1	0	0	0
Charles -----	1	0	0	0	2
Meyerink -----	0	0	0	1	0
Fransman -----	0	0	0	0	0

—d.s.

## Choir Presents Cantata . . .

(continued from page 1)

of public relations work at the college.

Reserved-seat tickets can be purchased for one dollar at the Iowa Public Service Company at Rock Valley, Siebersma Cities Service at Sheldon, Velgersdyke Standard Service at Hull, Andringa Jewelry of Orange City, Holtrop's Variety of Sioux Center, and the office of the college. General admission tickets will be available at the door for seventy-five cents.

## The Temper of the Times

This week I'm going to discuss some of the social problems of the day.

The U.S. medical organization has to deal with foreign interns for almost one out of every four interns and residing physicians in our hospitals are foreign trained. Problems arise since many of the foreign interns can not speak English or understand it, and since many have only meager training, being products of diploma mills or herb schools.

Before 1957 it wasn't uncommon for a hospital to get a foreign dentist instead of the physician they expected. Nor was it uncommon for foreign physicians to send their credentials to the United States in their native language, and then the hospitals would not have any idea of what their credentials were.

Now, an Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates has been organized. This council has been testing some foreign interns and now has the consent of all the hospitals to test all foreign interns in 1960. They are advising the hospitals to give their test to the foreign interns before they hire them.

Dr. Rappleye of Columbia University points out that the hospitals which have employed these foreign interns who will not be able to pass the examination do not have any idea as to what they are going to do since the U.S. is not graduating enough doctors to supply its needs. In comparison we find Russia graduates a surplus of doctors each year and that before long they will be caring for a greater part of the world with their physicians. And we all realize this will be a big propaganda device for the Russians.

In the South there has been a crackdown on the whites for keeping the Negroes from voting. The whites have been preventing their voting by threatening them with physical harm and with loss of employment, by requiring them to pass rigid qualification tests, and by making it very inconvenient for them to vote. In sixteen counties Negroes are not even registered.

Attorney General Rogers is very disgusted with the situation and therefore he has stated that some laws are going to be enforced. One of the laws that may be enforced states that a person who deprives someone of constitutional rights can be sentenced to ten years.

I do not know how you feel concerning this matter, but I feel it is about time the U.S. cracks down on the whites and helps the Negro, who since 1870 has had the constitutional right to vote, but who could not due to social pressures.

—r.b.