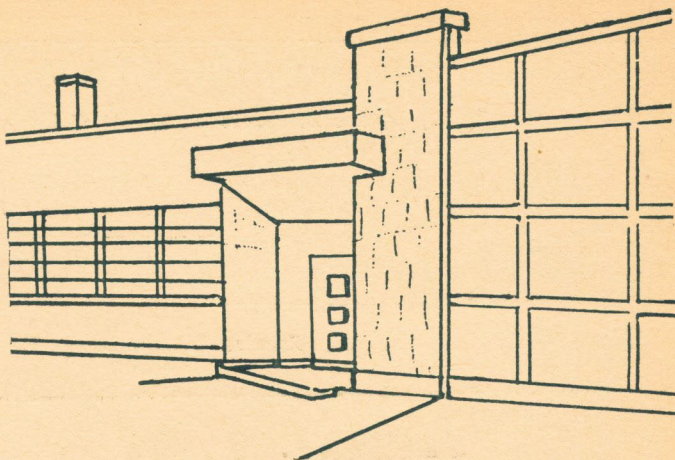


The Dordt Diamond

Student Publication of Dordt College,
Sioux Center, Iowa



Volume II

Friday, October 31, 1958

Number 5

Reformation Day Rally Tonight

First Fine Arts Concert Tuesday Night

Set For 7:30 P.M. In The
College Auditorium

Everyone has been invited to attend a Fine Arts program which will be presented by 21 Dordt College students on Tuesday, November 4, at 7:30 p.m.

The proceeds will be given to the choir for the spring tour which they plan for April.

Mr. De Boer reports that wonderful talent has been discovered in the student body. There will be a wide variety of musical numbers, two readings, and a short oration.

Numbers on the program, though not in order, are as follows:

Short Oration — "Missles or Muscles," (original) by Eunice Meyer.

Girl's Trio — "Lollytoodum" written by Leslie Bel) — Janice Jouvstra, Dorothea Nibbelink, and Marian De Jong.

Vocal Duet — "Serenade", by Jim Heynen and Janice Jouvstra.

Male Quartet — "Praise to the Lord" — Jim Heynen, Peter Jouvstra, Merl Alons, Peter De Boer.

Piano Solo — "Rondo Capriccioso" (by Mendelsohn) — Marian De Jong.

Brass Quartet — "Andante Cantabile" (by Tschaikowsky) — Arlene Soodsma, Helen Wiersma, Peter Jouvstra, and Janice Jouvstra.

Baritone Horn Solo — "Stars in a Velvety Sky" (by Herbert Clark) — Peter Jouvstra.

Vocal Solo — "Eye Has Not Seen" (by Gaul) — Helen De Vries.

Reading — "The Dry Years" (Original) — Peter Andringa.

Clarinet Duet — "Barcarolli" — (from the Tales of Hoffman, by Forrest Buchtel) — Annette Vugteveen and Gertrude Kooima.

Reading — "The Imaginary Invalid" by (Molieve) — Anita Ten Naple.

This is the first of a series of Fine Arts concerts which the students of Dordt plan to present during the year.

There will be a small admission charge.

Sophomores Invited To

Alumni Chapter Meet

The Northwest Iowa Calvin Alumni Chapter wishes to remind all Dordt sophomores that they are invited to its regular fall meeting which will be held in the Dordt Commons on Thursday, November 13, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The evening will begin with the evening dinner, served by the cooks of Dordt College. Mr. Syduey T. Youngsma, Development Secretary of Calvin College, will speak and show a motion picture about life at Calvin. The Alumni Chapter has invited the sophomores so that through this means they may better know what it is like to attend Calvin.

Those who plan to attend should notify Professor De Boer by Tuesday, November 11. Anyone who attends and does not have a Dordt meal ticket will be required to pay for his meal at a nominal charge.

Meeting Begins At 8:00 P.M.
In The Sioux Center
Auditorium

Tonight, beginning at eight o'clock, another Reformation Day program will be rendered. The guest speaker, Dr. R. Danhof is the stated clerk of the Christian Reformed Church. He will speak on the topic, "Reformation Heritage".



Music for the evening will include: group singing led by Professor Van Til, and three numbers by the Dordt choir. In this, its first appearance, the choir will sing: **Faith of Our Fathers, Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee, My God How Wonderful Thou Art.** The prelude and offertory music will be played by Annette Vugteveen.

Four hundred and forty-one years

(Continued on page 4)

THE DORDT DIAMOND

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

October 24, 1958
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for mailing me the first few copies of the Dordt Diamond. I also would like to inform you that my address has been changed to 3245 Pearl Street.

I certainly enjoy reading the Diamond because I am still very interested in all the activities of Dordt and all its students. I certainly miss singing in the choir. The Diamond informed me that the choir may come to Denver on April 11. I am looking forward to that day, for then I will meet my friends from Dordt and will be able to hear its choir.

I am now taking a course in Engineering Drafting at the Colorado University Extension Center here in Denver. I attend classes from eight to eleven in the forenoon and I am working at the Samsonite luggage factory from four until twelve-thirty at night.

We also had a youth rally here in Denver the 10th, 11th, and 12th of October. This rally was sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Young Calvinist League. Friday night we had a banquet. Saturday we went on a sight seeing tour by bus and had a campfire meeting in the evening up on Lookout Mountain. Sunday afternoon we had a rally in the Second Church and a hymn sing in First Church on Sunday night.

Oh yes! Believe it or not, at the end of last school year, I appointed Miss Adeline Haverhals to take my place as Vernon Pollema's sidekick, Sourpuss. So if she hasn't been practicing yet, maybe you can get her started.

Sincerely,

Kerwin Van Wyhe

--EDITORIAL--

"The roomiest thing we know if," says the editor of a modern magazine, "is a man's head." Carnegie's mind was large enough to accommodate hundreds of steel mills. Columbus had space sufficient for a new world. Admiral Rickover found room in his to engineer an atomic submarine. Illimitable capacity is the mark of a man's mind.

On the other hand, a mind narrowed by stubborn belief and blinding pride will be extremely limited. An outstanding example of this truth was Voltaire, French philosopher and writer. Although he supposedly had a remarkable head on his shoulders, he once made the idle boast: "It took twelve ignorant fishermen to establish Christianity. I will show the world how one Frenchman can destroy it." But alas! That bigoted intellectual was sadly mistaken. Twenty-five years after he died, his home was purchased by the Geneva Bible Society and used as a storage building. His printing press was used to print an entire edition of the Bible.

Reformation Day calls to mind an important observation relative to the people of that day. They were narrow, blighted thinkers. Luther nailed his ninety-five thesis to the castle door of Wittenberg, when the European world was completely subjected to the Roman Catholic Church in its thinking. The Church had attempted to dominate the mind of man. Everyone was supposed to think as the Church ordered them; for, those who did not were burned at the stake as heretics. Luther found it extremely difficult to illuminate those darkened minds.

In the field of science also: Before the Reformation supplied a measure of freedom to men's minds, children adopted the thought patterns of their fathers, and fathers thought in the same line as their grandfathers. The reasoning of Aristotle and other Greek philosophers was considered the ultimate and only truth; the Church allowed no one to test their own assumptions. For hundreds of years, progress in many areas was thwarted.

Although narrow-mindedness does not necessarily characterize our modern generation, it is nevertheless a prevalent evil. In the first place, Americans are extremely narrow-minded—they have no use for other customs and cultures. Then stop and witness the actions of the narrow-minded scientist. He will make no pre-rational commitments but exalts the scientific method as the only way to ultimate truth. And even closer to home, we of the Reformed persuasion are also guilty of this evil. We often

(continued on page 4)

Large Turnout Tuesday

For Soup Supper

Almost 1000 people attended the invitational soup supper here at Dordt College Tuesday evening. This number was served within four hours.

Special thanks are in order to all who attended and made it such a success. The bulk of the crowd came from Sioux Center itself with many attending from miles around.

The general committee in charge was headed by Mrs. Hein Vreeman. The Sophomore girls helped with the serving as dozens of ladies were kept busy with preparation.

Dordt College Choir



Of Books and Men

by Jack Vanden Berg

SOME TRENDS IN THE NOVEL. STANLEY EDGAR HYMAN.

Have you ever wondered what future trends the novels of our day will follow? Have you tried to surmise what changes in form, in theme and in content we may expect in the next years? The article which I am reviewing tries to indicate what we may expect.

The writer of this article, Mr. Hyman, is a well known teacher at Bennington College, serves as staff writer for the New Yorker and is the husband of novelist Shirley Jackson. He has presented his views at a conference on the novel at Harvard in 1956. This article sets forth some of his views.

The idea of delinneating trends in novel writing is a misnomer. A writer does not write anything as part of a trend, but the critic "follows at a distance picking up work already done and classifying it." Mr. Hyman wants to make this clear at the start lest anyone misconstrue his intent.

There are, according to Mr. Hyman, three unattractive trends in novel writing at present. The first is a tendency of established famous writers to revamp the themes of past novels, to parody them. This would have great value if the writers would thus improve their work but he feels that the opposite is true. As an example he states that Hemingway wrote "The Old Man and the Sea, a work which on close examination turns out to be *The Unde-feated* redone with less force than in the original. Hyman feels that the same criticism can be leveled at

Faulkner, Steinbeck, and Dos Passos.

A second trend which is distasteful to Mr. Hyman is the psuedo-psychological trend in which the writer tries to disguise abnormal and homosexual love in the imagery of heterosexual love. The originator of this approach was Proust, states Mr. Hyman, and he has been imitated by Tennessee Williams and Robin Maugham. Infantile regression, a deviation of this trend perhaps can be found in McCullers *A Member of the Wedding*, a study in infantile behavior.

A third and widespread trend that Hyman dislikes, is the "psuedo fiction"—false fiction rather than non-fiction. Hyman makes the interesting point that psuedo fiction states "just what life is like", while the true novel gives one the impression that "life is surely nothing like this anywhere." This is art. As an example he compares Hersey's *Hiroshima* with the "pretentious disguised" reporting of the same writer's *The Wall*. Further examples quoted are *From Here To Eternity*, *The Naked and the Dead*, and *The Caine Mutiny*.

On the other hand Hyman feels that there are indications of a change for he points out some more hopeful trends. He states that novelists are moving toward a conscious use of myth and ritual as an organizing principle. An example of what he means can be found in *Moby Dick* (the myth being the ancient ritual myth of the Quest) and in such new novels as Cozzen's *Castaway*, and Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*.

A second hopeful trend is the appearance of what he calls "Pre-Existentialism". He defines it as "that fiction that comes to view independently, as a discovery in the novelists craft, rather than formally, pushing a wheelbarrow of speculative thought". Wright's *Native Son* is an example of the first and his rec-

(Continued on page 4)

The Temper of the Times

by Myrtle Sinkey

A week from next Tuesday is once again the date for elections. The fervor and excitement, tension and interest which precedes these elections each time is again upon us.

And in this year of apparent Democratic trends and - possible Democratic landslide, fears have been aroused in the hearts of many die-hard Republicans. These fears include the fear of loosing their job or not being able to obtain one, which in many cases, the poor Republicans will be able to do little about, except sit down and weep.

But due to lack of understanding, lack of insight, failure in the knowledge of politics, or just plain stupidity, another fear has obsessed many of the Republican minds; the fear that in the case of a Democratic landslide, that socialism—socialism will overtake our nation, and that from socialism it will only be a small step to communism.

There are in my estimation, three reasons why such will not be the case. First, Democrats are not Socialists, and they do not adhere to the principles of socialism. Secondly, the Democratic party contains liberal Democrats, conservative Democrats, and moderate Democrats. And there is enough of each type to maintain a balance. Also the leaders of the party, such as Sam Rayburn, Lyndon Johnson, and others are men of considerable wisdom, of conservative qualities, and exceptional ability, as can be seen in their achievements in the 85th Congress. (Read "Last Roundup in Congress," August 22, 1958, *U.S. News and*

(Continued on page 4)

SAVE YOUR PENNIES

FOR

"The Miser"

Play to be presented by the Dordt Drama Club
Directed by Prof. Van Til

NOVEMBER 14 — Sioux Center Auditorium

NOVEMBER 17 — Rock Valley

AT A LATER DATE — Edgerton, Minnesota

"THE MISER"—This year's major dramatic production.

Tickets will go on sale next week.

The Sports Scene

by Donna Schutt

Hey there, all of you typical red-blooded American college boys. Your school spirit is showing—in a lamentable fashion!

Most of you know what I'm talking about. The roster of the basketball team is in terrible shape. I don't know the exact figure, but from what I've heard, it certainly isn't very large. What gives? Isn't anyone interested enough to want to make this season the best ever? Or is it that no one wants to exert himself by practicing. After all, it is hard work. Or maybe your grades don't allow you to participate. Well, if that's the case, I should think you would have too much pride to have that happen. True, the main purpose of college is to increase the mental capacity of the students, but what would the students do if they didn't have the sports heroes to cheer? Come now boys, it's your duty to get out and put Dordt on

top and keep it there.

Ah, but there is silver lining on every cloud. The fellows who are now practicing must have a lot of ambition to persevere under such adverse conditions. Let's give them a big cheer and hope that soon they will have some willing and capable help.

Temper of The Times - - -

(Continued from page 3)

World Report).

Lastly, I would again appeal to past history. During the presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt, in 1938, during the 75th Congress there were 331 Democrats and 89 Republicans in the House and 76 Democrats in the Senate. Yet socialism did not overtake our country then, and it will not now; for as I said before, there is enough of a balance to withstand any factional uprisings.

So in closing, to the losers in the election—better luck next time, and to the winners—use the office for the purpose it was intended and carry thyself wisely at all times.

EDITORIAL - - (continued from page 2)

think of our religion as the finest interpretation of the truths in the Bible, thereby leaving no room for the views of others.

Blind ignorance may be the result of an intellect thus tainted; an openly receptive mind is the call of the hour. It is well to remember, however, that Holy Writ must always remain as our basic premise. Unless enlightened by its truth we can not use our intellect properly.

c.c.

Reformation Rally - - -

(continued from page 1)

ago today, Martin Luther nailed his now famous ninety-five theses to the Castle Church of Wittenberg, setting off a fire that spread around the world and is still present today. We now commemorate this momentous event in the history of the church.

John Calvin is another of the great reformers. It is well, in celebrating the Reformation to remember the motto by which Calvin lived: "Cor meum tibi offero Domine prompte et sincere" — "My heart to Thee I offer, Lord, promptly and sincerely." This humble Reformer of Geneva desired that his burial spot should be unmarked. The epitaph which he may have desired is all that remains: "Soli Deo Gloria". These words have not been forgotten, we all know, for today we can read these same words inscribed in rock at the entry of Dordt College.

The Reformation movement of the sixteenth century was a movement "back to God". It was a turning away from "a priesthood that had come between the penitent sinner and his Lord." and a turning toward the universal priesthood of believers and direct access to God through the Lord Jesus Christ. The Reformation today calls for "a return to the Bible as the infallible Word of God", and a return to God's totalitarian kingdom which must be supreme.

Realizing this, the Board of Dordt College initiated the annual Reformation Day Rally believing that the "back to God movement" of the sixteenth century is related to the Christian education spirit of today.

Certainly, your attending this program will renew the spirit of the Reformation and the Reformation will not be sixteenth century history, but a spirit which lives on in the church of today. —J.H.

Of Books And Men - - -

(Continued from page 3)

ent *The Outsider*, is an example of the second.

Finally, the third hopeful sign is a body of real fiction recognizable to all by its form, action, and moral imagination. This type of writing does not attempt to disguise love in various masks and disreputable connotations but deals with the reality of human love in a virile and robust manner. The examples that he quotes are Agee's *A Death in the Family* and Cheever's *The Wapshot Chronicle*.

In closing, he expresses the pious hope that we will have a union of two things: "a work large in scope, and large in significance". This ritual marriage is the formula for a major work of art of the novel and we can do no more for the present than hope unworthily for its consummation in our time.