

The Dordt Diamond

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The Temper of the Times

by Myrtle Sinkey

Do you like to throw rotten eggs? Some people do, it seems, for they exhibited their desire to do so a few months ago when eggs were thrown at the honorable(?) Mr. Ezra Taft Benson during a corn-picking contest in South Dakota.

It's disgusting! It's appalling! It's disastrous! It's frightful! And it's all those other adjectives which describe something miserable. You don't know what I refer to? Well, I'll tell you. It's the appointment of Mr. Benson as a Secretary of Agriculture, and the refusal of President Eisenhower to discharge him; or in blunt words, to fire him!

But of course Mr. Eisenhower would refuse to fire him. It would be a reflection on his own personal wisdom. And it would be politically unwise for Mr. Eisenhower to acknowledge a mistake as big as Mr. Benson, for it would put the Republicans in a worse fix than they already are.

Mr. Benson is catching the farmers between the cost-price squeeze. The price of farm equipment has gone up while the price of farm products has gone down. Needless to say, farmers would like to support their families as well as big businessmen but Mr. Benson and the Republican party don't seem to think so. Mr. Benson is still trying to lower parity prices, this time by 6½%. Surely, farmers are going bankrupt and therefore their number is decreasing. Perhaps our food surplus will then decrease, perhaps decreasing to such an extent that we will have to import food stuffs in a few years.

But wait! This could not happen for a few years yet, and in 1960 there will be a presidential election. Assuredly the party in power will change, and the Democrats will, as in former times, do all they can for the farmers, for the small businessmen, and for all the people of the U.S., not just a chosen few.

Perhaps we could use Mr. Benson as a noticeable example of the type of person the Republicans desire to have in office—a person who openly is against and does not even consider the will of the people. And isn't it a fact that democracy is a government of, by, and for the people? Is this present administration

practicing democracy? We often wonder!

Although it is true that Mr. Benson is only one of the minor faults of the Republican party, and although such things as our foreign policy and our not keeping up in the missile race are in much sadder condition so that Mr. Benson is no longer in the limelight, this does not excuse him!

You say you are dissatisfied? Well, do something about it! Write your Congressman (especially if he's a Democrat). If we would all do that, perhaps these situations could be remedied, and our government would truly be a democracy!

A Gem from Chapel

by Annafeen Baker
and Marjean Boer

A sophomore at Dordt, Nelson Vander Pol, challenged us with the question, "What is Real Education?" His message was based on Proverbs 1 and 2.

He said that we must do more than learn, we must apply knowledge to our learning and make sense out of it.

If our sole aim at school is to commit cold facts to memory and work for grades, it is very well possible that we will not receive an education.

Sometimes we are satisfied to get by with a little memory work, when we should go much further by awakening our knowledge. We must use our knowledge to search out these things which we have learned.

The above contains facts that are true of too many of us. How many of us learned "cold" facts for the sake of our grades during semester exams?

Semester Ends

by John Grimmus

Finally the semester has come to an end, to a grinding stop. Grinding because of the final exams such as the four hour English exam and that tough Bible exam. But now it's all over, and most of us have to agree with Cecil J. Rhodes' words, "So little done—so much to do."

Many students were found nervous before the exams, so nervous, in fact, that one dropped a glass of water out of her shaky hand. The major part of the students agreed that the finals were really tough

The Challenge

by Cliff Christians

"And unquestionable, the Man of the Year was Russia's stubby and bald, garrulous and brilliant ruler: Nikita Khrushchev." So saying, the Time magazine of January 6, 1958, crowned the emperor of Russia as the Man of the Year.

Khrushchev was featured on the front of the magazine surrounded by Sputnik and other symbols of technological progress. It is the opinion of this writer that portraying him as such was a disgrace. Satan himself could sooner be declared the Man of 1957.

No one has been so ruthless, so heartless, so unmerciful as he. No one has used more malicious tactics. No one has terrorized more people. In fact, Khrushchev can be rightly termed as Butcher of the Year—although Edward Gein, the famed man from Wisconsin, offered him keen competition in this respect.

Being a patriotic American, it can be said that these feelings are based more or less on prejudice. Nevertheless, look back to the war. Russia fought against the free nations when they gathered for a NATO meeting in Paris. Remember the foul propaganda which he used to cut the hearts of freedom-loving Americans—then you may agree with me that last year Khrushchev was in actuality the Devil's chief tool.

Khrushchev was declared as the most important figure in 1957, for he is the head of a regime that supposedly has far outclassed the other nations of the world. One glance at his portrait only proves one thing to me. Russia hasn't even the finesse to overcome today's ordinary scientific problems, such as: rotten teeth, overweight, and baldness.

and many candles burned all night over the books of students who lost innumerable hours of precious sleep. The intermingling of the two sexes during the evening hours was at a low ebb. All major discussion, over the coffee, hinged on the subject of preparation for the exams.

Now that the finals are over most of the students are ready to really settle down and many have made resolutions to work harder this semester. The freshmen have had their first taste of college life and now know what is expected of them. The

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Spotlight on Sports

by Harlan Vanden Einde

During the past couple months there have been some intramural basketball games. I feel that these games were very interesting and that they were of real value to the ones participating as well as to those who watched. First of all they offered the ambitious students an outlet for some of their excess energy. Secondly, they taught the students sportsmanship and how to get along better with their fellow students with some very good entertainment.

At the beginning of the basketball season there were three boys' teams organized and two girls' teams. In all the boys have played six games and the girls have played three.

The three teams of the boys consisted of the Dordt Double-Dribblers, the Knickerbockers, and the Minnesota Lakers. The Minnesota Lakers came out on top with a 4-0 record. The Knickerbockers and the Double-Dribblers each had a 1-3 record.

Heading the top of the scoring list was Cliff Christians with 86 points, followed by Virgil Baker with 54, John Bolt with 53, and Gary Van Dyke with 40. Here again the Minnesota Lakers came out on top, for three of the top scorers came from the Laker team.

The girls played three games in all. The Dribblers won two and lost one, and the Dodgerettes won one and lost two. The leading scorer for the girls was Marilyn Geels who scored 20 points one game. Joyce De Vries and Rose Van Essen each had 17 followed closely by Estella Dahm who had 14.

The basketball season isn't quite over yet, so I think we should have a few more intramural games. I'm sure that everyone enjoys watching these games as much as the players enjoy playing. So, captains, why don't you see if you can arrange a couple of games to be played in the near future.

THE CHALLENGE

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ceeding further, we find that Daane places as the greatest fault of the Christian Reformed Church, the acceptance of the doctrine of Divine Sovereignty as being our central doctrine.

What does this mean to us as young members of that church? I will say at the outset that I claim not to be conversant with all the facts, nor do I claim to possess an "analytical perspective"; but here are my views on this outburst of theological vitality:

If men like this are allowed to obtain dominant leadership in our church, we might as well admit that we are doomed to failure; we might as well admit that we are turning from a century of apparent light to

A cardinal feature of the Christian life is true thankfulness for the blessings we receive from God.

Our innumerable blessings can be classified into two groups: first, the material; and second, the spiritual. In the modern world which is secular and earthly minded, man has sought after the tangible things such as large bank accounts, bountiful harvests, homes, cars, exquisite dress, earthly pleasures, and the like. The spiritual needs of the soul have been discarded in the vain attempt to satisfy the flesh. We as Christians, too, need to be concerned about earthly goods, but not to the extent that our lives become saturated with them and we lose the vision of our purpose here on earth which is to glorify our Maker. The spiritual blessings are those which have abiding significance. We as Christians have the Word from which we can be spiritually nourished; we live in a country where we can worship God according to the dictates of our own heart; and most important of all is the precious gift of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who is the giver of salvation to all the elect. We as Christians have much for which to be thankful. We have a hope for the future.

True, there are those among us who have trials and problems which seem insurmountable, and we cannot understand why God deals with us as He does. Let us then seek comfort from His Word when He says that all things work together for good to those who seek Him. In faith let us understand that these trials are preparing us for greater service in His Kingdom.

If we are truly thankful, we will be desirous of rendering unto the Lord what is rightfully His. What can we do? We can give of our earthly possessions and also use our talents to honor and glorify Him. Yes, young people, there is more. Have you in these years of preparation ever considered the possibility of full time service in the Lord's work? Many fields are beckoning. The Christian ministry, Christian education, and Christian nursing are just a few. May it be a matter of much prayer and a dedication to God in the choosing of your life vocation.

—R.E.

one of gross darkness. I make this statement for this reason: Daane's views coincide very well with those which are Modernistic. It is questioning of the centrality of God's Sovereignty that proves that he is shifting the emphasis from God and His Word to man and his opinions.

This type of emphasis would be tolerable, if it were not for the fact that such views are being propagated within the sphere of Reformed Theology. If an outside attack were being made, we would still feel composed; but when it is catapulted from the very inside, we must say that a sickening feeling arises in everyone of us.

Let me mention only one shift of emphasis for the sake of example. Daane suggests that lodge members ought not to be excluded as members from our churches. This seems to prove only further that the emphasis is being changed from God to man as the center upon which we base our theological thinking.

Many more things could be discussed; many more views could be presented. Let a warning now suffice: We must stand confidently on our own two feet, or we might be swept away by every wind of doctrine that blows.

Dr. Harry Boer's booklet, *That My House May Be Filled*, and Daane's editorial in the September, 1957 issue of the *Reformed Journal* both deal with the situation which has been discussed. These articles are extremely interesting!

--EDITORIAL--

Giving Thanks Always

THE TEMPER OF THE TIMES

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current business slump would have positively reached its lowest ebb by the end of 1957. But this has not proved true. The business slump is still with us and there is no sign that this slump will end before the middle of 1958.

One of the ways in which Mr. Eisenhower hopes to gain votes in the coming November election is to propose a tax cut and to hope for an upturn in business. But will good business return in time to prevent many people from going broke? If this depends upon Mr. Eisenhower and the Republican administration, the fact is doubtful. And if he does propose a tax cut, it would be done not in order to help the people, but as a means to get votes for his party. Is that a decent motive? I should hardly think so! But what else can you expect from Republicans?

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Letters to the editor re "Temper of the Times"

Dear Editors:

As we see it there is poor reasoning and narrowness of mind behind the "Temper of the Times." Instead of an opinionated view we would like to see a neutral article under the heading of "The Temper of the Times."

Abel Vander Woude
John Grimmus

Dear Editors:

Good-bye! I'm off to Washington to exterminate Benson. Soon everyone will have more money than they know what to do with.

Clifford Christians