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Lectureship Institute Sponsors World Hunger Conference

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In his second lecture, Dr. Hielema critiqued Jay E. Adams' method of "nouthetic counselling" and outlined several principles of Christian counselling. Dr. Hielema's doctoral thesis was entitled *Pastoral or Christian Counselling: A Confrontation with American Pastoral Theology, in Particular Seward Hiltner and Jay E. Adams*. Hielema summed up Adams' use of the Scripture in the following way:

Adams' use of the Scriptures is too narrow minded, too legalistic, and too methodistic. By making the Scriptures the textbook for counselling, Adams fails to see the interrelationship between the threefold revelation concept—Christ, the Scriptures, and creation. As a result he does not understand that God's revelation includes thinking and reflection (the confessional response) which God's people have come to in the construction of a truly Christian philosophy of life.

Hielema elaborated his own position, stressing the importance of

understanding events in their total context. We have to be prayerful, reflective, and stay with those we are counselling, regardless of how they act and react. The more we realize God's patience and forgiveness, the more we will be able to help others.

Dr. Hielema's final lecture dealt with "creative principles" of Christian counselling. Emphasizing our possession of the Holy Spirit and Christ's promise that we will be led into all truth, he challenged us not to run away from the problems of our times. We must strive for greater openness, for only the sensitive, perceptive person will capitalize on each opportunity.

Creative counselling must be guided by an awareness of biblical principles. It is imperative that the counsellor, the counsellee, and the method of counselling not be enslaved to either the *status quo* or peer pressure. The Christian counsellor should be flexible—his position can never be absolute for everyone else. Hielema concluded by re-emphasizing patience and genuine Christian love as the trademarks of Christian counselling.

Charles Claus

Lectureship Institute Sponsors World Hunger Conference

On January 29-31 a different kind of conference on world hunger was held at Dordt. The purpose was not to convince the participants that there is hunger in the world; most of them knew that. Nor was the plan to try to discover who is primarily at fault for this sad predicament. Rather, the conference was designed for the purpose of examining some of the more important structural reasons for world hunger today. "Structural reasons" are

economic, political, and social institutions and relationships.

The conclusion at which the conference aimed was to bring those of us at Dordt to the point where we could ask about the role of the College in helping to educate those who will play a leading role in the political, agricultural, economic, and social structures of our world.

Professor Calvin DeWitt from the Environmental Studies Institute at the

University of Wisconsin opened the conference with an explanation of the environmental limits of food production, population growth, and resource use. Mr. Louis Lugo, a Cuban-born graduate student at the University of Chicago, explained the situation in Latin America where policies of land control and other important factors contribute to insufficient food production for local consumption. Ms. Diane Heeringa, a Canadian student who works with a campus-based public policy study group in Ontario, actually went through a bag of groceries to show us where some of our food comes from, how it is produced, why we buy it, and who profits from it.

The second day of the conference turned in the direction of those organizations and institutions that are working to alleviate hunger in the world. Dr. John Hart, who is now directing the Heartland Project, spoke about the biblical definition of stewardship and what that means for land control, land use, and nutritional production for human consumption. The Heartland Project is a policy study project being conducted by Catholic bishops in fourteen of the Midwestern states. Dr. Ron Nelson, a history professor at nearby

Northwestern College, spoke on behalf of the national lobby organization, Bread for the World. BFW is not a relief agency, but an organization that attempts to influence U.S. trade, aid, and farm policies in a way that will alleviate world hunger. Mr. Mike Bruinooge concluded the second day of the conference with an address on the work of the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. CRWRC works in a variety of ways, from offering emergency relief to hungry people to aiding development projects where people learn how to meet their own needs through greater agricultural productivity and other means. Bruinooge is CRWRC's Hunger Educator.

On the final afternoon of the conference Mr. Duane Bajema, professor of agriculture at Dordt College, explained what he thought Dordt should do in response to the problems and needs spelled out by earlier speakers. His recommendations included specific suggestions for the agriculture, economics, and political science departments. With wise planning, he said, we could do much more than we are now doing to educate students for areas of service both in the U.S. and around the world.

James Skillen