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Editorial

John B. Hulst
Dordt College

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Editorial

As I write this editorial, I am two days away from leaving for six weeks of graduate study. My feelings at this point are a mixture of anticipation and anxiety. I anticipate the opportunity to engage in uninterrupted academic work. But I am also anxious because I probably will be doing most of my work alone—not merely alone in an apartment, but alone in terms of perspective and direction. I am sure that I will miss working with my colleagues at Dordt College.

When I first came to Dordt, I felt much differently about working with the other members of the faculty. I hesitated to make statements, write articles, print lectures, or present speeches because I feared their reactions and especially their criticisms. My attitude was due not only to pride, but also to a spirit of individualism. I was inclined to think that a person could and should be allowed to work out and develop his thoughts on his own.

Since that time I have come to see that life in the Kingdom of God is life in subjection to God's Word in communion with the Holy Spirit; the way of the Kingdom life is communal. I have also come to see that what is true of life in

general is also true of academic life in particular. Christian analytical activity is, of necessity, communal activity. It is analytical activity carried on in a covenantal fellowship of persons; it is analytical activity which concentrates upon the various aspects of creation in their coherence in the cosmos.

Thus, I have come to value and appreciate the contributions and criticisms of my colleagues, men with whom I share a commitment to Scripturally-Oriented Higher Education. Their insights add to my understanding. Their criticism keeps me in line. Their comments force me to see the various aspects of the creation in light of the whole. Our working together, side by side, enables us to progress together in our understanding of the created order and, therefore, in our ability to prepare covenant youth for communal service in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

It is this working together that I will miss. It is this communal analytical struggle to which I will eagerly return; at which time we will also present this September 1976 issue of Pro Rege for communal consumption and response.

J.B.H.