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## Dordt Choir Performs Through the West

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*Dordt College*

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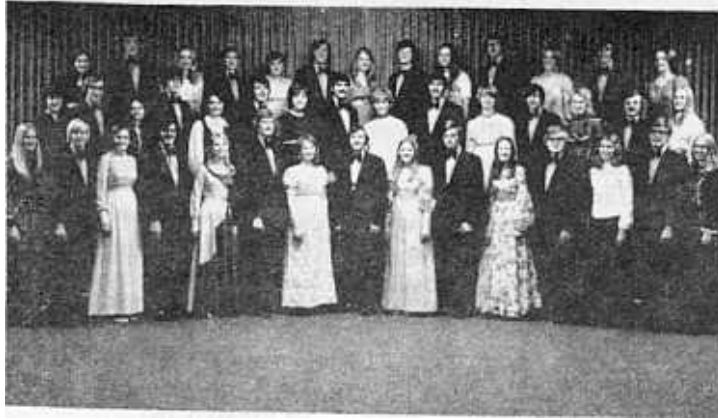
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## DORDT CHOIR PERFORMS THROUGH THE WEST



The Dordt College Concert Choir made a 5,500-mile tour during spring vacation. Their itinerary formed a large geographical loop, touching Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, the West Coast, and Montana. The choir averaged one and one half performances a day.

The churches in Albuquerque, when they heard that the choir would pass through the state, invited the 49-voice choir to a church basement supper. The Christian Reformed Church people of Portland, Oregon, provided the same kind of refreshment stop. In these and one or two other places, where time did not allow for full concerts, the choir performed informally an abbreviated program.

The choir, under the direction of Professor Dale Grotenhuis, performed to an estimated total audience of 8,000. Their longest stay in any one area was in southern California where four concerts were given. They performed for seven high school audiences and twelve church-related audiences.

Mr. Len Van Noord, who accompanied

the tour and helped with the arrangements, reports that everywhere the choir was received "enthusiastically." More than ever before, said Van Noord, who is manager of the Dordt Radio Station and one who has been on several tours before, individuals commented on the "spiritual depth of the choir members" which was evident in their singing. "They live the music," was a frequent remark.

The choir performed in University of Redlands Chapel, in the Redlands, California area, to accommodate the audiences of several Christian Reformed churches. Students from the University of Redlands choir, who said they have heard many choirs perform there, complimented the Concert Choir by saying it was "the finest they had ever heard."

The tour was by no means a relaxed trip or vacation for the members of the choir. Though within forty miles of the Pacific Ocean, no one got to see the water, beach, or Disney Land. The singers were given one two-hour "free-time" break in fourteen days of travel and performance.