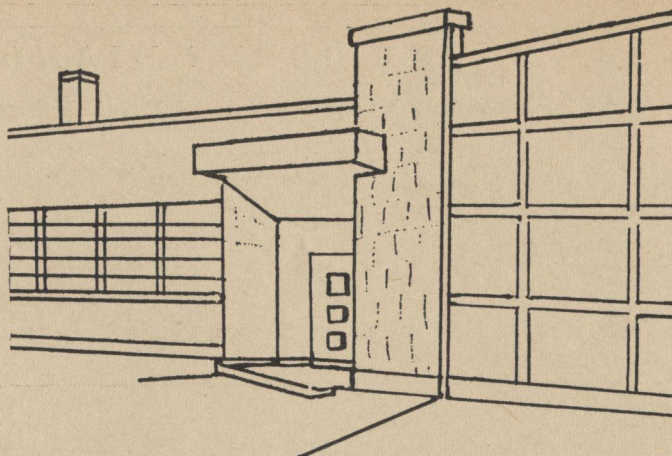


The Dordt Diamond

Student Publication of Dordt College,
Sioux Center, Iowa



Volume II

Wednesday, December 17, 1958

Number 7

CHRISTMAS PARTY TONITE

Of Books and Men

by Jack Vanden Berg

THE STRANGE CASE OF DR. ZHIVAGO

Recently, the Nobel Prize was awarded to Boris Pasternak for his book *Dr. Zhivago*. This award was tentatively accepted, then refused by Pasternak, after a howl of protest had arisen from the Soviet Writer's Union, and Pasternak had been castigated by the Russian Press. It would seem that the ideological warfare between East and West has found a new bone of contention. What are the facts behind this?

Boris Pasternak is an outstanding contemporary author of whom we know very little. Pasternak is recognized in Russia as the greatest poet in the Soviet Union. He has written some very good poetry which loses some of its virility and genuineness because of the difficulties encountered in translation. However, the *Saturday Review* of Dec. 13, 1958 contains a poem entitled "The High Malady" which is well worth reading. It is a debate on the nature of poetry, and at the same time, an account of his travels from the south to the capital where the Bolsheviks were in power. Pasternak felt that "a man must be a witness to his time" and this is revealed in this poem and in *Dr. Zhivago*.

Dr. Zhivago is the story of men who lived through the eras of Russian history prior to and after the February and October Revolution. It tells of men who feel that the Revolution was a mistake and that all that has happened since is evil. The heroes of the story expect great changes, they suffer injustice under the Czar, yet when the Revolution begins they simply accept it, after

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Tonight is the night for Dordt's annual Christmas Party. Present will be all those loyal supporters of one of the College's established traditions.

A program has been planned as follows:

John Kusters and Dorothy Redenius Prepare To Leave For Christmas Party



1. The Christmas Story - -

Luke 2:1-20. Clifford Christians.

2. Trumpet Trio
Hallelujah Chorus - - Dorothea Nibbelink, Helena Wiersma, Arlene Soodsma.

3. Piano Duet - -
Military March
and A Christmas
Overture - - Eunice Meyer and Anita Vugteveen.

4. Declamation - -
The Other Wise
Man - - Anthony Van Zanten.

5. Trio - -
O Holy Night - -
Dorothea Nibbelink, Janice Jouwstra, Marion De Jong.

6. Marimba Solo -
Christmas Medley
Claire Jacobsma.

7. Choir - -
Sing Gloria, Jesus
—Name of Wondrous Love. Birth-
day of a King.

The band will play while punch is being served and the guests are finding their seats.

In addition to this fine program, a lunch is being prepared. The procedure in which the lunch will be served will be announced at the program.

Remember, the time is 6:30; punch will be served as you enter the doors of the auditorium.

THE DORDT DIAMOND

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The Alumni Mail Bag

Nov. 16, 1958
Saturday Eve.

Dear Prof. De Boer,

It seems most appropriate that on the night of my 21st birthday I should write to you, and the college of which I am proud to have been a part. For Dordt, without a doubt, has been the greatest influence in my life; so much so that I cannot imagine what I would be today if I had not had that factor to influence me.

You requested in your letter to the alumni, that they write to you and tell of the things they have done. That I hope to accomplish in this letter, and also to reestablish my contact with Dordt.

Personnel in the service seldom receive the chance to reflect upon their educational background; but in this I was exceptionally fortunate.

As soon as I finished my basic training I was given a language test, which included reading and comprehension ability tests. The result of the test showed that being one of the one percent of the Air Force who pass this exam, I was to attend Syracuse University for a study of Russian Language. This course, incidentally, is rated as one of the most difficult being given in service today. I might add that all this came about, not because I was an extremely intelligent person, but because of the education I received at Dordt.

After completing my course at Syracuse U., I was assigned to an overseas tour in Japan, and after a short leave I arrived at a land, that I am sure everyone wishes to visit once in his lifetime. This I feel is one reason, that every young man should serve some time in the service of his country. Instead of seeing only one, or types of persons, you see every type of person in almost every imaginable situation. All this, while a person is living within enough restrictions, so that he goes off on no diverse tangent.

Well, I'm getting off the subject so I will continue to tell you what I started to. After arriving at my present training station, someone brought to my attention that there was a radio station here, and that there was a good chance of getting a position on the staff of this station. At that time it was little more than a amateur group spinning out records for enjoyment of the personnel here. On the first of October, Far East Network, the official military broadcasting facility, set up studios here at Wakkanai. I and several other members of the old staff were chosen to become a part of the Far East Network. Since that time I have been named production manager of the local studios, in

--EDITORIAL--

The Season of Pride

We are again in the season of the year which should be a season of joy to every Christian who celebrates it properly. At Christmas we celebrate the coming of Christ into the world. As we reflect on the coming of Christ we also remember why it was necessary for the Son of God to come to earth as a man. His humiliation was made necessary by our sins.

God's son—brought to this earth in a lowly stable, humbled to the utmost—because of our sins, yours and mine! Christmas reminds us of the sinful condition of the human race. It also reminds us that men rejected this Messiah sent into the world for them. Christmas reminds us of man at his worst.

But what does this Christmas spirit mean to men today? The editor of the **Sioux Center News** expressed what Christmas means to men very clearly a year ago in an editorial entitled "Greatest of All Seasons." In it he brings out that it is because of the influence of the "teachings of Christ" that Christmas is the "most stimulating, the most inspirational, the most comforting" event of the year. But then he continues by saying, "Christmas displays man (admittedly beset with weaknesses and faults) at his best. It emphasizes that man is basically good, kind, peace loving, grateful, generous, thoughtful, humble, and respectful of his Creator." Then he illustrates how Christmas shows the love, appreciation, kindness, friendliness, thoughtfulness, and gratefulness of men.

Yes, men delight in deceiving themselves with such falsehood. Christmas is a happy season because it gives them renewed assurance that they are really "Goodfellows." It displays man at his best, instead of his worst, so they reason.

The Christmas season is also marked by the attempts of men to assure themselves that men will have peace on earth. In the songs we hear and in the articles and advertisements we read, the phrase "Peace on earth, good will toward men" occurs many times.

But men in their pride and self-centeredness have omitted the most important part of this beautiful song of the angels — "Glory to God in the highest." Take notice this Christmas how often the latter part stands alone. Yes, the world does not realize that until it learns to glorify God it will find no peace. Men seek everywhere and they find no peace. Nor will they ever find peace at Christmas time until they change their emphasis from the good

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The Temper of the Times

by Myrtle Sinkey

Let us for an interval depart from the bickering politicians in Washington and for a brief span of time delve into foreign affairs.

China, the largest country of Asia, a country containing 635 million people, has now become one of the powers of the world, a leader in the communist block, a contender in world affairs. It has arisen from a nation of squalor, lethargy, and backward civilization to a nation of power, economic advancement, and internal improvements.

How has this country who 15 years ago was not even recognized, now become looked upon with mixed feelings? Why is it that some leaders are arguing that perhaps in the near future the U.S. will be asking Russia to be our ally against China? Why is the feeling between Moscow and Peking strained and tense?

In answer to the first question we must say that China has arisen to a nation of power through the work of its chairman, Mao Tse-Tung. He has organized the communists and overthrown Chiang-Kai-Shek. He has asserted leadership in all fields, and is the recognized head of all done in his land. By means of mass collectivization of peasants he has made economic advances unparalleled in history. He has transformed his gigantic population into an enormous perpetual moving machine excluding privacy, family life, private property, and intellectual dissenters. The peasants not only are trained to perform agrarian enterprises, but also build dams, roads, make implements, and build factories and in the remaining time they are trained in military procedures.

All of this is illustrative of the great power which China is becoming and will become if Mao's experiment in mass production by the people is successful. Because of these apparent strides, the United States looks at China with awe, wonder, perplexity, and a small degree of fear. Khrushchev also looks upon China with mingled emotions of fear and awe for he sees in Mao and China a potential threat to his leadership in the communist world.

Mao, however, is beset with many difficult problems. The population of his country is enormous and increases by almost 15 million each year. He is dependent on foreign countries for food supply and mineral wealth. And Mao himself says that as long as China is not independent it will not reach the ascendancy which he desires.

Although China may overthrow the world, although Communism may dominate its people, and wickedness seemingly reigns supreme, we as

Christians should always remember that God has promised to his people the ultimate victory and that in this Christmas season we celebrate the birth of Christ who has gained that victory over the enemies of his church.

Alumni Mailbag - - -

(Continued from page 2)

charge of writing most shows, together with my assistants, and writing and editing news. For this I feel I owe Dordt a great deal, since that, more than any other factor, has given me my education in writing. This to those of you back in the States may not seem especially significant, but the Far East Network is so respected and its standards are so high, that if I would wish to go into commercial radio, I would have a free ticket of entry.

In closing I would like to thank you for the speed and efficiency with which you sent to me the transcription of my credits. I sincerely hope that you will continue to send me the Dordt Diamond, it is growing to be a better publication with each issue. With best regards and hope for a bright future for Dordt, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Arnold D. Davelaar
Airman 2/c U.S.A.F.

United States Air Force
Security Service
Wakkanai Air Station
Wakkanai, Japan

Of Books & Men - - -

(continued from page 1)

it is an accomplished fact they yearn for a return to the "good old days." They become infuriated at the upheaval of their world, at the hardships and discomforts of hunger, cold, and overcrowded housing. They express a feeling for the need and a claim for intellectual and normal autonomy in revolt against a totalitarian state.

Previous to the publishing of this

book, Krushchev had allowed greater freedom of criticism in Russia. But now he was forced to call a halt to this newly won freedom, for Pasternak had gone beyond criticism of Marxism in his quest for truth; for he states through Dr. Zhivago: "I don't know a movement more self centered and further removed from the facts than Marxism." Of the Bolsheviks who had plucked their country into disaster, Dr. Zhivago states: "You are a Bolshevik and you yourself do not deny that what is going on isn't life—it's madness, an absurd nightmare." No wonder that the Communist Party forbade publication of the book in the Soviet Union. Nor is it any surprise that action has been taken against Pasternak. He was ousted from the Union of Soviet Writers, been condemned by the Party, and told to migrate to his "capitalistic paradise."

The book was never printed in Russia. An Italian Communist who visited Pasternak in Russia smuggled the manuscript out and the novel was printed. Because of the insight into the life of the Russians that it offers and because of the publicity, it has become a best seller in the short space of time since October 23, 1958.

Dr. Zhivago has been compared with Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, but this is somewhat presumptuous. Tolstoy was careful to delineate his characters sharply and clearly. Pasternak's characters are so vaguely sketched that it is hard to keep them firmly fixed. However the deep, passionate love for fatherland that is characteristic of most Russian authors can be felt by the reader. It is a sad thought that an author who loves his country so passionately, and who dares to "witness" for the truth as he sees it will have to suffer as Pasternak will undoubtedly have to. Just what the final verdict of the Kremlin will be is the question in everyone's mind. Pasternak, when threatened with expulsion, is reported to have pleaded that banishment from Russia would be tantamount to death.

Editorial - - -

(Continued from page 2)

and peace of men to the glory and love of God in sending His son into the world.

But are we any better than the world today in its celebration of Christmas? Is our true source of joy at Christmas the celebration of the coming of Christ? Or is it also centered in the materialism of the world?

May each of us see the babe in the manger, Who is the center of Christmas, and bring "Glory to God in the highest." Then, and only then, will we have an abundant measure of "peace on earth, good will toward men."

—John Addink

Dordt Remains Undefeated, 5-0

Sjoerdsma's Cagers One Of Two Junior College Teams In Iowa With No Defeats

Dordt 51, Northwestern 50

Well, the season is off to a good start! Dordt returned from Orange City with a few scalps under its belt, and we certainly hope that they stage repeat performances of this and other victories throughout the remainder of the season. The school spirit certainly hasn't been lacking either before, during or after the games. It's good to have such staunch supporters.

	Fg	F-T	Pf	Tp
Altena	1	1-2	4	3
Vanden Einde	3	0-0	5	6
Blankespoor	8	2-5	2	18
Duininck	8	2-5	2	18
Walhof	0	4-7	1	4
De Stigter	0	2-2	1	2

Dordt 78, Estherville 71

The first home game was against Estherville. Dordt was behind only once and this was in the early part of the game. This game had plenty of action and the crowd responded with plenty of noise.

	Fg	F-T	Pf	Tp
Altena	7	4-6	4	18
Blankespoor	12	18-14	5	32
Duininck	6	0-3	1	12
Walhof	0	2-3	1	2
De Stigter	3	8-14	3	14

Dordt 80, Emmetsburg 75

This third conference game also had action aplenty. Dordt led throughout most of the game, but at the end Emmetsburg managed to tie the score at 60 all. In a five minute overtime, the two teams scored 35 points between them. As in the other preceding games Dordt's shooting percentage was better and they committed fewer fouls and made more free throws which helped them to victory.

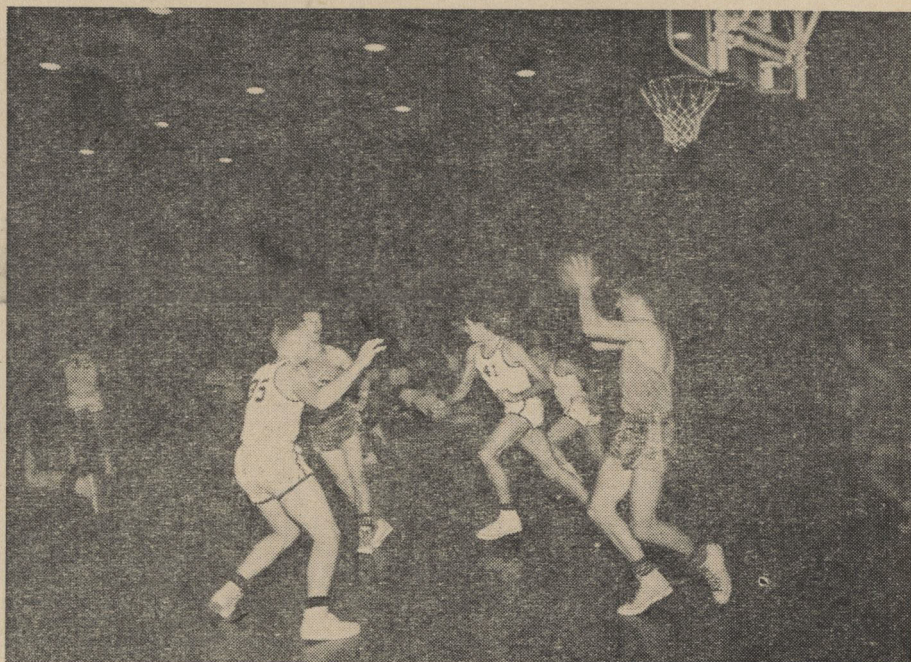
	Fg	F-T	Pf	Tp
Altena	5	7-9	1	17
De Stigter	3	8-10	3	14
Blankespoor	9	6-10	3	24
Duininck	8	3-6	3	19
Walhof	2	0-1	4	4
Vande Einde	1	0-1	0	2

Dordt 80, Waldorf 63

Dordt was in command during most of this game too. Now that we have beaten these four teams once, we certainly want to keep the record clean and defeat them all again, just so they won't forget us right away.

	Fg	F-T	Pf	Tp
Altena	4	6-7	2	14
Blankespoor	14	9-10	2	37
Duininck	4	2-6	2	10
De Stigter	5	1-1	5	11
Walhof	0	1-3	2	1
Bolt	1	0-0	0	2

Dordt Defends Lead In Closing Minutes of Game With Waldorf



Dordt 64, Westmar B 54

This was the most nip-and-tuck game so far this year. The lead see-sawed during the entire game, but things looked particularly black at the half. However, in the latter part of the game, Dordt came through and rallied to win and remain undefeated so far this season.

	Fg	F-T	Pf	Tp
Altena	7	4-5	4	18
Blankespoor	9	7-12	3	25
De Stigter	6	4-6	3	16
Vande Einde	3	3-4	1	9
Verbrugge	2	2-5	5	6

Dordt? Worthington? Tell you all about it next time.

It seems as if all the games so far have been characterized by plenty of free use of elbows, knees and other handy parts of the human anatomy. It also seems that every game has its share of domino-like chain reactions which generally result in a foul and about half-dozen players sprawled at regular intervals along the floor. Not quite football, but it does bear a slight resemblance.

Another characteristic of the games is the fine school spirit which has been displayed. With our very fine cheerleaders and a pep band to set an example, the students and other Dordt stalwarts have kept the rafters ringing.

* * *

Another item of interest. The ladies are taking a hand in sports,

too. Under the capable direction of Harvey Blankespoor they are practicing hard in hopes of defeating Western in a forthcoming preliminary game.

* * *

If you will refer to an earlier issue of the Diamond, you will see that I cautiously predicted that Iowa would win the Big Ten championship. They did. Consequently, they will play in the Rose Bowl game this year. Their opponents from the Pacific Coast Conference will be California. Iowa's record is 7-1-1 and California's is 7-3. I'll pick Iowa to win. How about you?

You will also notice that I said that Wisconsin would be a contender for the championship. They finished second, and were beaten by Cal. in one of their games.

Other bowl games are:

Sugar Bowl—Louisiana State (10-0) vs Clemson (8-2.)

Orange Bowl—Oklahoma (9-1) vs Syracuse (8-1).

Cotton Bowl—T C U (8-2) vs Air Force (9-0-1).

Gator Bowl—Florida (6-3-1) vs Mississippi (8-2).

Sun Bowl—Wyoming (7-3) vs Hardin-Simmons (6-4).

Incidentally, the Air Force Academy which plays in the Cotton Bowl is the only team to have tied the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Is it not great? Iowa State beat Texas Tech this past week-end.