Fine Arts Program Wednesday

Rev. Haan Nominated as Dordt President

Nominee Holds Many Positions In Educational Field

Reverend Haan, who has been the Acting President of Dordt for the past two years, was recently nominated to the position of President.

Our President-elect was born April 24, 1917 in Sully, Iowa. At the age of three, he moved with his parents to Orange City, Iowa. It was at the Orange City Christian School that Reverend Haan received his first year of elementary education. He then moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he finished his elementary schooling and graduated from Southwest Christian School; he went on to graduate from Grand Rapids Christian High.

Having completed four and one-half years of study at Calvin College and three years at Calvin Seminary, Reverend Haan began his ministry at the Christian Reformed Church at Riedott, Illinois.

In August, 1945, Reverend Haan came to the First Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Center.

Education will not be an unfamiliar field to him. Our President-elect has already had many connections with the educational field and has always shown a stimulating interest in all realms of Christian education. Sufficient evidence of this is revealed in his past record of positions held in connection with education; some of these are the following: Advisor to the Sioux Center Christian School Board, (ten years); Committee member for the expansion of Western Christian High; member of the Synodical Long-Range Planning Committee for Calvin College and Seminary, (six years); and finally, in 1951, Reverend Haan took official interest in the Junior College Movement when he was placed on the Original Steering Committee.

CHOIR HOLDS FIRST CONCERT NEXT WEEK

The Dordt College Choir makes its 1959 concert debut next Friday night, March 6. Under the direction of Maestro De Boer, the performance has been scheduled for 8 p.m. in the Lebanon Christian Reformed church. As a new concert season begins, you are urged to be among those who will hear the first program of this widely recognized musical organization.

Second Concert of This Type — For Benefit of Choir

Beginning at 8:00 next Wednesday evening, another fine arts program will be given at Dordt College. The program indicates that an evening of excellent entertainment has been prepared.

The program will be sponsored by the choir and profits will be used to defray expenses of the choir this year. Choir members are now selling tickets at the price of $1.00 for adults and 50c for students.

The following program has been prepared:

**Trumpet trio—**
“Funiculi Funicula” — Dorothea Nibbelink, Arlene Soodsma, Helena Wiersma

**Male quartet—**
“Ain’t Dat a Shame” — Merl Alon, Don Pranger, Pete Jouwstra, Harlan Vanden Einde

**Keyboard solo—**
“Concert Etude” (by Liszt) — Marian De Jong

**Vocal solo—**
“Still As The Night” — Dorothea Nibbelink

**Reading—**
“Taming a Guide” (by Mark Twain) — Pete Andringa

**Keyboard duet—**
“Figaro Wedding” — Jackie Bouma, Delaine Bliek

**Baritone solo—**
“Drink to me Only With Thine Eyes” — Pete Jouwstra

**Vocal duet—**
“Sweethearts” — Mr. & Mrs. P. De Boer

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Wednesday evening, the basketball season for the Dordt Defenders officially closed. Playing a total of eighteen games, Sjoerdsmas' cagers proved to be a rather efficient machine. Capturing one trophy and appearing quite formidable in the pursuit of another, Dordt is now recognized by basketball fans throughout the state.

An article recently appearing in a Webster City newspaper during the state tournaments there carried some interesting information about Dordt and its team. The introduction in essence began this way: I am fascinated by a small school in Northwest Iowa that has popped up from seemingly nowhere to become a strong contender for the tournament championship. This editorialized column then continued with notes and comments that have greatly impressed those who read them.

"...Never forget, it is possible to be known as a school and a team with principle and a sense of direction." This was our expressed wish as the basketball season opened last November; it seemed almost an idealistic thought at that time but this season Coach Sjoerdsmas and his hoop artists have proved it true. The Dordt team is now accepted as "rugged competition" by all its opponents; but more importantly it is also recognized as being a composite of friendly, clean, and likeable team members.

Dordt, of course, was out to win, but that was not upheld as the big thing. Fundamentally, it is how the game is played that counts; and great emphasis was placed on the validity of that declaration. Whether it meant leaving first string players on the bench, whether it meant playing cleanly although the opposition was successfully getting away with much more, whether it meant winning by only a small margin although a more impressive defeat could have been staged, and whether it meant losing the game—Prof. Sjoerdsmas satisfied Dordt fans and interested outsiders the most by practising those principles that are truly Calvinistic.

A haughty and "high hat" attitude over our season's successes will, however, be the "fly that spoils the ointment." An atmosphere of humility must prevail. We must recognize our status in the athletic world and never act superior to it; we must know our principles and put them into practice. 

--EDITORIAL--

The Alumni Mail Bag

Dear Friends,

First of all, I would like to say "thank you" to those who have made it possible for me to keep in touch with college life at Dordt. Yes, I certainly look forward to each Dordt Diamond. Through the Diamond, I can not only read about the students (many of whom I know) and their activities, but I can also recall the wonderful memories of when I, too, was a student and shared in the activities of our college.

Now, I am living quite a different life. I am already over half way through my first year of teaching, and can truly say that I have enjoyed it. It is a wonderful profession, and I love it.

I am teaching in Ripon Christian Grammar School which has an enrollment of 376 pupils and a faculty of 12 teachers. I teach one of the third grade classes consisting of 34 pupils—18 boys and 16 girls. Teaching is a busy life, but a very rewarding one. I feel that it is a privilege to be entrusted with 34 of God's covenant children, and find a rich reward in seeing their eagerness to learn more about God, not only in our special Bible subject, but also in each of our other subjects.

It is to Dordt College and the professors who were my teachers, that I would like to say a special "thank you." You have helped me to accomplish my goal. Yes, I am truly thankful to God for Dordt College, and am proud to have been a part of it. May God bless its many efforts, and may God's blessing rest upon all of you who have been or are a part of our College.

Sincerely,
Christine Posthuma

STUDENTS COMPETE IN THE I. P. D. A.

Three Dordt students have submitted to the English Department poetry which has been sent to the Iowa Poetry Day Association for the College division.

Priscilla Kreun, a sophomore teacher training student from Chandler, Minn., submitted a poem entitled "A Finished Canvas"; Peter Andringa, a freshman pre-seminary student from Orange City, wrote two poems: "I Am the Voice of the Proletariat," and "The Statue of Liberty"; Elaine To Velda, a freshman teacher training student from Brooten, Minnesota, submitted two poems: "You and I" and "In His Steps."
THE DORDT DIAMOND

Friday, February 27, 1959

The Temper of the Times

by Myrtle Sinkey

In the past few years the small country of Egypt has arisen from an insignificant, left-by-the-wayside country, into a minor power, a country with a word to say, a country which must and has been heard, a country with an insatiable amount of energy. The people of Egypt and large numbers of the people of the world, when they look at, or think of Egypt, immediately focus their attention on the leader of this country, President Nasser, that strong, handsome man, who is loved and hated by many with equal passion.

When we think of Nasser, we always see his many bad points. We see his severity and boldness against crime, dope peddling, and immorality. A curfew was made which kept people off the streets and out of trouble; dope peddlers, if and when apprehended, were severely punished, in some cases, life imprisonment being given; and illegal smuggling of narcotics in and out of the country was cut down considerably.

But perhaps the most notable campaign of Nasser was his campaign against immorality. Egypt had always been one of the countries plagued with a great number of prostitutes. Nasser warned them to either turn to a legal and moral profession or leave the country. This command he enforced. Prostitutes now are severely punished, the number is slowly diminishing. Nasser also made a law which said that entertainers should be fully clothed, and now, in the fashionable night clubs that clothes are not considered to extend to the neck, and strip-teasers are simply out. A law was made saying that affection should not be displayed openly in public, and people caught kissing in a taxi-stub are fined.

Has this severity and boldness of Nasser been successful? Yes, the country's crime rate has diminished, its entertainment is cleaner, its night clubs are more respectable, its streets more safe, its dope addicts and narcotics peddlers are decreasing fantastically, and gambling is at a minimum.

Now let us compare Nasser, the dictator, and Egypt, the heathen country, to the United States, that shining light of democracy, that professedly Christian nation. Prostitution is winked at, punished lightly, or disregarded completely. Almost every one of our larger cities has its "red light" districts which do a thriving business. The crime rate has risen, juvenile delinquency prevails everywhere, and police officials are constantly harassed by increased murders, robberies, and assaults.

And what about our entertainment? Most of it is filthy. Lewd stories are told, and suggestive arts are displayed prevalent. Why, in night clubs in Las Vegas, the entertainers wear so little that those who frequent the places, think they have strayed into a Nudist Colony. And affection displayed in public? Nothing is thought of promiscuous kisses and ardent affection displayed openly. Many young people in our circles are as guilty as those in Egypt. Does any one care? It seems not.

Yet, with all this evidence, we say we are a Christian nation, we say we no nation to be as good as ours. We overlook our own country's errors. When we think of the moral wickedness of our country, we as a

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Of Books and Men

by Jack Vanden Berg

"TEACHING 'DIRTY' BOOKS IN COLLEGE"

America, December 13, 1958

Author Robert Boyle, S.J.

Today there are several lines of thought regarding the teaching and reading of literature. Some people, "purists" at heart, will have nothing to do with books, condemning them as salacious, filthy, and "dirty." Others would read and study all books, the questionable as well as the conservative. In view of these reactions, I feel that it would be interesting to find out what others think of this problem.

Robert Boyle, professor of English at Regis College (a Catholic College) in Denver, colorado, wrote on this very problem. He points that "the contemplation of the perfectly expressed vision of contemporary and classic artists is essential to the full development of students." The literature produces from skilled writers who have seen something. "The true literary artist responds with all that is in him to what exists around him in language, using symbols, rhythm, and sounds, trying to express a vision of reality." In a sinful world these visions will, of course, include sinful people and sinful acts. "But the purpose behind the expression of sin is not to move the reader either to hatred of evil or to a desire of evil, but to reveal reality as the artist sees it."

If a book reveals the intent of arousing indirect interest in evil it is not literature but pornography, exploiting sin and sinful tendencies. It is professedly obscene.

Boyle goes on to state that a good author will see evil and write about it in that light. He states that authors need not and should not deal exclusively with virtue and good. Evil is a powerful force in our world and should be analyzed, studied, discussed. Nor should we hesitate for fear that some unbalanced mind may find incentives to evil for then we must discard Dante, Shakespeare, and Swift, among many others.

Elliot said: "Human kind cannot bear reality." Great literature is not for everyone for sometimes some individuals have neither the training to reach nor the capacity to receive it. But students in liberal arts colleges should have this training and capacity or they should not be admitted. It is the constant avowedly with the processes and things of the mind and included is the vision of reality which our authors provide.

I understand Boyle correctly. He feels that literature is not written "to move one to hatred of evil." I feel that this should be one of the aims of an author. If he has observed evil and its results, surely, he of all people, could incite hatred of evil. He choose to reveal it as it is—an attractive but destructive force.

Perhaps one might ask, Why look upon evil at all? It is my contention, and I humbly echo many prominent Christian scholars, that we must study evil. A book can challenge us with a vision of a complex, tortured, sinful reality, of human beings loving God, or rebelling against God, or calmly ignoring him. Such good literature should be of great value to young students who must live and work in a civilization that does not understand nor sympathize with their religious ideals. And certainly, although we profess to believe in total depravity and sin, yet we do not fully realize to what extent some men are depraved.

I feel that the author could have pointed out that much of our so-called good literature is an insult to intelligence, a parody of life, an unrealistic appraisal of reality and a reductio ad absurdum as far as sin is concerned. He does recommend a few good authors, such as Jane Austin, Charles Dickens, Willa Cather, and Walter Scott among others.

The article is well written, interesting and readable. The author reveals his particular slant as a Catholic by referring to many Catholic authors. He sees the author is more sympathetic to Catholic authors and quite critical of others. Although we may not agree with him entirely, yet the article is definitely worth reading.

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The Sports Scene
by Donna Schutt

Grandview 84 - Dordt 69
After edging Ellsworth in the first round of the tournaments, Dordt came up against top-ranked Grandview, and although the Defenders played a fine game, they were unable to overcome the handicap. Grandview led throughout the game, although the score was tied at 16 all early in the first half. Later in the second half the Defenders also rallied and closed the gap to a three point difference. Harvey Blankespoor led all scoring by dumping in 24 points for Dordt, and Symens 29 for the Grandview reserve team.

In the afternoon game against the host Ag school the lead changed hands several times, but Dordt led 34-29 at the first half. In the second half Dordt took undisputed command and increased the half-time margin to easily win the game. During this and the following evening game, the Dordt reserves also got a taste of the action. Blankespoor scored 24 points for Dordt and Symens 29 for the Ag school.

Dordt 78 - Freeman 70
Late hours obviously were no handicap to the Defenders as they ran circles around Freeman Jr. College in the championship game. Harvey Blankespoor only scored 13 points but then he only played ten minutes during which Dordt rolled up a 25 point lead. Our able reserves took care of the rest of the game. Howard Faber also scored 13 points and Harlan Vanden Einde got 12 points.

Dordt 68 - Sioux Falls College B, 53
On Thursday, February 19, the Defenders again went to South Dakota, this time to Sioux Falls where they played lackadaisically and easily defeated the B team of Sioux Falls College before a non-existent Dordt cheering section. The score was close only in the opening minutes of play and Dordt enjoyed a comfortable lead throughout the remainder of the game. The reserves again saw plenty of action, particularly Pete Jouwstra, who even managed to foul out. Henry Gesink was high scorer for Dordt with 19 points and Shogan for Sioux Falls with 20 points.

Dordt 65 - South Dakota State Ag. School 55
On Tuesday, Feb. 17, our Defenders traveled to Brookings, South Dakota to compete in an invitational tournament. The results are evident in the trophy they brought back which is inscribed with the words, "S.D. Aggies Invit. '59 Championship."

In the afternoon game against the host Ag school the lead changed hands several times, but Dordt led 34-29 at the first half. In the second half Dordt took undisputed command and increased the half-time margin to easily win the game. During this and the following evening game, the Dordt reserves also got a taste of the action. Blankespoor scored 24 points for Dordt and Symens 29 for the Ag school.

Dordt 76 - Sioux Falls 55
On Wednesday, Feb. 25, Dordt again met Sioux Falls. The Defenders enjoyed a comfortable lead through the first half and a sizeable one the second half.

Maybe because it was the last game of the season that this was such a hilarious outfit. Well, even if the game was one-sided, the Shenanigans more than made up for it. This game was more like a friendly practice session than a regular contest. The Defenders just enjoyed themselves.

Congratulations to Coach Sjoerdsma and the team on a successful season. Last year's record was 1-15; this year's record was 11-7.

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The Temper of the Times . . . .
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nation, and we as Christians especially should rise up in rebellion against such things. We should write our congressmen, for isn't it time for us to make our laws severe and cut out this crime and immorality? It is no wonder so many people turn to communism. Do we as a democracy set a very good example?

In Psalm 33:12, it says, "Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom he hath chosen for is own inheritance." Is this the destiny of our country? Or is our country destined for the words of Psalm 9:17: "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all nations that forget God?"