SECOND SEMESTER BEGINS

25 Sophomore Girls Practice Teaching

Something is missing in Dordt! Have you noticed what it is? It is the better half of the Sophomore class. The Sophomore girls who are taking the Teacher Training Course have given up their three weeks of practice teaching in the various Christian Schools in this area.

Perhaps you would be interested in knowing where these girls are practice teaching.

There are five girls who are practice teaching in the Sioux Center Christian School. They are Jeane Beekhuizen, Evelyn Faber, Sylvia Fopma, Harriet Peters, and Ruth Vander Beek.

Orange City Christian School is playing host to six of the practice teachers, namely Joyce De Vries, Bonnie Eckels, Rosalie Engbers, Eleanor Graves, Frances Haan and Wilma Melanders.


Two of the Sophomore girls are teaching in the Rock Valley Christian School. They are Clare Ann Jacobsma and Dorothy Redenius.


Donna Joling, Ellen Kemink, and Sandra Vande Berg decided that Iowa is not good enough for their practice teaching so they went to their home state of Wisconsin. They are practice teaching at Waupun Christian School.

We hope this experience will be of value to these girls as they prepare to make their debut into the teaching profession next fall. But right now we hope that they will hurry back to the halls of Dordt — it is too quiet without them!

STATE JUNIOR COLLEGE TOURNAMENT SET UP

At Webster City, Feb. 11-14; Twelve Teams Enter

The Iowa State basketball tournament for Junior Colleges will be played at Webster City from Wednesday through Saturday, February 11 - 14, with the set up much the same as in 1958.

The twelve junior college teams having the best records in the state against Iowa junior college competition in games played before February 3, will compete in the tournament, with the four top teams percentage-wise given byes in the tourney. The bottom eight teams will play first round contests on Wednesday, February 11, with two games in the afternoon and two in the evening.

Pairings are expected to be announced next week Wednesday, February 4.

Dordt plays only two more games before the tournament, but only one will determine their ratings in the state. One game is scheduled with Estherville on Tuesday, February 3, on the deadline for arranging the tournament. The other is at Waldorf on Thursday, February 5.

The entire second round of the tournament will be played Thursday, February 12, with the semi-finals on Friday evening and consolation and championship games Saturday evening.

ENROLLMENT DOWN FROM FIRST SEMESTER

The new semester at Dordt has brought several changes; to the students, there have been changes in schedules and changes in plans.

When students change their plans it is sometimes the necessary result of the dropping enrollment. Those who have made this decision to leave Dordt for various reasons are: Ruth Meendering, Freshman; Ronald Talsma, Freshman; Mary Timmer, Freshman; Elroy Van Engen, Freshman; Robert Van De Brake, Freshman; Ervin Walhof, Freshman; Patricia Atlema, Freshman; Bernard Balema, Freshman; Ardell Boer, Freshman; Harlan Boer, Freshman; John Butryn, Sophomore; John Bolt, Sophomore; Jim Schaper, who has completed his studies at Dordt, is working in Sioux Center and plans to be graduating with the Sophomore class at the regular Commencement this coming spring.

The vacancy left by these students has been partially filled however by five new students: Clarence Huizenga, Corsica, S. D., William Nibbelink, Orange City; Fred Ploegstra, Sioux Center; Margarete Vogel, Sheldon, Ia.; Virgil Baker, Edgerton, Minn.

Virgil can hardly be considered a new student, for he attended Dordt during the first semester of last year but was forced to leave at the beginning of the second semester because of his father's illness.

SPECIAL FLASH:
The Dordt Defenders fell victim to a strong Northwestern quintet last night as they were defeated for the first time in the conference, 73 to 57. The game was played in the Sioux Center auditorium and was the second time these teams met each other this year. Dordt won the first tilt by one point, 51 to 50.
Samuel Butler once made the pertinent comment: Life is merely one long process of getting tired. In view of the semester tests we have just completed, many of us would feel inclined to concur with this phraseology. It was then that we agreed with John Milton when he said: This is to live a life half dead, a living death.

Nonetheless, since we can engage only in retrospect on things that have disappeared, it is mandatory that we equip ourselves for the duties of the future. The challenge lies in that which faces us. Basically, the next few weeks and months are those which should now demand our greatest attention. Realizing these ideas, let us picture but a few areas in Dordt College as they will stand in the latter half of this school year.

A tip of the sombrero to coach Sjoerdsma and his basketball Defenders on their outstanding success so far this season. At the time of this writing they lead all conference competition with a 5-0 record. The popularity of Dordt College has increased immeasurably as a result of such fine performance; it seems as though information about a leading basketball team readily finds space in newspapers across the state. The newly organized Dordt quintet will face its most trying challenge soon at the state tournament in Webster City. As someone recently said: If their shooting is sharp, they will be in there all the way. As we peer in the looking glass, we hope that Dordt’s Defenders will not meet their Waterloo.

This new semester also presents great challenges to other of Dordt’s students. For a week now, the Sophomore teacher training students have been practising in that art so treasured by them all. It is hailed by many as a giant stride toward that zenith which has been worked for so long. We wish them inspiration and blessing in this important field of God’s kingdom.

Dordt’s choir and its director are looking forward to new and grand things. Already in March they will present their first concert; and during Spring vacation they will again be privileged to go on a choir tour which this year will take them to Denver. Plans are now also being made to have the Denver Christian High Choir included in the Annual Music Festival sponsored in May by Dordt College. This certainly is a year of challenge for them!

(Continued on page 4)
SEX IN THE MODERN NOVEL
By Douglas Bush (Prof. of Eng. at Harvard)

In a well written and interesting article Prof. Bush sets up many arguments against the use of sex in the novel. At the “risk of being considered an antique with softened brain and hardened arteries,” he emphatically states that he is tired of reading current novels with their accent on sex and sensationalism.

Prof. Bush feels that beside moral and religious objections, one must consider the grounds of artistic consideration also. For the novelist’s concern with sex results from an unrealistic conception of life. It is possible to write a great prominence to the sex drive as the motivation of most of our acts, and to relate all abnormal and unwholesome psychologies to the meaning of life, but this is not a true picture of reality.

The comment is made that if a century from now a social historian should read the novels of our day, he would see that Americans of both sexes did nothing but make love on gilded couches and in sordid hideaways with only “incidental excursions into business, politics and war.” Furthermore Prof. Bush states that modern novel affairs are as automatic as corpses in a detective story; the only question is how many are required. The more intelligent fact that many men have been involved and are unable to control themselves is not portrayed at all.

Seatingly, Prof. Bush states that apparently all over Europe a woman seek their soul’s salvation through a pilgrimage from bed to bed, and the more laps the race entails, the finer the resultant spiritual integral. Prof. Bush feels that modern authors have a new toy with which he seeks to “explain” the libido of his characters, and while the entire process is very advantageous financially to both author and publisher, to the discerning reader the entire thing becomes a bore.

This is not to say that our authors must go back to the Victorian era and be as prudish as the writers of that day were. Professor Bush makes his point by stating that a method of reticent suggestion would be artistically more effective than a blow by blow account of the perccios of the American Satyr. But our authors pile on physical details ad nauseam.

Furthermore, Prof. Bush points out that although sex is universal, urgent force in life and thus a legitimate theme for liberty, yet modern authors are not providing us with a complete picture of life by concentrating solely on one theme.

While the modern author may accuse the earlier authors of hushing up of a disclaiming any thought of sex and passion, of being onedimensional, that is no reason for going overboard in the other direction. There are many themes, many elements that comprise the whole of life, such as society, national strife, other moral problems, the pursuit of power and money, all these are grist for the author’s mill. Moreover, the modern author would suffer any indignity before he would sentimentalize a good character but does not hesitate at all at sentimentalizing a bad character.

Modern authors use many arguments to justify their position. One states that if it all started with Frend, we have to use shock tactics to gain a hearing, the third, fatally states that man is a victim of circumstance and we must study his behavior. At any rate the old novel of manners is dead, now we must conform to the new.

These arguments are not very convincing. After all this isn’t the first time that mankind lived in a disordered and chaotic world. And if our world is in such a bad way because people feel and act as they do, why are modern authors candid about virtue and reticent about vice? Prof. Bush does not mention the complete lack of creative power in parroting the same drivel again and again.

Professor Bush presents some very good arguments from an artistic and moral viewpoint. He could have improved it, perhaps, if space permitted, by pointing out all the fallacies of the present day novelists. He does not mention the compelling argument. A Christian must of necessity rebel at the glib, pseudo-scientific glorification of “flesh and the Devil,” he desires and demands a view of life that recognizes motives other than the flesh alone. And he demands novels written in a view that is realistic, and yet keeps sex in its proper place. We desire that a novel does not exalt sin and make it alluring, but instead deals with it as a problem that men face in life, a problem that must be dealt with in the light of God’s Word.
Dordt Team In State Tournament

BASKETBALL ENTHUSIASM REMAINS HIGH

Dordt 59, Worthington 71
(First game—Dec. 18)

On December 18 our Defenders suffered their first defeat. Although they put on a very exciting show, the Worthington eagles proved to be too much for Dordt to handle. The deciding factor proved to be the field shooting percentage. Worthington sank 31 of 69 while Dordt got only 23 out of 62.

Although Worthington tried to bottle up Blankespoor, good ole Harv still managed to get 24 points. Things got off to a slow start, there was plenty of action later on. I'll bet Biek still has floor burns! And some of those hook shots. Wow! This was the first attempt by the girls and we all hope that they will have a chance to do more along this line.

Thursday night was the last home game (unless we play Sioux Falls College) but let's all try to support the team at the remaining away games and let's really make those pep meetings worthwhile. All you have to do is come and yell.

Dordt girls 50, Western 35

In the preliminary game our girls easily defeated Western. Although things got off to a slow start, there was plenty of action later on. I'll bet Biek still has floor burns! And some of those hook shots. Wow! This was the first attempt by the girls and we all hope that they will have a chance to do more along this line.

Editorial - - - -

(continued from page 1)

The loudest call for devotion and attention, however, comes from our books and classrooms. We can scarcely emphasize enough how important it is that we strive for mastery in these areas. They will leave lasting imprints with a greater effect than we might care to think. George Crabbe displayed some keen insight when he asserted: This books can do—nor this alone; they give new views to life and teach us how to live.

It is essential, therefore, that we do not fall behind, for great benefit lies in keeping pace. Remember: it takes only three strikes and we are out.

c.c.