The annual all-school Christmas party will be held the evening of Thursday, December 17, in the school gym. Sponsored by the student representatives, the party is under the direction of planning committee chairman John Altena.

Decorations for the event will carry out the Christmas theme. A short variety program featuring readings and musical numbers will be followed by a buffet lunch.

Semiformal dress is appropriate for the occasion.

Dordt Defenders
Win Two More

DORDT BREEZES PAST NETTLETON

Dordt College rolled to its fourth straight basketball victory Wednesday night, winning over an outclassed Nettleton Business College team 99-45. The Defenders scored easily and often, despite various lapses, and hustled well on defense. Once again the ability of Dordt College over-shadowed that of its opponent, in the stands as well as on the playing floor.

DORDT WINS OVER DANA J.V.

The Dana Junior Varsity fell to the Defenders Tuesday night by a score of 93-68. Dordt played well and took advantage of its opportunities in winning its fifth straight. The team hustled both offensively and defensively, with several individual standout performances.

WESTMAR J.V. TRIPS DORDT, 73-61

The fans saw plenty of action Friday night as the Westmar Junior Varsity gave Dordt its first loss. Both sides committed more than their share of fouls, most of which ended in a jump ball. The game (?) was exciting (for once Dordt had), and it also incited many Dordt fans to anger. At one point, many Dordt supporters booed the referees (?), which may or may not be justified. The fact that the referees had an obvious lack of knowledge justifies but the fact that the students are representatives of Dordt College condemns this action.

The Defenders fell behind early and had to play catch-up ball the rest of the game. Late in the second half, the turning point of the game was reached, as the excitement built up to a fever pitch. The hard-working Dordt squad had scrambled to within three points of Westmar. Don Ver Meer, attempting to get possession of the ball, grabbed it near the sidelines with two of the enemy on top of him. In the heat of competition, elbows were thrown, and a mix-up nearly occurred. Cooler heads prevailed, and the impending match was cancelled. The Dordt players seemed to suffer a letdown as Westmar quickly moved further ahead, the game ending with a twelve point difference.
THE DORDT DIAMOND
Monday, December 14, 1964

THE DORDT DIAMOND

COLUMN 7
by Glenn Van Wyhe

It was Christmas Eve. Soft, sparkling snow flakes fell from the sky and stuck to the little red hat of a tiny elf. The little gnome was snuggled up on the downy white carpet of a window sill. With a tiny hand he wiped away the circle of frost on the window and peeked in.

Inside were children opening their gifts. The little elf couldn't believe it. It was only Christmas Eve; Santa hadn't come yet. There shouldn't be any gifts under the tree.

All the gifts were opened and soon the children were tired of their thin plastic toys. They began fighting with each other and tried to take each other's toys. They were no longer satisfied with their own. Finally their mother came and ordered them to bed. They cried as they went up the stairs.

The little elf was shocked. This was wrong. Long ago he had come out on a Christmas Eve, but it hadn't been like this. The children had been putting up their stockings, and even long after they had been put to bed, they could be heard whispering excitedly whenever they thought they heard Santa's reindeer prancing on the roof. After they had finally drifted into a fitful sleep, the parents had taken from hiding all the gifts they had made themselves, and put them under the tree. Then they had gone, leaving a sense of magic for the early-rising tykes.

The small sprite rested his head in his hands and looked out across the newly fallen snow shining in the moonlight, and imagined the sleighs of yesterday. Then there had been contentment, neighborliness, friendship, gentleness and peace. There was no hurry and rush. Things were so simple and so rich.

The tiny elf looked once more at the lovely fire crackling in the middle of the empty room. The Christmas spirit was shelved away in a cobwebbed age, and Santa Claus was dead. He turned, jumped from the window sill, and ran off into the snow.
Chapter II
From MY BROTHER WAS MY ONLY SISTER'S CHILD

To abate the displeasure of the vengeful Furies, I shall in a few short statements show you how to operate your do-it-yourself kit called "How to Upset a Professor's Equilibrium." I claim no great knowledge in this field, but by snitching snatches from faculty conversations, I shall proceed.

I. To start the day well, come to class early and sit in the back row with your most malevolent friend. Proceed with a continuous conversation, stopping every ten minutes to squint and complain about not being able to see the board. After the professor has adjusted and readjusted the lighting four or five times, you can rest assured that his pillars are weakening.

II. The next instruction is to walk up to your prime target and ask for additional help. Explain how your ah-ah—cold has caused you to miss his class for the last three weeks. If the bad cold seems to be ineffective, try migraine headaches that strike only from 7:35 to 8:25 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. When he refuses to give an ear, you can remark to him a-b-c-cold has caused you to miss his class for the last three weeks.

III. The third step consists merely of making statements having double meanings. The following is one example that if the proper words are inflected, the results will be astounding. "Professor must be a dedicated man (this gets his attention), because he doesn't get much of a salary, but he does have the satisfaction of molding brilliant minds." Beware of leaning pillars!

IV. Now as you are on the verge of success listen attentively for any flaws or errors in the subject matter or the deliverance thereof. Proceed to make snide and derogatory remarks in a loud stage whisper, audible to the professor. (Dig those Pisa pillars!)

V. To apply the crusher, fall asleep in one class and don't wake up until the middle of the next class (to save face, feign sleep through the remainder of this one), a course which you are not taking. If this doesn't pulverize the pillars, nothing will. "TIMBER!"

Christmas Concert Presented

Dordt's Christmas Concert, presented Sunday evening, Dec. 6 was widely praised and acknowledged as one of the best ever given. A brass choir, directed by Mr. John Worst, played an appropriate medley of Christmas tunes.

The Concert Choir, conducted by Prof. Grotenhuis, sang a variety of Christmas numbers. They were climaxcd by Han-del's "Hallelujah Chorus" and the famous seasonal hymn, "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful." Both singers and listeners were equally thrilled with the wonderful sounds and thoughts of this joyous season.

A special word of praise is to be given to Miss Sharon Van Til who favored us with a beautiful organ solo and also did very well in accompanying the choir.

For those of you who are not steady readers of the Saturday Review (perhaps indicative of your general attitude toward literature?), I take the liberty of using this column to recommend that you do read this article. In it the causes of literature and science are convincingly linked.

It is not a defense of literature in the usual way—he immediately throws out such terms as "graceful ornament," "home of lost causes," and "land of dreams." The type of literature he is trying to define is best stated in his own words:

"It is neither an escape from scientific truth nor a mere popularization of such truths but a way of looking at science which is not, and need not be, the scientist's way but which makes it easier for many of us to live comfortably in that world of science.

He goes on to state some of the uses of this literature, the first one being that it serves as a reminder that science is man's servant and not vice versa. He next enters the question of values. Three statements are important in this area: civilization cannot survive without a system of values; science cannot define a value; literature is the medium for transmitting these values, however arrived at. It therefore follows that civilization cannot survive without literature.

His third point is that, for all of science's facts, we nevertheless live in a world of appearances, and literature is the language of this "seeming" world.

Finally, he makes the familiar statement that man is both intellectual and emotional, and science is concerned only with the intellectual. Literature, though it may be concerned with facts, is concerned with an emotional reaction to these facts.

"Man needs not only to know but also to wonder and to love, and... science, as such, has nothing to do with either wonder or love though those two are perhaps the essential concern of... literature."

In an age of science such as we are enveloped in today, an article of this nature is important to remind us that literature is not a "fringe benefit" or luxury but an essential, if not the most important, part of our lives.

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Second Annual Tour

Dordt College Concert Band is planning its second annual tour. The tour will take place in January during registration week. To compensate for the fact that the band members will not be present to register, it has been decided that they will be either pre- or post-registered.

The first tour will be presented on Monday, January 28, in Pella, Iowa. From Pella the Concert Band will travel to Edgerton, Minnesota for its second concert. Wednesday will find the band traveling back to Iowa to present a concert in Woden. On Thursday the band will return to Minnesota with Prinsburg as its destination. Then it's back to Dordt to hit the books for another semester.

Although the itinerary for the tour although the itinerary for the tour of verification have not been received from all of the school boards and consistory concerned.

Students, Briefcases, And Notecards

Responding to an invitation to attend the Forensics Tournament sponsored by Wayne State College on December 4 and 5, Dordt's Debate squad won three of its ten contests. Three of the seven losses however were to the top three squads in the Class B debate section of the tournament. John Hilbelink and Roger Van Dyken emerged victorious over two opposing teams, while Bern Sturing and Charles Veenstra succeeded in gaining one victory.

Two Discussion contestants, Steve Toering and Ed Mellema, joined the Debate squad to Wayne State. Hilbelink and Van Dyken also participated in the Discussion section of the tournament. Three of the four participants received individual ratings of "excellent." Dordt's Speech and Debate coach, Mr. Lethers, expressed his approval with the results, and hopes for more extensive participation in future tournaments.

Work On SIGNET Begins

In its two meetings with Mr. Eaton, a representative of the American Yearbook Co., the staff has selected the color and layout of the cover for the 1965 yearbook. On December 4 they began the layout of the book pages.

The first deadline is February 15. Since the SIGNET records the events of the entire year, including commencement, its last deadline is May 31. The student body receives the SIGNET in September, 1965.

The SIGNET staff is organized with Mary Hooper as editor-in-chief; the assistant editor is Rosemary Dahm; layout editor, Geneva De Vries; copy editor, June Mulder; business manager, John Vander Beek.

If a member of the student body wishes to offer suggestions concerning the next SIGNET, he should feel free to contact one of the staff. According to editor Mary Hooper, the staff is merely a servant of the college in recording its administration and faculty, its staff, its students, activities, athletics, and events.
INTRAMURAL REPORT

Another intramural report, with the listing of teams, team captains, scores, and the admonishing of delinquent bowlers. Think so, ay? Well the Intramural writer has finally seen the light! He is not going to list teams, team captains, and scores, and he is going to leave the harried bowlers to themselves.

Revolting? Unorthodox? No! Lack of readers who are able to keep themselves awake during a long list of the aforesaid items.

In order to keep the average reader involved in the article, the writer will endeavor to be brief and interesting, but still retain small bits of intramural news here and there in the article.

The long awaited volleyball season is finally upon us. Team captains, (23 of them) are busily recruiting prospective players, reminding players of game times, and generally keeping sleep and sense of well-being from the "sake" of the game.

There are ten ladies' teams and thirteen men's, and because of so many, they have been divided into two leagues to facilitate the arranging of games, and to insure a game-a-week for each team.

In closing I would like to break one of my self-imposed rules. All team captains are asked to fill out their game results on the sheets provided, if they would be so kind. Inconsistent? Yes! But also essential for the smooth operation of the volleyball program.

Enthusiasm Greets

Phi Kappa Sigma

Although its initial meeting was somewhat delayed, Phi Kappa Sigma (Future Teacher's Club) organized successfully on December 9. The club ratified its constitution and elected as officers: Paul Vos, President; Morris Blankespoor, Vice-president; and Geneva De Vries, Secretary-treasurer.

At its first meeting, the group also viewed the film, "The Christian Teacher—Captive and Conqueror." Aided by a variety of colorful slides, the script of the film brought out that the Christian teacher 'is a captive, he is human, she is ready, she is inspired, he is a steward, and he is triumphant.' For him, "to live is Christ."

In its coming monthly meetings, the club hopes to have guest lecturers, films, panel discussions, and lab experiences such as working with projectors and other visual aids. Over fifty Dordt students showed their enthusiasm for the club by attending its first meeting. Continued interest will make the club more successful as it attempts to provide its members with valuable insights into the education field to prepare them more adequately for practice teaching.

Chemistry Research

Every week, seven students, under the guidance of Dr. Maatman, are engaged in a program of original research work in chemistry. Presently, these students are doing fundamental experimentation on the catalytic properties of various porous solid oxides and on the nature of their surface parts which react to other materials. The chemistry majors or minors working on this project are: Wesley Bruxvoort, Rod De Jong, Gene De Masters, Eldon Dyk, Deanna Ledeboer, Anno Leenstra, and Elroy Post. The research work began with the film "The Christian Teacher," an important part of which the first project was related to the present research and was successfully completed during the summer. The data on those experiments might soon be published.

Up to the present, approximately $12,000 of a large grant has been spent on this research work since it began. There is no definite time set for the current project, although the students are working from 5 to 10 hours each per week. Dr. Maatman commented, "The project is progressing well and I have high hopes for another successful research project."

Pre-Sem "Travelogue"

Rev. Don Rubesh, a member of TEAM (The Evangelical Alliance Mission) and missionary to Ceylon, addressed the Pre-Sem group on December 5 and took them on a guided tour of Ceylon, in his birds-eye view of his missionary work there. "Many of us have 'eye' (1) trouble," Rev. Rubesh quipped. Some Christians are "far-sighted" and can see the missionary calling as being applicable for only those in foreign lands; on the other hand, many other Christians are "near-sighted," and feel that they are fulfilling the Great Commission by remaining an isolated evangelist in their day-to-day contacts and do not see the broad panorama of the gospel call. "Modern liberals try to prove that the Great Commission presented in Matthew and Mark has been modified and even antiquated! But this is far from the truth. This Great Commission is supplemented throughout the four gospels, and is given an added impetus by the imperatives of Christ. "Work until I come."

Very succinctly stated, a preacher as missionary bears a threefold office: as steward, he is an ambassador of Christ; as hearald, he preaches the gospel to all men, and as witness, he gives evidence to the truth. Pride is often a subtle tool of the devil which leads to the destruction of missionaries, who remove the "I" from the cross and have perendicular pronoun "I" displacing Christ from his throne. "Self-advertisement" is a very subtle attraction, appealing to that selfish desire of always striving to be seen and heard.

For effective evangelism work, missionaries also need their "Vitamins," they must walk softly, speak tenderly, and preach fervently.

Buddhism is the largest rival of Christianity in Ceylon, and as Rev. Rubesh informed the group, they are putting the pressure on governmental officials to ban the entrance of any more new missionaries into Ceylon.

The Faculty wives entertained the wives of the Dordt married students at an evening party held in the band room of the music building. The evening was spent playing progressive carrom. Mrs. Ula Calsbeck and Mrs. Delores Warmink were in charge of the entertainment which was a quick hitter. Prizes were won by Mrs. Helma Tebben, Mrs. Judy Zylstra, Mrs. Tena Van Dyk, and Mrs. Mildred Van Til. Refreshments were hosted by Mrs. Mary Velkamp and Mrs. Jean Kistemaker.

Student Council Reports...

...that the following resolution will be submitted to the faculty: "the complaint that many students may have to travel on Sunday or the holiday during the Christmas vacation: "that the faculty take special note of those who must miss classes due to great distances, that nothing be deducted from these students' grades."

...Christmas party committees reported progress in plans.

Tickets for the Christmas Party to be held December 17, 1964, at 8:00 p.m. in the Dordt gym must be obtained from the office before Monday at 5:00 p.m. (today). All full-time students get tickets freely, having paid the Student Activity Fund. However, tickets must be procured at the aforesaid time in order to gain admittance to the party. Guests tickets are 75c. Students whose wives (husbands) or friends are also invited.

Handel's Messiah To Be Presented In Hull

On the evening of December 16, the Sixty-Six Choir under the direction of Mr. Gary Warmink will give their annual presentation of the Christmas "Messiah" in the Hull Community Building. The choir, of about 180 voices, will be directed by Mr. Gary Warmink.

Land of Lebanon

"Land of Lebanon," the travelogue shown last Friday night by John Weld, was very interesting and was well appreciated by the audience. The film had many of the scenes of Biblical times and showed views of Tyre, Sidon, and Damascus, etc. The remains of many famous temples and castles of Roman and Crusade age years were seen along with the ruins of the hanging gardens of Babylon. This travelogue was filmed on a trip which Mr. Weld made from Beirut to Bagdad. Combining humor and a slowly moving narration, John Weld, the author of several books, made this a very interesting evening.

Mr. Kooiker mentioned that the travelogue on "African Animals," by Larry Linnat-d, will be shown as scheduled on January 15, 1965.
Les Beaux Arts
-Dick Leerhoff

One of the more interesting movements today in modern art is OP art. OP is a shortened form for optical art. Everyone is aware that optical illusions exist; however, the OP artist has taken advantage of the fallibility of the human eye. A good example is that the human eye cannot focus on blue and red at the same time. Here is an excellent opportunity for the OP artist to frustrate the eye. Other instances are that colors appear different against various backgrounds and that contrasted shapes may seem to shift position.

The chief concern of the OP artist is cold precision, and violently rebelling against emotionalism in art. The OP artist is never subjective; he is more like a machine producing precision instruments. Indeed, OP art has brought science and art into an intimate relationship. The OP artist is often more concerned with science than with art because he must investigate the science of optics and color and determine what combination of effects will best tease the eye. Then with scientific precision he synthesizes his ideas on canvas. One thing should be evident from this discussion: OP art with all its scientific precision may fascinate the eye, but it has a high rate of tiring speed.

OP artists are found throughout the western world, and they often have interesting and enlightening opinions of OP art. Some British artists are painting canvases which make the viewer physically sick. Mr. Steele, spokesman for these artists, dismissed this problem when he said, "These pictures are not necessarily meant to be looked at." An other artist, Hewitt, said that the viewer of OP art must first overcome "certain levels of frustration" before he will appreciate the work. Hewitt also said that he did not want OP art to become popular. It is encouraging to note that artists are no longer relying on public opinion as a judge of artistic merit.

It is difficult to judge the worth of OP art since it is a recent development. However, I have noted that it has a high speed of tiring which may whisper of sudden doom. OP art is also the victim of public opinion which has destroyed many interesting art trends. Although OP art may be shortlived, it has already served a good purpose. It has broadened our views concerning the nature and function of art and its affect on the viewer. Surely some of the ideas of OP artist will not go unheeded in the future.

Did You Know . . . ?

That the Euclidian geometry which you studied in high school is defunct in postulate 5? That there are less than 180 degrees in a triangle?

Mr. Sjoerdsmu spoke to the Math Club last Thursday on this new geometry. At this meeting the club also adopted its constitution.

From thence homeward.

THE DORDT DIAMOND

Monday, December 14, 1964

Harold De Jong

Although as early as Augustine, the philosophy that Christians may and should engage in civic duties and services was extant, many Christians still considered the established state to be coterminous with "civitas terranae." The Anabaptists were of this persuasion and were concerned with establishing a kingdom of God upon the earth but entirely separate from the world. They would have nothing to do with the state and considered it evil. On the other hand, Luther taught that Christ came to redeem man's soul but not the temporal universe. Calvin, however, incorporated Augustine's idea of the "civitas Dei" is spiritual and Christians have the duty to relegate not only the state but all of existence under the kingship of Christ. Thus we of the Calvinistic-Christian confession have received the principle that all of life's activities, or culture, must be directed to the praise of God. As Henry R. Van Til said in The Calvinistic Concept of Culture, culture "is a must for God's image-bearers, but it will be either a demonstration of faith or of apostasy, either a God-glorying or a God-defying culture." Gen. 1:28

Having proposed that all culture must be subservient to our Lord, let us examine more specifically the aspect of life usually designated as cultural, i.e., the arts. When we begin to inspect more definitely, we sometimes have difficulty in perceiving any characteristic difference between supposedly Christian and non-Christian works of art. For example, is there a Christian theory of music, art, or dramas? Must each example of poetry, prose, or musical composition render a specific Christian message? Must each painting reveal the artist's relationship to his Creator? If the answer is "yes" one may wonder how a musical tone or arrangement of tones can be in and of itself a message of praise. It is conceivable that both a Christian and non-Christian could compose very similar pieces. Could it be then that one listening could determine which is which? Such a suggestion sounds preposterous, especially when one considers that in the early ages of Western musical development, the use of an interval of augmented fourths was considered devilish, but now is commonly employed. What then, determines the position of an artistic work? How must a Christian artist perform differently from his contemporary non-Christian?

It seems to me that the crucial factors to consider in judging artistic works is the artist's intentions. Realizing the corrupting influence of sin, we should view the specific production in the total environment of the artist's life. Just as it is difficult to judge each separate brush stroke apart from the whole picture, we cannot judge the specific instance apart from the total life. The articulate, descriptive, used language, music, or color and form evinces the talents and artistic endowments received from the Creator, and the artist's total life will show the basis for his actions.

With this view it is possible to understand that each specific production of a Christian does not have to render a distinct Christian message when taken in and by itself. But let us hope that no Christian artist will feel free to engage in an anti-Christian work or forget that we must do all things in faith subjecting all to Christ.

A Faculty Family pot luck supper was held in the Commons on the Friday following Thanksgiving Day.
Athletes’ Feats

by Dale Claerbaut

Dordt’s basketball team has continued to pile up high scores and has run their season’s victory string to five straight games by beating Dana College 93-69. Dordt’s offensive average is slightly above 95 points per game and its defensive average is close to half of that, namely 48. This paper went to print prior to the Westmar game. The Defenders were favored to beat them also.

This Tuesday, the team travels to Madison, South Dakota, to battle the junior varsity of General Bearle. This team should supply Dordt with its stiffest competition to this time. However, Dordt’s fiveome, which has good height, speed, and above average scoring balance, should give General Beadle an excellent contest. The Defenders are “up” for this game and could catch the Beadle’s napping since it is not a conference game for them.

The services of another promising freshman were lost temporarily when Jim Den Ouden was injured in practice. Several muscles and tendons were torn in his left elbow. Nothing broke, however, and Jim is expected to be back in action after the holiday season.

Recapping the last three games briefly: Dordt whipped Freeman 99-59. After a rather slow start, the team picked up several free throws and fast break lay-ups and nearly reached the century mark for the second straight game. Actually the game wasn’t close after the first jump ball! There were no individual stand outs, with six men hitting in double figures and no one with more than twelve points. One interesting factor in the game was the fact that Freeman fell into a stall when faced with a zone defense. That same stall nearly defeated Dordt last year. The near upset ended 48-46.

Nettleton Business College was greeted with a 99-45 trouncing in its first appearance in Sioux Center. It again took Dordt a few minutes to get going but Nettleton’s lack of “inshappiness” soon became evident. DeVries’ 11 rebounds and 18 points on 9 out of 13 field goal attempts earned him the “best player award” of the game. The fifth game witnessed a potentially talented team from Dana, Nebraska, turned back by an all-around fine team effort. It was undoubtedly the best contest up to that game, but still ended with a 25 points difference between the two squads. Kamps and Ver Meer had nearly identical statistical records for the game, earning for them the game’s “best player award.” Kamps had 24 points, Ver Meer—23; Kamps had 10 rebounds, Ver Meer 9; and both had three fouls.

Strictly for interest’s sake again, predictions of the post-holiday games will be made. So far the first five games have been predicted right, and it is sincerely hoped that the predictions concerning Westmar and General Beadle are wrong.

The compiled statistics show that the team has over-all good balance, definitely improved over last year. A different player has been high scorer in each of the first five games. Ver Meer is high scorer and is tied with Kamps for rebound supremacy. Slings has the best field goal percentage. Ver Meer the best free throw percentage of those shooting at least five shots. Three players are tied for least fouls. The complete team statistical record is as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Pts</th>
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<td>7-11</td>
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Interest Germinates In Conservation Club

The proposition of starting a conservation or gun club was brought to a possible reality Wednesday night, December 9. There were sixteen prospective members present. A statement of purpose was drawn up by the club under the supervision of Mr. Westra and Dr. Mennega, the club sponsors, and Mr. Newell, the local game warden. The statement of purpose is: Conservation and protection of wildlife which would involve field trips, identification of wildlife, lectures and films, observation and education of game laws, promotion of good sportsmanship, the education in the safe handling of firearms and the study of the fundamentals of proper hunting.

Another meeting will be held Wednesday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. at which officers will be elected. Anyone interested is urged to attend this meeting.

Thalians Plan Drama Presentation

The Thalians met recently to discuss various matters. Although several members were not present, the attendance was sufficient to decide upon certain suggested innovations. According to the new constitution, certain people may qualify for honorary membership in the Thalians, although they cannot qualify for full membership. Voting for proposed honorary members was held with the results that members were chosen. The list of those recently accepted as full members was also read.

The main topic of discussion, however, was the possibility of a drama program shortly after semester break. Mr. Koldenhoven suggested several examples of what could be done. Thalians’ members are now beginning work on selections for this program.

"I know it’s up there somewhere!"
Editorial

Education in Christianity is possibly the greatest challenge to our situation. Experience has once again demonstrated that, when dealing with such a vaal issue of life, a single article does not do justice to the value of the issue involved. Furthermore, a lack of lucidity in presentation leads to many disconcerting, though probably natural reactions, involving personal charges rather than answers to the question under consideration. Instead of a well organized and clearly presented defense, it results in charges of ignorance, naivete, and slander, sarcastic classroom vilification, unfortunate inferences regarding motives, as well as honest disapproval or approval. Thus it seems that clarification and careful reiteration is in order.

The question which we as Christians and Christian educators are continually confronted with involves the essence of Christian education. We are to be a salting of systematic theology to every aspect of life. The preparation for this formidable, and yet very fundamental mandate involves training for the task before us; it involves Christian education. It involves seeing the beauty of God’s majesty in every subject studied. It means the application of our doctrines regarding God and the nature of man to every course. It involves the permeation of philosophy, psychology, history, English, physics, of every single course with the principles of Christianity. Or does it?

What actually is the essence of Christian education for life? What distinguishes the Christian college from the secular institution? What is the distinctive mark of Dordt College as compared to Iowa State? What factor makes education distinctively Christian? (Continued top next column)

Letters To The Editor

The DIAMOND
Dordt College,
Sioux Center, Iowa

Dear Editor,

I cannot appreciate lavish panegyrics of John Calvin. I cannot imagine John Calvin would have. But I would be displaying ignorance and naivete were I to say I have never come to realize a beautiful, comprehensive significance of SOLI DEO GLORIA while attending Dordt College. Or if I were to assert that I have never been shown my responsibility to explore that significance. 

Cynthia Nibbelink

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A Letter To The Editor

November 30, 1964

Dordt College is a human institution, and as such it is imperfect and subject to many criticisms. However, the criticism concerning Dordt’s curriculum in the last issue of this paper was perverted if not outright slanderous.

I fail to see how anyone could write about Dordt as the editor did, unless he thought, and rightly so, that by writing such an editorial there would be much copy for this issue's “Letters To The Editor.”

My statement of disagreement with the editorial should be sufficient. However, I want to state very clearly that in my judgment Dordt College tries to teach according to the highest academic standards in the light of God’s Word. I know that it has not attained the goal of perfection but I also know what it has done for me and for many others.

Jake Kits

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An original oil painting by John De Vries, a freshman of Haledon, New Jersey, was recently on display in the dormitory lounge.