Does The Peace Corps Work?

John Mahaffy

How can an underdeveloped country advance? Should one try to improve the individual by improving society? Or should one try to change the individual and let him improve society? We, as Christians, believe that salvation is an individual matter. However, one's Christianity must affect every sphere of life—the social as well as the private. Nearly two centuries ago a few men stated their belief that each man has been granted certain rights by his Creator, and among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The United States of America was the result of the beliefs of these men and others like them.

The Peace Corps, it seems to me, tries to improve the individual by improving society. New roads, more fertile fields, larger schools, and more teachers (it is thought) will result in better people. However, the muscle-power of the Peace Corps volunteers is not what most of these countries need—most of them already have a large number of workers. Even technical know-how can often be obtained from private sources. Besides, what can the Peace Corps accomplish in this field which we have failed to achieve with the hundreds of experts and the billions of dollars of our foreign-aid program?

Many underdeveloped countries lack capital investment. One reason for the high standard of living in the United States is the investment of thousands of dollars per worker. Many countries not only lack capital themselves, but also discourage foreign investment through nationalization and heavy taxation. There must be a certain amount of freedom for a country to make progress. People must be free to experiment, try to start a business, or make a living for themselves in some other manner. There must be a respect for individual liberty and for private property. One usually finds little industry in a country where the state is constantly trying to seize and control business. Even education in itself will not necessarily improve a country. Are the people whom the Peace Corps teaches to read likely to read anything which will really improve their country? Or will the material they read support socialism and communism? The Peace Corps members are not to propagandize. Then how can they gain adherents to the ideas of individual liberty and private initiative? Indeed, the very presence of this government organization seems rather to demonstrate the belief that the government is the source of all good things. It seems to show that material progress is all important and that individual good is dependent on social good.

I believe that Christianity is the only real solution to the problems of the world. One can not have a moral society without moral individuals. The effect of one's love for God should be evident in all of life. Respect for the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" will result in respect for the private property of others. If one obeys the sixth commandment, he will not use force or the threat of force to gain his ends. I believe that Christianity benefits a country as a whole, not only the individuals involved. God has certainly blessed our nation which was founded on principles molded by Christian influence. He will also bless other nations if they turn to Him. As Solomon said: "Righteousness exalteth a nation" (Proverbs 14:34).

Dordt College will present the fourth program of its "Travel and Adventure Series" on Friday, February 7, 8 p.m., in the college auditorium. The featured artist, Howard Pollard, will present his latest travel film, "Holiday in Quebec."

Mr. Pollard is a resident of Detroit, Michigan, with a background in engineering and photography. He has produced several films for medical-surgical use, but his main work includes "Brazil—Under Tropical Skies," "Colorful Colorado," and recently, "Holiday in Quebec," an all-color travel film of the great Canadian province that is filled with charm of the Old World and the excitement of the New.

Discovered by Jacques Cartier in 1584, Quebec was settled by the French under Champlain early in the 17th century; it has not lost its Old World flavor. Hand looms, outdoor bake oven, and spinning wheels are in daily use. Although French is spoken throughout the province, most people speak English.

In addition to pictorially interpreting Quebec's historic background and its unusual activities, he will also project the Laurentian Mountains and the St. Lawrence Seaway.

Who Says Dordt Students Aren't Pushing?

Pollard To Narrate

"Holiday In Quebec"

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Wall of Strength: Hand looms, outdoor bake oven, and spinning wheels are in daily use. Although French is spoken throughout the province, most people speak English.

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Schedule of Events

February 4—B.B. Augustana H.
February 6—B.B. Freeman A.
February 7—Nordt College Travelogue
February 10—B.B. Wessington Springs Tourney A.
February 13—B.B. Augustana A.
February 14—Valentine’s Day (classes as usual)
February 19 and 21—Band Concert
March 6—Travelogue
March 9—Sioux City Symphony
March 16—Don Co-sacks—Community Concert Series
March 28—Fine Arts Program
THE DORDT DIAMOND
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Noteworthy Fred Ypma
Spectrum David Gabrielse
Athletes' Feats Susan Vander Baan
Touchstone Roger Van Dyken

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Judy Van Der Veen,
Mary Hooper
David Vander Plants
Alan Huisman

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Editorial
Sandra Williamson

"Dordt Defenders, we must agree, our team's aim is victory!" We enthusiastically shout these words at our basketball games. But have we ever stopped to realize that there are more important Dordt "Defenders" than those young men whom we cheer at the games? In fact, all of us claim to be defenders—as Christians we are committed "To defend the faith." In this contest, are we all out for victory? Or do some of us sit in the bleachers, bleary-eyed and half-hearted? Often Calvinists are accused of indifference and coldness, not always unjustly. We sometimes become too engrossed in the dissection of doctrines, and we forget that the greatest purpose for having doctrines is to guide us into a living zeal for our Redeemer. It is better to know just a small amount and apply that meager bit effectively, than to have "all knowledge" and to "understand all mysteries" without employing that knowledge in fighting the good fight of faith.

What has happened to the burning love for Christ that our reformed fathers possessed? Why do we huddle together in protect-ed little communities? Are we afraid to face the pagan world? Or perhaps we are ashamed of the glorious truth we hoard to ourselves. Worst of all, perhaps some of us think we are better than unbelievers just because we have been so greatly blessed. What-ever the reasons, we are not going to win any victories if we never reach the battlefield.

These days spent at Dordt are sharpening our weapons. Yet, even sharpened weapons will rust if left in disuse. Now is the time to begin our assault on Satan's forces. As long as we continue to hide in our pleasant little caves—Sioux Center, Pella, Edgerton; as long as we stay safely tucked in our cradles, we will never develop into valiant warriors, and we will never win a victory. It is good to have a "headquarters," a fort for storing munitions; but having a fort does not win a battle. There must be a combat. We must go out into the world if we hope to reach the world. We must meet it face to face so that it can not ignore us or our Leader. Do we have the courage, the zeal, the compassion to go into "all Judea, and... Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth?"
Letters — continued

The purpose of the article was not to pronounce judgment, nor to expound a bizarre political thesis, but to present to the reader the political situation which existed before the assassination as seen by one observer, and to let the reader evaluate the possible effects of this situation upon the ensuing assassination. I hope that this will clear up the misunderstanding caused by the apparent lack of lucidity in my article.

Sincerely,
Roger L. Van Dyken

RE: Call for Heyday of Dissension

Dear Editor,

Could not this author who agitates for dissension use his “talent” to better avail? Is there intrinsic value to be observed from a disagreement when nothing is initially offered for discussion?

Rather than dissenting for dissension’s sake, let us seek to invigorate the DIAMOND by constructive reporting. Indeed, hurrying quickly to object to a superficial statement calling for discord, rather let the author of the article and the DIAMOND staff offer a coherent, discriminating reviews of events as they occur.

The existence of the DIAMOND, either as a worthy critical review, or as a mere record or rubber stamp, will depend on staff members who are concerned with quality reporting rather than those who call excitedly for dissension.

Class of ’66
Paul Vos

321 Dresher Road
Horsham, Pennsylvania
January 20, 1964

Editor
Dordt School Paper
Sioux Center, Iowa

Dear Editor:

Having been in Colorado Springs this summer and moving to Philadelphia this fall, I came in contact with two churches that had had a S.W.I.M. Team. In both of these places it was observed that the youth of the team was sometimes detrimental to the work of the church. Both churches were anxious to see more college students join the S.W.I.M. program for a summer.

May I add my personal note? When I went out with a team two summers ago, I had both college and high school students. This was satisfactory for both students and church. Since I plan to go out on S.W.I.M. again this summer, I will be affected by your willingness to give your time to S.W.I.M. May I urge you to apply?

Sincerely,
Ella Van Til
Teacher
Philadelphia-Montgomery
Christian High School

THE EDUCATION OF AMERICAN TEACHERS,

James B. Conant (Ph.D.),
McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.,

A free competition among collegiate institutions to gain a high reputation for preparing well-trained teachers is Dr. Conant’s chief thesis. Since he believes that certification requirements rank high among the causes of hostility between professors of education and their colleagues on academic faculties, he plunges into his radical suggestion to abolish all certification requirements. Each institution should assume the responsibility for those graduates which it certifies as being competent to teach. All that a teacher would need for certification should be a legitimate bachelor’s degree, evidence of effective student teaching under joint supervision of his college and a school system, and a certificate, vouched for by the president of his college and its entire faculty, attesting his qualifications to teach a specific subject.

Conant’s proposal seeks to curtail the hands of voluntary and state certification organizations. The States’ rights anachronism of teacher certification would give way to a system in which a teacher would be licensed to teach anywhere in the United States. Instead of backing in the security of certification rules, state educational officials would be forced to evacuate their fortresses and to prove their worth by judging the classroom performance of practice teachers.

Since Conant believes that the present system of certifying teachers on the basis of course credits does not guarantee that they know either how to teach or what they prescribe for their students, he proposes surgery for the educational system and not just a dose of pep pills. Dr. Conant concludes the “Mickey Mouse” survey courses in education that bore so many freshmen at so many teachers colleges. “I have found little evidence that these courses stimulate a student to read either deeply or widely,” says Conant. To make certain that teachers really can teach, he suggests operating upon the present “slipshod” and “appalling” system of practice teaching. Instead of filling out forms and helping children put on their overshoes, Conant advises that student teachers should be trained gradually “to assume full responsibility for an extended period of instruction, through which he plans, executes, and evaluates.”

In essence, Conant argues that colleges, given “freedom and responsibility,” will compete to graduate the best teachers possible, for they will pin their reputations on the teachers they produce. Will it work that way?

Although many institutions may not be ready or willing to accept such responsibility, Conant’s incisive book will spark debate, and perhaps produce a few changes, for this volume provides educational reformers with a greater freedom to try new approaches.

The summary chapter can be read beneficially, as can the valuable appendix, without reference to the chapters which preceded it. The concluding observations contain the twenty-seven Conant recommendations which the author, president emeritus of Harvard, arranges in five categories. A noteworthy observation is that Appendix C, which tabulates the number and percentage of institutions and of teachers prepared in the sixteen most populous states, shows that seventy-one percent of the institutions which train teachers are either church-connected or private independent educational institutions, but Conant fails to discuss the teacher preparation of these “non-State supported” institutions. Since Conant desires to initiate the position of “clinical professors” and to increase the pay of teachers who would assist in the program of practice teaching, one becomes aware of the need for additional funds.

If the public school system adopts the Conant plan, will the “non-State supported” institutions be forced to adopt it also? How would the private school supporter react to the additional expense levied upon him in the form of tax to finance the public educational system? The state would demand the increased payment of tax, but would the private school supporter be forced to meet the need of additional funds for like educational surgery in his own educational system as Conant prescribes? These are questions for deliberation.

TOUCHSTONE—Continued

by Glenda Harthoorn

A RAISIN IN THE SUN, Lorraine Hansberry: the New American Library.

What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up Like a raisin in the sun? Or does it explode?

—Langston Hughes

What does happen to a “dream deferred”? And what happens to the man whose dream is deferred? Lorraine Hansberry tells us what happens to one such man in her prize-winning play, A RAISIN IN THE SUN. The issue is, however, more significant since this man is a Negro. Today, one hears much about racial discrimination and the Negro’s condition and problems. But haven’t (Continued on page 4)
You often wondered whether you were receiving a perverted picture of the Negro? A RAISIN IN THE SUN gives a frank picture; the characters are authentically and accurately sketched. The honest portrayal of daily joys and furies, dreams and disappointments demands one's attention and compassion.

Do not expect a pure, refined representation. The play is simply written, the dialogue sometimes crude; but it is honest and it is beautiful.

INHERIT THE WIND: Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee; Bantam Books; New York.

Would we as Christians allow a man in our midst, freedom of thought if that thought happened to be evolution? This question would perhaps arise in your mind if you were to read INHERIT THE WIND; it is a thought-provoking play. Its plot is based on the famous Scope's trial of 1925. However, it is a drama in its own right, with its own appeal.

Skillfully constructed, this play seeks to determine a man's right to think independently, a teacher's right to present evolution. The defenders of his right are brilliantly cynical and witty in their attack on the ignorant pious country-folk and their fire-and-brimstone preacher. One may be offended by the sacrilege and desecration, but perhaps such offence would be good for us. Someday we may be called to take a stand on this issue. Would we, like the people in this play, be ignorant in our convictions? Or, would we be sufficiently informed and impelled to defend our views?

TOUCHSTONE—Continued

—Wilma Roghair

LOOK BACK IN ANGER, by John Osborne, Bantam Books

This play presents an incisive character study of a man who seems to be ruled by violence and hatred; no one escapes his continual outburst of fury. However, this seemingly heartless creature commands the love of two women.

Have we a right to judge the nature of the man portrayed? Perhaps consideration would uncover past incidents which influence his present behavior.

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE by Arthur Miller, Bantam Books.

A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE dramatizes the controversial practice of allowing illegal immigrants to work on the Brooklyn waterfront. The problem is approached from the point of view of the immigrants.

However, one man, Eddie Carbone, steps forward and the play becomes his story: his futile attempt to suppress the normal independence of his beloved niece. As the plot evolves, we are able to trace Carbone's final self-destruction as he fights the forces which eventually destroy his hope.

SIMON THE SAGE

Dear Simon,

When I came to Dordt, my thoughts were nothing but optimistic. Now, after my first semester, I have begun to falter into pessimism. I have been reading in my catalog, and I have come across some questionable statements: I read that both the new dormitories and commons would be ready for use by September 1963... It is now January 1964, and the commons does not seem ready for culinary operation. I also can remember our first days of "roughing it" in the dorm. Would you please resolve this discrepancy for me?

Puzzled

Dear Puzzled,

I have done some research on this problem. In my searching I have tried to decide whether these statements were false witness or wishful thinking. My search led me to various faculty members who invariably gave the ADAMIC excuse that it was not an administrative fallacy, but rather the contractor's lack of fore- and hindsight.

However, to me it is also a lack of administrative foresight in a Utopian attempt to gain more educational connoisseurs for Dordt. We must remember that Dordt is still in its pioneer stages and thus we cannot expect structural perfection. I think it would be a saner policy for the authors of the '64-'65 catalog to base their prognostications on reliable sources.

Yours truly,

Simon

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WANTED DIAMOND:

2 typists; 2 reporters
1 photographer or 1 aid
1 Touchstone Editor
Many letters to the Editor

DORDT:

1 Finished Commons
Many more students
1 new library
1 science building

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THE DORDT DIAMOND

Tuesday, February 4, 1964

Dean's List  
First Semester  
1963 - 1964

John Altena .................. 4.00  
Rosemary Dahm .............. 4.00  
Francine Wiersma ........... 4.00  
Doris Haupt .................. 3.87  
Sharon Van Til .............. 3.86  
Elda De Kam .................. 3.82  
Andy Den Otter ............. 3.82  
Cecelia Drenth .............. 3.81  
Jerelyn Brower .............. 3.79  
Richard Leerhoff ............ 3.76  
Geneva De Vries ............. 3.75  
Mary Hooper ................. 3.71  
Edward Mellena .............. 3.71  
June Mulder .................. 3.69  
Donna Van Wyngarden ......... 3.69  
Marilyn Addink .............. 3.65  
Wilma Roghair ............... 3.65  
Nelda Van Stryland .......... 3.63  
Judy Van Der Veen ........... 3.60  
Deanna Ledeboer .............. 3.59  
Dorothy Vander Lugt .......... 3.59  
Mavis Assink .................. 3.56  
Bernice Walhof .............. 3.56  
Dennis De Jong .............. 3.53  
Harold de Jong ............... 3.50  
Jakob Kitis .................. 3.47  
William Van Hal ............. 3.47  
Robert Boertje .............. 3.44  
Dale Claerbaut .............. 3.44  
Delmar Vander Zee .......... 3.44  
Larry Van Essen ............. 3.41  
Lois Haupt ................... 3.40  
Glenn Vander Ark ............ 3.40  
Margaret Graham .............. 3.38  
Paul Vande Voort ............. 3.38  
Janice Bruxvoort ............. 3.35  
Alan Huisman .................. 3.35  
Donn Rubingh ................. 3.35  
Don Ver Meer .................. 3.35  
Merlin Buwalda ............... 3.33  
Thelma Masselink ............. 3.33  
Case Boot .................... 3.32  
Lynn Vrieze .................. 3.31  
Sandra Williamson ............ 3.31

by Roger L. Van Dyken

Are we concerned about nothing but having a president with a magnetic personality? Have our elections been painstakingly obtained only to become nothing but national popularity contests?

I fear that our politics are based on personality rather than principle, that the honored and respected office of the President of the United States is becoming nothing but a game into which rich men flambantly throw themselves and their sons, for the sake of pride and fame. I fear that Americans know more about the way Goldwater comb his hair than they do about his stand on Cuba, that Americans knew more about the President's trips to Miami Beach and Hyannis Port, and Mrs. Kennedy's latest hair style, than they did about Kennedy's foreign policy. And I fear that unless you and I, the individual citizens, change the situation soon and drastically, our freedom of representation, so preciously purchased, will be thrown to the wind by our ungrateful abuse of that right.

The Dinosaur

Behold the mighty dinosaur,  
Famous in prehistoric lore,  
Not only for his weight and strength,  
But for his intellectual length.  
The creature had two sets of brains—  
One in his head (the usual place).  
The other at his spinal base.  
Thus he could reason a priori  
As well as posteriori.  
No problem bothered him a bit;  
He made both head and tail of it.  
So wise was he, so wise and solemn,  
Each thought filled just a spinal column.  
If one brain found the pressure strong,  
It passed a few ideas along;  
If something slipped his forward mind,
'Twas rescued by the one behind;  
And if in error he was caught,  
He had a saving afterthought.

Recommended—for reconclite reasons—by Gerhardt Korn.

THE CRONY

The cry which gave the impetus to the birth of our republic and became the motto of the Revolutionary War was "No taxation without representation." And certainly the fulfillment of this motto has developed along with our progress as a nation. For today we are one of the most highly taxed nations in the world, and we take great pride in the development of our representative form of government. But as our taxes have been abused, so has our right of representative government. We do not have the freedom to elect our representatives in the measure which we can and should have.

This freedom is not producing results because it has been both unused and abused. Far too few Americans take advantage of their privilege of electing the right man to the highest office in the land. Our nation has a shameful turnout at the polls on the eve of national elections, and many of those who do vote determine their choice upon very irrelevant and trivial bases.

Since the death of President Kennedy, the entire political arena has been shaken. The political chances of each potential presidential candidate have been re-evaluated. Suddenly, Mr. Johnson, previously ignored by the Kennedy Administration, is hailed by the Democratic press as one of the great leaders of our day. The personality of Mr. Nixon has suddenly re-emerged, after two consecutive major defeats, as a prime contender for the Republican nomination. Governor Scranton of Pennsylvania is described as a man who can go out and get the votes. Governor George Romney is suddenly out of the picture since the Michigan legislature recently defeated one of his major political proposals. Senator Barry Goldwater has been hailed as "the only man who could beat Kennedy" and as having an appealing personality. Rockefeller is low on political stock because he divorced Mary and married Happy. What are the bases for these men's rising or decreasing popularity? Their chance of winning? The Democrat is nominated because he is said to have the best chance of defeating the Republican and the Republican is nominated because he has the best chance of defeating the Democrat. All is determined by a candidate's chances of winning. A candidate is nominated, not on the basis of political principle, but on political expediency.
Athletes’ Feats
—by Dale Claerbaut

The Dordt Defenders extended their unblemished record to 6-0 by toppling the “B” squad of Northwestern. The clock read, “Dordt 64, Northwestern 52” at the final horn. The low score was attributed to the holiday layoff. However, Faber hit on eleven of twenty-five fieldgoal attempts and added four free throws to boost Dordt’s score twenty-six points. Prins and Vermeer had eighteen and fourteen rebounds, respectively.

On January 13, the team traveled to Eagle Grove where it received its first setback of the campaign. Eagle Grove’s scoring machine piled up an amazing total of 123 to Dordt’s 87. Eagle Grove amassed 51 field goals and 21 free throws. Its attack was geared to scoring. The Pirates hustled the ball downcourt, shot at the first opportunity, and rebounded the ball the few times they did miss. Prins played an outstanding game, getting 25 points and 16 rebounds. Kamps contributed his best effort for the year with 17 points.

The next game was a return match with Emmetsburg. A combination of Emmetsburg revenge and Dordt over-confidence produced a surprisingly close first half. It was knotted up 33 all at the half. However, in the second half the resurged boys outpointed Emmetsburg 41-25. Faber led the squad with 20, followed by Vermeer with 13, and De Kok with 13. Eekhoff also played a good floor game and contributed 8 points.

Dordt’s first tournament action took place at Freeman, South Dakota. The first of four games slated Dordt against Freeman. Coach Caliseek’s boys won rather handily, 85-55. He substituted freely in order to keep the starters fresh. Vermeer, DeKok, and Prins hit 18, 17, and 16, respectively. Faber continued his fine passing and again had several assists.

The second game pitted Norfolk of Nebraska against Tri-State from Sioux Falls. Norfolk won 101-75. Consequently, Sioux Falls played Freeman for the consolation trophy and Norfolk was paired with Dordt. Freeman took the evening’s opener 91-89 but it took them two overtimes to do it.

In the nightcap Dordt jumped off to a 6-2 lead, but the lead switched hands a few times before the half when the scoreboard read Norfolk 28, Dordt 24. Dordt stayed right in the game, even taking the lead at one time by three points. However, in the final minutes Norfolk got some lay-ups and free throws and Dordt cooled off. The final score was 57-49, Norfolk. Faber got 17 points and Prins had 13.

Good free throwing (18-22) and a fine last effort were not enough to beat the greatly improved Estherville quintet. After a fast start, Dordt found itself leading 23-21; but at the half, Estherville had gained 18 and the score was 50-40. The second half was fighting up hill the whole way. The Defenders closed the gap to three points a few times, but that was as close as they could get. The final score was Estherville 88, Dordt 84.

Vermeer was high with 20, followed by Faber with 17, and De Kok and Kamps each with 15. Dordt’s offensive average has dropped to 82 points and its defensive average is now 69.7.

The individual leaders in the statistical department have changed a good deal since the last issue. At the end of eleven games, Faber is the top scorer with 175 points and also has the most field goals. Vermeer has the most free throws and also the best field goal percentage: 54%. Prins has the most offensive and defensive rebounds, totaling 138 for a 13-a-game average.

I.M. Activities To Resume

The intramural activities will again meet regularly when the second semester gets under way. Volleyball has been concluded, ping pong is nearly finished, and the winter sports will soon be contested.

The winner of the girls’ volleyball was the sophomore team—the “Canaries,” captained by Pat Dykshoorn. Her teammates were Judy Bovenkamp, Sharon Van Til, Claire Hof, Geneva De Vries, Carol Dorhout, Judeen Norris, and Peggy Graham.

The “Queen’s Men” took the boys’ championship. This was a freshman team captained by Alan Vogel. The other members of the championship team were Dave Gabrielse, Fred Krommendyk, Larry Meyer, Earl Schlossman, Larry Slangs, Glenn Vander Ark, and David Vander Plaats.

Driving Toward Season’s End

DID YOU KNOW THAT HALLOWEEN WAS 1/10 SECOND LONGER THIS YEAR THAN EVER BEFORE?