Commencement On May 27th

Dr. P. Schrotenboer to Speak

FIFTY-EIGHT TO GRADUATE WITH A.B. DEGREE

Dr. Paul Schrotenboer, General Secretary of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod and Executive Director of the Association for Reformed Studies, has accepted the invitation to be the commencement speaker for the class of 1966. He will speak on “The Christian Graduate in a World A-drift.” Dr. Schrotenboer lives in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. He is well known as a scholar, lecturer, and minister.

The commencement ceremonies are to be held on Friday, May 27, at 8:00 p.m. in the Sioux Center Public School Auditorium. This is the second class to graduate from Dordt with the A.B. degree. Fifty-eight will receive their degrees.

The public is cordially invited to attend this event.

BIOLOGY STUDENT RECEIVES ASSISTANCESHIP

Mr. Wilmar Jansma has accepted a teaching assistanceship from the Department of Zoology and Entomology at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. The assistanceship involves spending 12 hours a week as an assistant in undergraduate biology laboratories at Iowa State while he begins a program leading to a Ph. D. in Biology. His stipend will be $2250 for 9 months with tuition reduction. He also received attractive assistanceship offers from the University of Iowa at Iowa City and Michigan State University at East Lansing. He will begin graduate work this summer by taking a course in field biology at the Lakeside Laboratory at Lake Okoboji.

MR. SEVEN TO BE NEW CATALOGER

Mr. Martin Seven will be Dordt’s library cataloger beginning in the fall of 1966. Mr. Seven is a graduate of Calvin College and received his master’s degree in the field of English from the University of Michigan. He has taught in the Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo Christian High School systems. While in Kalamazoo he pursued his interest in the field of library science at Western Michigan University. Thus, he began his career as a librarian at Kalamazoo Christian High School and previous to his appointment at Dordt, was practicing this profession in the Grand Rapids area. Many of Dordt’s faculty members and administrative officials have been associated with Mr. Seven assuring him an interesting social life as well as a cubicle within the air-conditioned environment of the hopefully completed library building.

Science And The Christian Faith

Archaeologist Lectures Sat., May 14

Dr. Bastian Van Elderen of Calvin Seminary addressed the spring meeting of the lecture series on Science and the Christian Faith on Saturday, May 14. Speaking before a compact audience, he set forth the thesis that the field of Biblical Archaeology can clarify some of the problem areas between science and theology in this age of scientific advance.

Early in the lecture, Dr. Van Elderen made clear his belief in the Bible—that for him it is the authoritative Word of God, through it the Holy Spirit tells of redemption, and that he, as a Christian, defends the Bible. Upon this basis, he proceeded to build a “hermeneutical framework for science and theology.”

Archaeology he defined as the research and interpretation of the ruins of the Holy Land. The speaker denied that the purpose of archaeology is to confirm the Bible (that is not of faith, but archaeology must illuminate, clarify, lucidate, and enhance the meaning of the Bible and fill in details.

Dr. Van Elderen introduced his audience to one of the concepts upon which he bases his work, the “Sitz in Leben,” or “situation in life.” He emphasized that in order to know the “Sitz in Leben Jesu” (situation in life of Jesus), the exegete must take into account the “Sitz in Leben des Verfassers” (situation in life of the authors). Then the purpose of Biblical Archaeology as defined by Dr. Van Elderen is to recover the Sitz im Leben des Verfassers.

Biblical archaeology can help us to interpret the Bible more accurately when we realize two things—we must know what the books of the Bible meant to the original readers, and that men wrote by organic inspiration, that is, men wrote as men.

In conclusion, Dr. Van Elderen stated that archaeology can give us a bridge between the scientist and the theologian, so that they may agree.
"Another powerful prejudice which affects our policy, and is still vital to our future, is our fear of Russia and Communism... as I read history, the Russian experiment in socialism is scarcely more radical, under modern conditions, than the Declaration of Independence was in the days of George III...

The above statement was made by Sen. J. William Fulbright, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate of the United States. It is apparent that this absurd outlook is behind Sen. Fulbright's powerful voice of submissiveness concerning the current struggle in Viet Nam. It is consistent with his contempt for patriotism and his condescending view of public opinion. In June, 1961, Sen. Fulbright issued a memorandum to the Defense Department, castigating patriotic American military officers who were openly concerned with the Communist menace. "Fundamentally, it is believed that the American people have little, if any need to be alerted to the menace of the cold war," he declared.

"...the principal problem of leadership will be, if it is not already, to restrain the desire of the people to hit the Communists with everything we've got, particularly if there are more Cubas and Laos'. Pride in victory, and frustration in restraint, during the Korean war led to MacArthur's revolt and McCarthyism..."

The Fulbright Memorandum ruined the military careers of key officers in the armed services and affected numerous patriotic educational programs. The film OPERATION ABOLITION, an official anti-Communist documentary produced by a Congressional committee, was banned from showing to military personnel. In Santa Monica, California, at an anti-Communist rally sponsored by 53 civic, veterans, and service organizations, the appearance of a Navy band and color guard was banned, because it "might adversely affect international relations." The Senate Armed Services committee proved that military speeches were being censored by any anti-Communist military officers were persecuted and patriotic programs suppressed. Further investigation by Congress was prevented by a Presidential order which withheld information from the committee.

Sen. Fulbright is not in favor of national sovereignty for the United States. He is primarily an internationalist with a goal of bringing all peoples of all nations to a dependence on international organizations. He opposes the overseas presence of American military bases; he vociferously advocates trade with Communists; he calls for several years advanced foreign aid commitment; he fiercely opposed the attempt to aid the Cuban freedom fighters against Castro; and he recently recommended that U.S. foreign aid monies be channeled through international organizations to prevent any tinges of U.S. national interests.

Why does such a person sit in the most influential position on foreign policy in Congress? Patriotism has become a dirty word due to the influence of men with outlooks similar to that of Sen. J. William Fulbright.

FIFTEEN FOR FIGARO

by John Vander Maten

On Wednesday evening, May 18, 1966, the opera guild of Dordt College gave a presentation of the two act comic opera, The Barber of Seville by Gioachino Rossini. This opera had the privilege of being the guild's most professional performance. The evening began with a bang as Miss Vander Zee, the pianist, accidentally hit the piano keys as she was assuming her seat and ended with his having been discovered.

The sets were very uniform except for the picture of the ships which didn't quite fit the motif. Perhaps a more colorful setting would have better fit the mood of the play.

The lighting also left something to be desired, but I think they did an admirable job with the facilities at hand.

Perhaps the major fault of the actors, although minor, was the stealing of the scene. Mr. Rynders and Mr. Gabrielse were particularly guilty of this. They so drew my attention that I no longer paid any attention to the aria, and this isn't the way it should be.

The articulation of the female characters in their low register was quite difficult to understand and I feel that I was fortunate to have been sitting in the front.

Mr. Walhof deserves some type of remark about his performance, however brief it might have been, but I am not sure what should be said.

To select a most impressive scene is difficult as all were great. I have made my choice on the basis of most constant and proper activity and it would be the scene when Mr. Walterstorf enters as a music teacher and ends with his having been discovered.

To select the best supporting actor I would have to choose Mr. Jouwstra. Although more could have been done with his character, it was the most consistent. Other actors had their strong moments but also had their weak moments.

For the best performance in a leading role, I would select Mr. Gabrielse. It is very difficult to give specific reasons for this choice outside of the fact that his magnetic personality on stage is overpowering and his ability to do the right thing at the right time.

Congratulations to all the performers for an excellent performance. Congratulations are also in order for the crews for their work; and let us not forget the director Mr. Warmink who so graphically directed both the play and the orchestra.
MORRIS PRIMARY CONCENTRATES ON "RELIGIONLESS CHRISTIANITY" AS A CONCEPT OF LIBERAL THEOLOGY. HE FIRST PRESENTS THE OBJECTIONS TO RELIGION AND THEN CATEGORIZES ALL THE OBJECTIONS INTO ONE ANALYSIS BY ASSERTING THAT NATURAL MAN WANTS TO AVOID THE FINAL CONCLUSION THAT HE IS DEPENDENT ON GOD FOR REDEMPTION. IN THIS ANALYSIS MORRIS CRITICIZES BONHOEFFER'S CONCEPT OF RELIGION, WHO STATES THAT MAN COME OF AGE DOES NOT NEED RELIGION. HE ALSO SUBJECTS BARTH TO CRITICISM BY ACCUSING HIM OF STIMULATING THE MOVEMENT AGAINST RELIGION. MORRIS DEFINES THIS "RELIGIONLESS CHRISTIANITY" AS AN ABANDONMENT OF ANY REAL EMPIRIS ON CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE AND WORSHIP.

THS MOVEMENT AGAINST RELIGION—"RELIGIONLESS CHRISTIANITY”—IS NOT A REBELLION AGAINST WORSHIP ITSELF, BUT AGAINST THE FORMALISTIC TENDENCIES OF RELIGION AND WORSHIP. MORRIS ALLEGES THIS TO BE A PROGRESSIVE REPRESSION OF CALVIN'S CORAM DEO (IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD) AND REITERATES CALVIN'S MOTTO THAT GOD IS IN ALL OF LIFE AND THAT ALL WE DO, WE DO IN GOD AND WITH HIS HELP.

IN RECENT WEEKS, WE HAVE OBSERVED A NATIONAL INTEREST CONVERGING ON THE SUPPOSITION THAT GOD IS DEAD. THIS, MORRIS CLAIMS, IS ONLY THE CLIMAX WHICH RESULTED FROM THE "GOD OF THE GAP" THEORY. LIBERAL THEOLOGIANS, HE ASSERTS, HAVE CONTINUALLY COMFORTED THEMSELVES WITH THE ASSUMPTION THAT WHAT MAN DOES NOT KNOW, GOD DOES KNOW. HOWEVER, WITH THE MARCIUS ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL SKILL, MAN HAS INCREASED HIS KNOWLEDGE TO SUCH A LEVEL THAT THERE ARE FEWER "GAPS" IN WHICH MAN IS HELPLESS. CONSEQUENTLY GOD IS EDGED FURTHER AND FURTHER FROM LIFE, WHICH CAN ONLY RESULT IN THE SUPPOSITION THAT GOD IS DEAD. MORRIS REPUDIATES THIS MISCONCEPTION BY EMPATHICALLY ASSERTING THAT GOD IS PRESENT IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE.

HE POINTEDLY EXPLOSES MAN'S ATTEMPTS TO SECULARIZE HIMSELF, THAT IS TO DEPRIVE HIMSELF OF RELIGIOUS DISTINCTION, AS MERELY AN OBJECTIVE RATIONALIZATION TO EXONERATE HIS SUBJECTIVE FORMS OF SELFISHNESS AND PRIDE.

THE MAN ENTRAPPED, STRESSED BY BONHOEFFER, PLACES AN EMPHASIS ON AWARENESS, WHICH IS SUBSTITUTED FOR TRUE REPENTANCE AND WHICH MORRIS RIGHTLY CALLS GNOSTICISM.

FINALLY MORRIS ANALYZES HIS Rhetorical question whether "RELIGIONLESS CHRISTIANITY" IS CHRISTIAN. HE PRESENTS THE HYPOTHESIS THAT IF THIS IS A SYSTEM WHICH DEPENDS ON AN INTERPRETATION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, AS HE SEEMS TO THINK, IT SHOULD RATHER BE CALLED "RELIGIONLESS JUDAISM." HE VALIDATES THIS HYPOTHESIS BY PROVING THAT BONHOEFFER HOLDS THE OLD TESTAMENT AS DECISIVE AND INTERPRETS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN THE LIGHT OF IT.

THUS MARION CONCLUDES THAT ALL MEN HAVE A "RELIGION." EVEN THOSE WHO PROFESS TO BE RELIGIONLESS, HAVE CONCOCTED A RELIGION WHICH COINCides WITH THE MAN-CENTEREDNESS OF LIBERAL THEOLOGY.

DR. GEELS NAMED
PUBLICITY OFFICER

THE DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES HAS APPOINTED DR. EDWIN GEELS OF THE CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT AS PUBLICITY OFFICER FOR THE DIVISION. AS PUBLICITY OFFICER, DR. GEELS WILL KEEP THE GENERAL PUBLIC AWARE OF EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE DORDT COLLEGE DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES.


DR. GEELS ALSO HAS PLANS FOR PUBLISHING ITEMS CONCERNING THE WORK OF AND HONORS AWARDED TO INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS IN THE HOME-TOWN NEWSPAPERS OF THESE STUDENTS. THIS WILL CERTAINLY AROUSE INTEREST IN THE HAPPENINGS AT DORDT AND KEEP ITS NAME BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

THE DIVISION, COMPOSED OF THE BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, MATH, AND PHYSICS DEPARTMENTS, HOPES THAT THIS STEP WILL ELIMINATE THE CONFUSION OF WHO SHOULD PUBLISH WHAT. DR. GEELS CAN NOW SELECT NEWS MATERIAL FROM EACH DEPARTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED AND CONSOLIDATE THIS MATERIAL IF NECESSARY.


P.S. CLUB HEARS FROM
JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

ON MONDAY, MAY 2, THE POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB WAS PRIVILEGED TO HEAR MR. PAULTON, A MEMBER OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY, EXPLOUN WHAT THAT SOCIETY STANDS FOR AND WHAT IT IS ATTEMPTING TO ACCOMPLISH AS AN ORGANIZATION.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE JBS, MR. PAULTON STATED, WAS TO EXPOSE COMMUNISTS IN ORGANIZATION "TO BUILD OUR COUNTRY THE WAY IT WAS FOUND." THIS NOSTALGIC YEARNING FOR THE "GOOD OLD DAYS" SEEMED TO PERMEATE MUCH OF THE PRESENTATION.

TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE, MR. PAULTON PUT THE JBS DEAD CENTER IN THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM (WITH ANARCHY FAR RIGHT). HE IMMEDIATELY TRIED TO CLARIFY THIS POSITION BY SAYING THAT THE SOCIETY FAVORED A LIMITED REPUBLICAN FORM OF GOVERNMENT—A SLICK TRICK INDEED; NOW VIRTUALLY EVERYONE ELSE IS LEFT OF CENTER. ONE COULD NOT HELP BUT FEEL THAT THIS WAS A STRAINED ATTEMPT AT TONING DOWN WHAT ROBERT WELCH HAD SAID ABOUT DEMOCRACY—that "IN GOVERNMENT OR ORGANIZATION," IT IS "MERELY A DECEPTIVE PHRASE, A WEAPON OF TAMPERY, AND A PERENNIAL FRAUD" (SEE HIS BLUE BOOK, P. 124, NOW AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY).


ALSO TOP PRIORITY OF THE SOCIETY'S AGENDA WAS THE PUSHING OF THE LIBERTY AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD GET THE GOVERNMENT OUT OF "ILLEGAL" BUSINESSES, REDUCE TAXES, AND ELIMINATE THE PERSONAL INCOME TAX.

MR. PAULTON'S STANCE ON CIVIL RIGHTS WAS WHAT COULD BE EXPECTED. PRESENT LAWS ARE "UNCONSTITUTIONAL" AND THEY "TAKE RIGHTS AWAY FROM US TO GIVE THE NEGROES MORE."

MR. PAULTON'S SUAVITY IN HANDLING THE QUESTIONS WAS IMPRESSIVE. BUT WHAT WAS MOST DISTURBING, WAS THE READY AND ALMOST TOO SIMPLE ANSWER; THE WONDERING OF HOW MUCH ANALYSIS WENT INTO HIS "SOLUTIONS," AND JUST HOW REALISTIC AND WORKABLE THOSE "SOLUTIONS" WERE.

—DJ
DEFENDERS LOSE DOUBLE-HEADER TO AUGUSTANA AT SIOUX FALLS

On May 5 the Defenders traveled to Sioux Falls and dropped two games. Don Ver Meer started the first game for Dordt and was replaced by Gene Hospers in the 4th inning. Augie scored 2 runs in the first, 1 in the second, 2 in the third and 6 in the last two innings to gain a 11 to 4 victory. Dordt scored in the 2nd and 6th innings. Van Wieren's single and Ver Meer's double brought in two runs in the 2nd and Larry Van Wieren's home run in the 6th inning brought two runs across the plate. Augie outhit the Defenders 9-1. Hospers pitched all the way in the second game, but failed to come up with a victory. Mike Du Mez started off the game on the mound, but was replaced by Jerry Stiemsma in the second inning. Augie scored 3 runs in the first inning and 1 in the second. Meanwhile Coach Timmer seemed to develop a case of ulcers. The Defenders scored two runs in the 3rd inning and 1 in the 4th. Hospers relieved Stiemsma in the 3rd and retired the side with no runs until the 6th inning. Augie then finished the game off with two runs. The final score was 6 to 3. Dordt had 6 hits to Augie's 7. There was no exceptional hitting by any player.

DORDT MOPS UP TWO AGAINST NORTHWESTERN ON MAY 10

Van Wieren missed a shut-out by one run which was scored on an error in the 4th inning. Dordt started out with a blast scoring 3 runs in the first inning. Dordt again hit hard in the 3rd with Van Wieren, Hospers, and Ver Meer smashing singles and scoring 3 more runs. Dordt was helped out by Northwestern's errors in the fifth scoring 3 runs with no hits. Van Wieren pitched a 2-hitter while The Defenders connected for 7 hits. The final score gave Dordt a victory of 9 to 1. Hospers pitched all the way in the second game to give Dordt a 2-0 victory. The Defenders hitting was scattered. Northwestern outhit Dordt 5-4, but Gene kept them down by taking them out before their hits could count. Van Wieren's double sent Jonker across home plate in the third and Du Mez's sacrifice scored another run in the 4th after Hospers blooped a single over third base.

DORDT FINISHES THE SEASON WITH A SMASHING VICTORY ON MAY 16

Dordt finished the season with a flourish when they defeated Emmetsburg 11-2. Miedema hurled for Dordt and went all the way for the win. Dordt scored 2 runs in the first inning with singles from Miedema, Ver Meer, and Van Wieren. 3 more runs were scored in the 3rd inning. 2 of the runs were brought in by Don Ver Meer's Home Run which was hit far over the left fielders head. Ver Hoef, Miedema, and Jonker connected for singles in the 4th inning to help out for 3 more runs. A final three runs were scored by the Defenders in the 5th innings. The entire team saw action and proved what a fine ball team Dordt was. Emmetsburg scored a run in the 3rd and another in the seventh. Dordt outhit the opponent 9-3. The Defender's had only 1 error to Emmetsburg's 5. A fine team spirit together with a will to win every game gave Dordt a record of 7 wins and 3 losses. Most of the team will be back next year so next season' expectations are high.

I-M Gems

John A. Byker

Sophomore Volleyball Girls Upset

Screaming fans watched the favored Sophomore team, THE 805'S, struggling to serve their expectations, lose to the blasting volley of the Juniors. Hand-picked from Calsbek's P.E. class, the nimble lasses had defeated all previous opponents and were expected to sail through the tourney. But the determined, vivacious GO-GO'S mercilessly sank their ship with a volley of well-placed shots.

Softball—Theologians—7-0

Theology may be dying, but not the Theologians! These well-man-nered gentlemen cleaned up the softball action with a perfect 7-0 record. Aldon Kuiper pitched himself the Most Valuable Player award. Although the final standings were not available, it appears that the Senior SPARTANS have copped second place with a 5-2 season record.

Bob De Jong Wins Archery Tournament

With winds not too kind at their backs, Dordt's archers let fly at strauf-packed enemies Wednesday afternoon. Bob De Jong, a junior, best controlled bow and wind totalling a score of 338 for eight rounds, four at 20 yards, four at 30. Ken Post eyed the bull for second place with 300, while Jim Vanden Bosch pierced third with a stragglng 257. Competition, if not qualitative, was at least quantitative with about 50 bow-armed participants.

Officials Club To Be Formed

Our ever-working coach, Mr. Timmer, has announced a proposed official club that will be initiated next year. Three important functions of the club will be 1) supplying qualified officials at all I-M events, 2) providing first aid personnel to meet the needs as they fall, 3) having members in charge of picking up the athletic togs. Also taking place under the auspices of the organization will be regular meetings at which the rules and their intricacies will be discussed. No person may qualify without passing certain rules tests, after which he may referee I-M contests, Junior High games, and possibly also officiate at the Junior Varsity basketball games.

Another foreseen development for intramurals next year is a standard entry fee of 50c per participant for each sport event.

* * *

Seeing the motley crew of 50 Dordt Defenders, bow-armed archers twanging away one might think "Who needs a cannon?" ... on second thought .... At any rate, one was happy to see the wide variety of Dordt bows at their Cupid art.

BERNARD DE WITT ACCEPTS POSITION

Mr. Bernard De Witt, teacher of business courses at Southwestern Christian High School, Edgerton, Minn., has accepted the position of Assistant to the Business Manager at Dordt College. Mr. De Witt has taught in Edgerton for eight years. He received the B.S. degree in business administration from Augustana College in 1952. Mr. De Witt will begin work at Dordt the first of July.
Facts and figures can be very interesting especially at the end of a school term. The library staff is finally nearing the end of its production cycle and would like to present the following report to its studious stockholders:

The main assembly plant (commonly known as the workroom) has processed more than 6,200 pieces of library material during the past nine months. In addition there are 500 books on the workroom shelves awaiting final processing. This voluminous effort on the part of the library staff has enlarged the total collection from 14,700 to more than 21,400 volumes.

One of the busiest departments within the library plant is known as the circulation desk. This department is responsible for checking out the tools necessary for the production of knowledge at the manufacturing complex of Dordt College. More than 500 employees and 30 foremen and other administrative officials were served during the course of the year. In the past nine months alone, these employees have checked out more than 14,700 tools to aid them in their creative ventures. Another important service which this department handles is the collection of fines from those employees who mishandle or keep their tools for more than the allotted time. In this connection $160 was collected in the hope of deterring such action in the future.

Thus endeth the final report of the library staff for the academic year of 1965-66. We will return in the fall hoping to serve our fellow employees at this factory of knowledge more efficiently in the pleasant environment of our new plant facilities.

-DN

LIBRARY NEARLY READY FOR OCCUPATION

If you have gone through the new library building recently you will have noticed that it is a unique building. The exterior is similar in style to that of the Truman Library in Independence, Mo. As you walk in the front door you will notice the slate floor on the porch and entry hall. Continuing straight ahead through the building you will literally "drop in" the library proper. An alternate route would be one of the free-standing, carpeted stairways.

Some of the modern fixtures which are contained in Dordt's newest building are complete air-conditioning (undoubtedly for Iowa's hot winters), indirect lighting through a luminous ceiling, and a freight elevator.

Room space will be no problem in the new library. Two group-study rooms, a typing room, a curriculum lab, and plenty of office and storage are part of the building. Approximately seventy individual study carrels will be available to the students. In the reference sections study tables will be interspersed with the stack.

A micromilm reader is one of the new and extremely useful items of equipment for next year. This instrument will be used mainly for out-of-print books. A new and greatly expanded electronics learning center is also one of the appealing aspects. This equipment will be used primarily for speech, language, and music students.

Along with the new library comes a new cataloguer, Mr. Seven, from Grand Rapids, Mich. Generally speaking, the students of future years will certainly be assisted in their studies by the new library.

—J.S.

The DORDT DIAMOND
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Editor ............ Terry Jonker
Asst. Editor..... John Vander Maten
Faculty Advisor ........ Merle Meeter

(Editor's Note: The opinions expressed by the columnists and reporters are not necessarily those of Dordt College or the Editor, but are the sole responsibility of the authors.)

Columnists:
Crossfire ........ Jay Levering
Touchstone ...... Aldon Kuiper
Spectrum ......... Norman Bomer
Was Denken Sie? John Schuurman
I-M Gems ......... John A. Byker

Reporters:
Administration .. John Strikwerda
Athletics ........ Jim Den Ouden
Library ......... Dave Netz
Music ......... Dave Bloemendaal
Science ......... Dennis De Jong
Special Features Duane Nieusma
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Student Council ... Mary Roelofs
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Business Manager ... Arlyn Schaap
Cartoonist Harry Der Nederlanden
Typist ........ Garneth Hengeveld

"Garneth and the Three Johns" prepare last minute articles.
Editorial
by John Vander Maten

The perhaps hackneyed, but yet relevant topic for this final issue's editorial is the conservativeness and isolation of our religious beliefs in the field of education. We of the Christian Reformed Church are very possessive when it comes to education and the placement of our teachers; we are actually an anathesis. I now make the statement that we must be more "liberal" with the placement of teachers that are the product of our Christian School system. I go even so far as to make the heretical statement that we should encourage rather than hinder students from teaching in schools other than Christian Schools. Now, before you throw down the paper and make disparaging remarks about the author or subject, please finish the article. After you have read it in its entirety and still wish to make the remarks please make them so that I can hear about it. If I am wrong in my statements I should be told so that I can repent or further justify myself.

Our system of education along with our religious mores is on the order of a horn which is narrow on the bottom and wide on the top. There is one exception, however, and that is that there is a lid on the top of the horn. Therefore, any sound waves that near the end are bounced back into the base of the horn.

People really don't hear what we have got to offer. Let us follow this image step by step. When we are in grade school, we live in the ideal of sheltered life. We do, however, have our first taste of the big cruel world. Step two, we are at the middle of the horn. We are in high school, meeting new people with different ideas; but still we are safe, although we are slightly better prepared to meet the world. Now we arrive at step three, college. Here we come into real contact with the world. Meeting students from all over the United States and some foreign countries whose social and religious mores may differ slightly from ours. Still, our grand education is over and we should be ready to take our place in the world. The student scratches his head thinking about the world and life view as he is bounced back into the more sheltered area of the horn.

Just what is the purpose of a teacher with a Christian education? I say that it is to witness primarily by your actions and the type of life you live and show that your religious beliefs mean something to you. Let's face it, in high school most students are not ready to sink their teeth into dogma, but they would rather have the little pragmatic questions from their little pragmatic minds answered, and these questions will not be answered by a course in the doctrine of our faith. These can only be answered by observation of someone in authority. Who is more in authority over the children than their teacher. These little pragmatic minds exist not only in Christian Schools, but in all schools.

This brings me to another question. Are we so much better or more deserving in the Christian Schools than are those in other schools? No! What about the world and life view of our Calvinistic Doctrines. "Excellent in theory, but we really should avoid the practice." I challenge anyone to prove to me that a Christian educator could not teach and witness in a school other than our Christian Schools and come with results comparable to results in our Christian Schools.

"Those people deserve the benefits of our Christian education, but don't go over there as long as we have big shortage of teachers." There is a shortage of grade school teachers, but not in high school. College education is becoming more specialized and there just are not the openings in the Christian high school to accommodate them. Let us take an example of a Physics major. In high school, he more than likely will be teaching algebra, geometry and maybe one class of physics. If he goes on to school, and gets his masters, he will have difficulty in getting a position since the schools just don't have the money or facilities to accommodate his education.

"Let us all accept our world and life view of the Calvinistic Religion, but don't you dare let the teachers get out of our system. If there are no openings in their field, they can always teach something else. Our students will not be hurt by this; their academic growth will not be stunted."

For once, I would like to see us practice what we preach in the field of education.

Was Denken Sie?

—Herr John Van Schuurman

As we leave these hallowed halls, we linger a moment reminiscing on the past school year. We bid a fond farewell to (sniff) friends, girl friends, boy friends, roommates, professors, and the land-lady's dog (sob!). Those of us who are graduating don't want to go, but we know we must face that big world—out there. Our friends ask us what we are going to teach in the Christian School. Some, What!! you're going to teach where?

What do you think about teaching in the Public school?

"Undoubtedly a Christian witness can be demonstrated in a public institution. However this excuse is nearly trite from its overuse. Frequently, it is a rationalization for another motive in teaching in public schools: better job, better working conditions, and often of better chances for promotion. Teaching in the Christian school demands a sacrifice—but, then who ever went into that business to make money? Graduates with definite abilities in teaching and communicating to the student should teach in Christian Schools—if for no other reason than to give the student a better education than they claim they have received.

I definitely feel that the Christian school is going to have to raise their pay scale and get some better working conditions before they will be able to get qualified teachers. A husband and wife cannot live on $3,500 a year. Teachers, being people, are going to go where the money is.

I think the subject is very worn-out and I can't see much point in causing a big controversy over it, although I hear that some of our seniors are going to teach in public schools.

Everybody is so shocked when someone teaches in a public school. I feel there is much more chance to witness in the public school.

I definitely feel that everyone should teach in the Christian school because you won't be able to witness in the public school because of the ban on prayer. It, of course, is our duty to witness, and we may not forsake that duty for a bigger paycheck.