The Reverend Mr. B. J. Haan, president of Dordt College, and Mr. Neal Boersma, a member of the Executive Board of the College and a member of the finance and building committees, visited on Thursday, November 2, the Chicago office of the Housing and Home Finance Agency of the federal government. This agency is the administrator of the College Housing Program.

These College representatives requested a loan of $325,000 to build a new dormitory and Commons. The dormitory, as planned, will house 75 boys and 75 girls. Some $60,000 of the total loan will be used to construct the Commons, or dining hall.

At a previous meeting some months ago, reports Mr. Boersma, the committee was informed that the figure of $325,000 was insufficient, in the mind of the government advisors, to build such a structure. President Haan, however, was confident that the project could be completed for such a sum, and warned the committee that costs must be kept low since both the original loan and the interest must be retired on a self-liquidating basis over a forty year period, and that since this means that the students will, by their room costs, be paying for the building and since these costs must be kept as low as possible, therefore the figure originally projected must not be raised.

Mr. Boersma reported that he and President Haan had 1) established the need for such a building and therefore a need for the loan requested, and had 2) convinced the government agency of Dordt's ability to pay for the building. Therefore building specifications will have to be drawn up, and, when these are approved by this agency, interested building contractors will be invited to bid on the project.

Mr. Boersma added this comment: "The Lord has blessed our efforts so far so that we can now have the assurance that there will be a $325,000 loan set aside for Dordt College. The Board has requested the service of De Wild, Greent Reckert, and Stevens, Engineers and Architects, Rock Rapids, Iowa, to draw up definite plans. Much work remains to be done, but we are happy to acquaint all with the results of this project."

Tickets for "Pride and Prejudice" recently went on sale at the college. They will continue to be sold through Friday, November 17, from 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. at 75c each.

The production staff has been formed, consisting of the following committees: Make-up—Katie Haan, Doris Vander By, Joanne Bouma, Mary Huizenga, Mina Douma, Judy Johnson, Kathryn Tinklenburg, Arlene Vanden Berg, Helen Vande Weert, Kathleen Kramer, Terri Meek, Lighting—Mike Nienaber, Stage—Roger Alons, Larry Redeker, Curtis Bloemendaal, Junior Vander Maten, Property—Stuart Sybesma, Stan Veltkamp, Gerald Kramer.

Most of the costumes were obtained from people living in this area and from Western Christian High School. The others will be rented from the Sioux City Costume Company. The set was made by Nick R. Van Til last Christmas vacation for use in the play "Twelve Angry Women." The Furniture Mart of Sioux Center is providing the furniture; the tickets and programs were printed by Printer Fred Brandes.

Curtain time for "Pride and Prejudice" is 8 p.m., November 16 and 17, at the college auditorium. The play will also be presented at Central Christian High School in Prinsburg, Minnesota, on Monday, November 20.
The decisions of October 16 are in the zenith of factors determining the future of Dordt College. That evening the society approved five recommendations proposed by the Executive Board (cf. *Diamond*, October 30). Administrative action in those five respects is now sanctioned by the society—that is, action toward a four-year college program.

Such a move invites an infinite number of pro and con appraisals of the same number of considerations concerned with the development of such a program. One editorial is necessarily limited—the consideration chosen for discussion is that air of complacency prevalent within the constituency. Yes, the move has been made and it was a cautious one sure to set the board aright for a victorious game. But one move leads to many others. These others demand concentrated considerations.

Are there finances available to assure us players of certain victory? Many local secondary and grammar schools, those within the districts supporting Dordt, are operating short of necessary funds, are even far in debt... The constituency, as well as being willing to inaugurate, must be able to support a four-year program.

The program will involve much—much of such import that it may easily be overlooked. There will be the building program and increased operating expenses. And to avoid an "easy-mark" college, we need a competent faculty and capable students, as well as an approved four-year curriculum. There is the consideration of adequate salaries for instructors, of increased scholarship opportunities for students. Funds will also be in constant demand for reinforcing our library and our laboratories.

But these considerations are too extrinsic. There is a more intrinsic one — are there enough instructors, instructors who have published and will continue to publish, and sufficient students available for a successful program? Without question a four-year program is necessary, but it is necessary in more than a teacher-training capacity. To be sure, the program is necessary to train teachers for Midwestern grammar and secondary schools and also to keep qualified instructors on the staff at Dordt. And only with a four-year program can high and stable academic standards be insured, only so can the educational needs of the Midwest be satisfied.

One even more intrinsic consideration deserves attention. A four-year college program at Dordt and at Calvin would leave a
"POETRY AS KNOWLEDGE"
Saturday Review—July 22, 1961

The end product of a poem is the indispensable Experience of Knowledge that defines a human being. The poem takes a man through the moment of experience to the moment of insight. It arouses and adds to his total sentence. So begins the "Poet" in John Ciardi's type of pro and con conversation between "Poet" and "Citizen."

Ciardi, Saturday Review's poetry editor, has subtitled his article, "Dialogue With a Realist," the interlocutors in the dialogue he has submitted the extremities of two ideologies, the poet and the chemical engineer. He has back into his original and comfortable position, and says, very unconvinced, "O.K., so you've got another nice bunch of words there. Now explain," and so against the Citizen's contention that poetry is no more than a "mumbo-jumbo mess around with words," making a simple process seem mysterious and profound, and against his contention that exact knowledge be acquired through an exact process, against these universal citizen contentions the poet finds himself pushing.

"A chemist can attain exact laboratory knowledge by following through with a five-step process, his method of 'creative' thinking," says John Ciardi's poet: "1) defining the limits of the problem; 2) undertaking the qualitative analysis of the problem; 3) the creative mathematics required by the analysis; 4) checking the mathematics; and 5) finding the mechanical implementation of the mathematical solution." These five steps can solve innumerable problems. But how about the cardinal points in a fellow's life? Can he determine the right girl to marry by employing the five-step process, or can he conclude his child's emotional problem by proceeding through the chemists' five steps? If a fellow walks out into the still starry night and, overwhelming, senses his smallness in relation to the universe, can he come to a better knowledge of himself by cussing himself through the five-step process? Can he make an answering analysis of the question, 'what is man' by following a five-step prescription?" "Wait a minute," says Citizen chemist, "I admit my limitations, but are you by this token ordained to tread the unknown?"

"Not at all," answers the poet. "The gist of my argument is that once outside the limits of a specific physical problem, the five-step problem solving method is no longer 'mind in good order.'"

"So-called 'electronic brains,'" he continues, "have been built to play unbeatable chess and checkers because the machines are so constructed that a mistake once made will never be repeated. After all possible variables in poker than a machine can

"No," Ciardi's Citizen confirms. "There just happen to be more variables in poker than a machine can be set for—but what does this have to do with your problems of man and the universe?"

"Quite a bit. If even a poker game can defy the mechanics of a problem solving machine, how many variables does life itself hold to defy the exactness in physical measurement?"

"And if we throw out exactness?" counters the chemist.

"No discarding of exactness at all. We'll be exact where it's possible to be exact, but there remains an order of mind chained to the inexact, and," argues the poet, "with that poetry has a great deal to do. Poetry, in fact, is a 'means to the knowledge' one must have before he can meaningfully ask, 'What is man?'"

Ciardi doesn't stop his poet here. "Let's take Greek mythology," Citizen grimmaces but agrees. "Their tales and parables not only speak profoundly of knowledge but acquire knowledge. They dramatize 'inner urgencies' and 'cross-motives' of every man. They dramatize man's knowledge of himself—more knowledge than is acquired by the five problem-solving steps."

The Citizen offers no definite reply for this undissolved hunk of mental taffy. But he counters with one question. "Suppose I did a piece of research and wrote it up as a parable. The parable wouldn't be the way I acquired knowledge, but only my way of having some fun with previously acquired knowledge. How can the poet acquire knowledge if the poem emerges simply as an expression of the poet's experience previous in life?"

"Which misses the point," says the poet. "We began with poetry as the EXPERIENCE of knowledge. A poem is not about ideas, but is the experience of ideas. The poem is the experience happening to the poet. There is no assimilation process in a poem. No writing, matching 'thoughts' from one bin with 'words' from another. Whatever emerges in a piece of writing emerges as words, forms, images, and rhythm... In the poetic experience of knowledge one must be willing to hearken to the allusive... to acquire knowledge of esthetic form, is to acquire knowledge of man."

The case of Poet versus Citizen ends. Neither has made a "win" over the other, but a better understanding has been attempted and discussed.

Assuming most of our readers to be of Ciardi's "Citizen" type, I would assert that he has laid a platter of choice cuts from the meat of the dialogue and has discarded, which, if smelled at least, definitely wouldn't contaminate us.

CN

Huiskens Ken's Sports

Basketball has again begun to flourish on the Dordt campus. Conditions have been so promising that ten prospective players have reported for practice, each hopeful of securing a position on the team. Four quartermen—Dave Schelhas, Howard Faber, Fred Groen, and Jerry Vermeer—have returned atop of retaining their positions. At the head of this athletic venture stands Coach Harv Blankespoor.

To Blankespoor, pre-season conditioning is not a new thing. He himself has experienced the aches and pains of calisthenics; the short breaths due to running. Neither is actual play foreign to him, for Blankespoor attended Western Christian High from 1953 to 1957 where he played on some exceptional teams. In his junior year, for example, Blankespoor played with a team that posted a 30-1 won-lost record. It is interesting to note that at this time he was privileged to play under none other than G. Rozeboom, then principal at Western and now instructor in psychology and Education at Dordt College. In 1954, the Western team, with Blankespoor, won twenty games and lost but one. Yet for Blankespoor, these were not his greatest years. In his freshman year at Dordt, Blankespoor might have been classified as phenomenal. He amassed 349 points, sported a 26 plus point average per game, and was elected a center to the All-State Junior College Basketball Team.

At present, Coach Blankespoor is attending Westmar College in Le Mars, Iowa, and is majoring in physical education and biology. To support his experiential knowledge of basketball, Blankespoor has taken and continues to take many courses in physical education such as the Theory of Basketball, Athletic Training and Conditioning, Testing and Measurement in Physical Education, along with biology and physiology courses. In sum, one only has to look at the size and shape of Coach Blankespoor to realize that he is a great athlete; one only has to converse with him to realize that he (continued on page 4, col. 1)
SPORTS — Continued...

already has a splendid background in physical education theory so necessary for coaching.

When questioned as to his course of action for the coming year, Blankespoor was not only hesitant but also indefinite. "Whether we play a zone defense or man-to-man, or a combination, offense matters little now," says Blankespoor. "I have to get these guys in shape."

Blankespoor Selects Team

Coach Blankespoor announced last Tuesday the following as members of the Dordt College basketball team:

Howard Faber
Fred Groen
Jerry Vermeer
John Veurink
Dave Schelhaas
Alden Altena
Howard Cole
Norm Ammerman
Larry Redeker
Ralph Roos
Sam Modderman
Stan Velkamp

They will play their first game November 20.

Coed Volley Ball Begins

Athletic director Ted Sjoerdsma has announced that eight coed volleyball teams have been organized for intramural competition, viz. The Lonelies, Cossacks, Spikers, Astronauts, Freshmen Defenders, Assorted Nuts, Lonely Hearts, and the Midwest Junior College Volleyball Team "A", Minnesota Chapter. The teams will play weekly on Wednesday evenings with games beginning at 7:45, 8:20, 8:55, and 9:30. A complete schedule is posted on the physical education bulletin board.

Discussion Group Organizes

A discussion group held its organizational meeting on Wednesday evening, October 18. This club, with Peter De Boer as faculty advisor, is composed of the following members: Betty Blankespoor, Cindy Nibbelink, Vi Boorsma, Jack Kramer, Don Reinders, Nolan Vander Ark, Jon Huiskens, and John Roseboom. The club, not yet named, will pursue CURRENT magazine, which deals with contemporary political, social, and religious ideas. "The purpose of the club," says chairman Jon Huiskens, "is to provide intellectual satisfaction and enlightenment."

Snacks Now Served in Evening

Snacks are now served in the Commons from 9:00-10:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

In charge of the evening snack arrangements is Mrs. Van Wesel, wife of freshman pre-seminary student John Van Wesel, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She is assisted by students.

Some time ago decisions were made which threaten to turn Dordt into a four-year college. It will be a matter of a few years until proposed plans are effected and Dordt Junior College will be a thing of the past. It is not my intent to attempt to build progress or to foist well-laid plans; however, there are pros and cons concerning the four-year issue. The pros we all know: the cons demand examination.

It seems that the extension of Dordt's academic program to that of a four-year school will involve many problems, problems of such magnitude, that when reviewed, undoubtedly will lead to a reconsideration of any proposed rash moves. In the first place it seems that the uniformity, incomeml Iowa weather would tend to thwart the success of a four-year college. To explain. Up to this point we have been working under a One-Big-Happy-Family Plan, to keep Dordt in one large building, under one roof; thus we are enabled to move about in relatively comfort, completely sheltered from weather conditions. But, even now it has been observed that points far removed from the furnace are subject to lowering temperatures. Normal activity in the library, for instance, is possible only in the immediate areas of registers, sports enthusiasts, and other hot air outlets. Attempts to warm the individual by reading accounts of nuclear blasts and Dante's Inferno have proved futile.

To proceed. It is known to all that these separate colleges involve many separate buildings. Imagine the consequences of Dordt students were forced to move from building to building at the rate of an eight hour day. Primarily we would confront the problem of locating other buildings on campus. According to existing plans, additional buildings would be erected in the cornfield to the north of our present diggings. Loyal Iowans would naturally protest the hewing down of this cornfield, and its presence would then make it rather difficult for students to locate buildings in that area.

A recent Physical Science class discussed this very problem, and concluded that it would be necessary to list in the Student Handbook the exact position of buildings on campus. A typical listing would read: Music-Science Bldg.: 15 corn rows north, 35 east, left side of row. Winter would add that the difficulties of tunneling crews would have to be employed to keep open routes between buildings. Students would have to be issued Arctic survival kits for use in the event of blizzards. Thus the problems mount up. Any rational human will agree that the possibility of a four-year college is a bit doubtful after all. Having been enlightened, write your congressman.

Benedict van Arnold

Monday, November 13, 1961

Fine Arts Program Labeled Success

The Fall Fine Arts Program, given at Dordt College on October 19 and 20, brought capacity crowds. On the first night of the performance the auditorium housed about 600 people and on the second night about 625 people attended. An estimated 100 people had to be turned away from the programs. Proceeds amounting to over $1000 were taken in by the music department.

Film to be Shown Dec. 1

"Treasure Island" is scheduled for showing at Dordt College. On Friday, December 1, Dr. Walter J. B. Breckenridge will be at the college auditorium while on tour for the National Audubon Society. Dr. Breckenridge is the director of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History. He received his undergraduate training at the University of Iowa and his master's and doctor's degrees at the University of Minnesota. He has made contributions to the fields of ornithology and herpetology and does paintings and etchings of birds. He is also a wildlife photographer and has himself produced his movie.

"Treasure Island" is a tiny island that splits the channel of the Mississippi. Once the home of the snowshoe rabbit, bald eagle, and caribou, it is now the habitat of the white-tailed deer, great horned owl, and cottontail. The island is uninhabited by man but is the home of many wild creatures.

Pep Club Increases Services

The Dordt faculty recently gave the Pep Club permission to become a service group for the college. Recent service activities performed by the pep club were: preparing Foundation Day Drive letters, within 30 minutes, for mailing, ushering for the Dordt mass meeting and Reformation Day Rally, selling tickets and ushering for the first of the Audubon screen tours. There is a possibility that the cheerleaders might be chosen by a pep club this year if an acceptable method of electing is decided upon. The Pep Club has also sold dozens of Dordt sweatshirts during the past few weeks as a money-making project. Ruth Veldboom was appointed to look into the formation of a pep band to play at the basketball games.