Dordt Hosts ASC Meeting

Dr. William McEwen To Speak

The Sioux Valley Section of the American Chemical Society will meet here tomorrow, March 11. Dr. William E. McEwen of the University of Kansas will speak on the topic "The Timing of Covalency Changes in Competitive Rearrangement Reactions."

Dr. McEwen was born in Oaxaca, Mexico, in 1922. He attended grade school and high school in Yonkers, New York, and received the A. B. degree from Columbia University in 1943. He earned the M.A. degree from Columbia in 1945. He was inducted into the United States Army in 1945 and served in a scientific unit located at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, for a period of one year. He returned to Columbia in 1946 and received the Ph. D. degree in 1947. During his last year of work at Columbia University he held a DuPont Fellowship. He carried out his research for the Ph. D. dissertation under the direction of William E. Doering. He joined the staff of the Chemistry Department of the University of Kansas as an assistant professor in 1947. He was promoted to the rank of associate professor in 1951 and to full professor in 1957.

Dr. McEwen's research work has dealt with mechanisms of rearrangement reactions and of acylation reactions carried out in pyridine solution, the stereochemistry of organophosphorus compounds, the synthesis of organoboron compounds and of high energy nitrogen compounds, the reduction of organic compounds by lower valent species of active metals, and studies of natural products, particularly isoquinoline alkaloids. He is the co-author of a textbook and of laboratory manual of organic chemistry.

The convention will begin at 3:00 tomorrow afternoon with an informal coffee hour followed by Dr. McEwen's address at 4:00. A business meeting will be held at 5:00. During this time Dr. McEwen will confer with students about his work, college requirements in the field of chemistry, research, and other subjects of interest to chemistry majors. At 6:00 a dinner will be served by the Dordt College cafeteria staff.

Professors and students are expected to attend from Augustana College, the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State College, Sioux Falls College, Huron College, Mount Marty College, Yankton College, and from other colleges in the Sioux Valley region.

Students Advised to Submit SSCQT Applications Now

The Selective Service College Qualification Test will be given on April 27, 1961. In this area, the test will be given at Morningside College in Sioux City. The test which will be administered is approximately three hours long. The Selective Service will use the test scores in considering the applicants' eligibility for deferment from military service as students.

To be eligible to take the test, the applicants must be Selective Service registrants who, as students, wish to delay military service. They must also be taking a full-time college course, and studying towards a degree. The applicants must not have taken the test previously.

Those wishing to take the test should apply immediately by obtaining a Bulletin, Application Card, Ticket of Admission, and a mailing envelope from a Selective Service local board, and then filling out the forms. Applications must not be postmarked later than April 6.

For complete information, inquire at the College office.

Calvin College Choir To Present Sacred Concert

Under the direction of Professor Seymour Swets, the A-Cappella Choir of Calvin College will perform at 8 p.m. on March 28 in the auditorium of Western Christian High School in Hull, Iowa. Before the concert of sacred music is presented, there will be a dinner for the Calvin College Choir and the Dordt Choir, their sponsor, at the Dordt College Dining Hall.
There is no question that there is a lack of good reading among Dordt students. Most of us at one time or another have had our conversation interrupted by a statement such as this: “Say, did you read that well-written article by John Gunther in the new Harper’s Magazine, or “I think that the Exodus by Uris is an arresting novel.” Almost immediately the conversation comes to a sudden halt because no one else has read the Harper’s Magazine nor is anyone else familiar with the Exodus. Some one realizing the need to establish a common ground between the conversationalists will then maybe insert a beatnik joke which produces the desired empathy.

In the English composition courses, recently, the students were administered vocabulary tests over their daily assignments. Floating through the halls were plaintive cries bemoaning the fact that out of a short essay they had gleaned some 200 words whose meanings were uncertain. This surely implies that we do little good reading and if done, it is without the use of a dictionary.

Among us Dordt students there is an attitude established that our only obligation is to do the professors’ assignments from class to class period. The suggested but non-assigned outside reading is usually neglected on the pretense that the professor is fortunate enough to have us do the assignments, much less the outside reading. Such rationalization is a result of the erroneous idea that we are doing the professors an extra favor by supraperforming his assignments, when actually the suggested outside reading is primarily for our benefit.

Undoubtedly the Dordt professors most vividly realize this situation. Some faithfully list appropriate books and magazines for outside reading although they realize that their suggestions are falling on deaf ears. Others have resorted to making that which should be outside reading compulsory by requiring a report or promising a quiz. Still another has compelled his students to handle all the magazines in his particular field and tediously list the publishers, editors, general content, etc.

Although these efforts may partly achieve their end, they are futile unless we students co-operate. We must develop in Dordt an intellectual atmosphere; otherwise Dordt will have a dearth of intellectualism and a corresponding defeat of the end for which Dordt was established.

We need students who will willingly read many worthwhile

books and magazines and freely disperse their gleanings with other students. It is a challenge for a student to seek a common ground of conversation with his fellow students. Therefore, this intellectual atmosphere established by a nucleus of students could then be distributed until it included the entire student body. As R. W. Emerson has stated in his Journals, “It is a tie between men to have read the same book.”

E.B.
The Temper of the Times

It seems to me that various organizations in America are operating only for self-interest with no concern for the welfare of the economy. The N.F.O. and other farm organizations want higher prices for farm commodities. Labor desires a shorter work-week with higher wages. These and other organizations are leaving a divided America dismayed against the problems of the world. However, let us leave these latter problems and return to the economic condition or the recession here at home.

One of Kennedy's major anti-recession bills is the increase of the minimum wage. Senator Barry Goldwater has called this "complete economic nonsense." He contends that it will result in higher prices and in greater unemployment. It seems quite natural to me that once a minimum wage becomes law, it will cause an increase in all wages. The laborer who already earns $1.25 is worth more than the one who does not, and he may rightfully expect the difference to be recognized by higher pay. With an increase in labor costs, employers must raise prices to remain in business. They buy from suppliers who have also had to raise prices. Finally, the cost of everything the worker buys goes up until it wipes out the value of his raise; and consequently, I believe such an increase in the minimum wage will be futile.

Due to the high costs at home and the fact that many of their commodities are priced outside of the world market, U.S. businessmen have had to raise production of plants abroad. In this process they are cutting wage rates because the average U.S. factory wage is $2.31 an hour compared to 26 cents in Japan, 71 cents in Italy, and 78 cents in West Germany. I think it is evident from this also that business operating for self-interest rather than for the welfare of American economy.

Concerning the minimum wage bill, former Secretary of Labor James Mitchell has said "... this particular bill would do more harm than good. The massive increase in wage costs which would be required simply could not be met by many firms, and the enactment of the bill would result in extensive curtailment of employment." If this is true, the problem of unemployment will become even more widespread and more chronic. Presently, it is estimated that about 6.8% of the working force (or 5.5 million people) are unemployed. Several reasons for this large number may be given. First, the number of people seeking jobs is increasing at a 1.3 million rate per year; secondly, normal efficiency increases will cut out 2.7 million jobs a year. That's 4 million new jobs to be created each year if the employment rate is to be held steady. This will require a steady and increasing rate of growth.

The Kennedy Administration has suggested several proposals. The government will spend more money on arms, pension payments, unemployment insurance payments, and highways. The building of cities on a large scale, the construction of schools and public accommodations are being encouraged to create more jobs. Kennedy wishes to broaden the social security system (a similar bill was vetoed by former President Eisenhower). To stimulate the economy, Kennedy ordered a speed-up in all departmental spending under present appropriations. Veterans will receive their 1961 insurance dividends ahead of time. To revive the sluggish home-building industry, Kennedy is cutting the FHA mortgage rate from 5 1/2% to 5 3/4%.

Undoubtedly, many of these proposals will be effective in the return to normalcy. I cannot predict a business recovery for the future but with an alert president and an experienced Labor Department, the business picture should begin to brighten.

G.K.

The Madmen

A Candid Look at Dordt and the World

Things happen at Dordt College. This week we were entertained by either a snob or a maniac depending on individual taste. A week ago spring arrived for the third time this year, and a Renault was added to the collection of chapel furniture. Not long before that a celebration, headed by Dr. Zinkhi, attired in "sackcloth and ashes," announced the return of a recent Latin test. You must admit that noteworthy events occur at an astounding rate hereabouts.

To add to the confusion we are now witnessing intramurals. (I say witnessing because there are more witnesses than anything else, e.g., at girls' basketball games.) To date we have encountered boys' basketball (singles and doubles), girls' basketball, and volleyball. The intermixing of these events has given rise to some interesting incidents. It is reported that a certain Freshman walked into the dressing room when a boys' basketball game was scheduled—he thought. He was immediately enlightened as to the true state of affairs. Exactly one day later a ping-pong table collapsed with a large noise when a misguided volleyball team had assembled for a game, on the top of said table. However, these things are not commonplace, and intramurals usually come off very smoothly.

To conclude I would like to record a few remarks made by the champion of the boys' ping-pong singles in a recent interview. Since this is not the sports department, I will not mention John Vander Lugt's name; however, it can be called upon request. At first I had a rather hard time convincing this person that he indeed was the champion, because he very modestly denied any connection with the honor. When he had at last given in, and had admitted the feat, he was asked if there were any points at which he felt he would be defeated. He replied, "Well, I will have . . ."

For this reply and other colorful comments, see Mr. Vander Lugt in person.

J. R.

The Touchstone

What is a dutchman? Archie Green asked that question, too, and when he set out to find an answer, he did not discover that a dutchman is a blond, blue-eyed person whose parents or maybe grandparents emigrated from Holland to settle in one of our Dutch communities. In fact, the dutchman he traced probably was not even related to a Hollander. Archie Green writes his explanation in an article—"Dutchman: An On-The-Job Etymology" which appears in the December 1960 issue of American Etymology. Green noticed that many times when different national groups worked together, a certain nationality was associated with a certain type of work, with the result that the name of the nationality was attached to tools used by the group. Although many times these terms were derogatory, Green, working as a shipwright apprentice in San Francisco, heard an expression with a more pleasant connotation: "The word was 'dutchman,'" he writes, "perhaps it caught my ear because it was used in a pleasant, friendly manner where assembling a ship, and the 'dutchman' referred to was a method of filling a gap left between two pieces, which for a particular ship just did not fit. When Green wondered why this insert was called a "dutchman," the shipwright informed him that "dutchman" was a term applied to a patch or insert in woodwork. It was usually used to remedy flaws in material or workmanship. The shipwright suggested that the term may have come from the place in which a shipwright ship did not fit. When Green first mentioned the term, he was told it was Dutch.
Dallas Symphony Orchestra
To Be Featured In
The Concert Series

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra will be heard Thursday, March 23, at 8:00 p.m. This season’s last concert of the Sioux County Concert Series will be presented in the Northwestern College Auditorium in Orange City.

During the past three seasons, the orchestra has been under the batons of Maestro Paul Kletzki and Associate Conductor Donald Johanas. The orchestra is composed of musicians from all over the United States and Europe.

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra began with its first concert sixty-one years ago. After World War II, the orchestra was reorganized into a fully professional symphony. Since then it has made many recordings, radio broadcasts, and television presentations.

Thursday night’s program includes the Dvorak Fifth Symphony, “From the New World,” which the Czech composer wrote during his stay at Spillville, Iowa. Works by Brahms and Wagner will also be heard.

Donald Johannes, who will conduct the symphony here, is a native Iowan. In 1955 he was the recipient of an award by the Rockefeller Foundation through the American Symphony Orchestra League for study in Europe. After winning the International Conducting Competition in Amsterdam in 1957, he has conducted a series of concerts with the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic. This year he is conducting over twenty-five concerts with the Dallas Symphony as well as conducting the Pittsburg Symphony.

The concert is open to those who have a season membership in the Sioux County Concert Association.

With the passing of the basketball season, most of the interest at Dordt is focused upon the intramural sports. The boys ping-pong tournaments are over, and John Vander Lugt is the winner, and Bryce Jensen runner-up, in singles competition. In doubles, John and Bill Van Tol were champs, with Lloyd Kempema and Harvey Oobink capturing second place.

Rumors are floating around to the effect that the championship basketball team of John Vander Lugt, Bill Van Tol, Lloyd Kempema, Mel Van Boven, and Stan Vander Berg will challenge the faculty to a basketball game, the winners to be declared the champions of all Dordt and awarded a suitable trophy.

Girls’ volleyball is progressing at an amusing pace. As this goes to press, it is too early to report anything definite on the female version of ping-pong, but if it goes anything like their volleyball games, the results should, to say the least, be interesting. For further details, see “The Madmen.”

In the boys’ volleyball, team six appeared to be the next champions, since they defeated their roughest competition, team five, on Monday.

All School Party Date Set

The Pep Club will sponsor a school party next week in the school gymnasium. The date is set for Thursday evening, March 16, at 8:00 p.m.

Three Pep Club committees are presently making plans for the party. An entertainment committee composed of four members and headed by Bev Vissher, Pep Club Secretary, is planning the evening entertainment. Committee members promise “loads of party games, really fun.”

A food committee of eight freshman girls headed by Shirley Tolsma is planning the evening refreshments. This committee is divided into two subcommittees—one responsible for the menu-planning and lunch serving, the other responsible for the dishwashing.

A publicity committee composed of three freshman girls is planning posters and other publicity materials for the event.

A special feature in the agenda of the evening party is the presentation of basketball awards.

There will be a 25¢ fee for admission into the gymnasium. There will be no charge for the refreshments in the Commons.

The party will be informal.

Touchstone - - -

(Continued from page 3)

“dutchman” to that process. Green consulted different etymologists and dictionaries trying to find more about the origin of the “dutchman.” In every case he found the term referred to an insert used to camouflage faulty workmanship, to fill a gap. In one case the “dutchman” was used to plug a hole drilled in a beer line by a printer whose press-room was below a frontier day saloon. Although Green comes up with interesting definitions of “dutchman,” he admits that he never did find a satisfactory theory of the origin of the term. Could it be that the expression really did come from Holland, beginning with Hans, who held back the sea with his little finger used as a “dutch” to fill the gap in the dike?

T.G.