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# Pro Rege

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Volume 7 | Number 1

Article 8

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September 1978

## Incidentally

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*Dordt College*

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### Recommended Citation

Koldenhoven, James (1978) "Incidentally," *Pro Rege*: Vol. 7: No. 1, 28.

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# Incidentally....

by James Koldenhoven

Dr. Russell Maatman, chemistry professor at Dordt College, will be the first Dordt faculty member to be published by the newly-formed Dordt College Press. His *The Unity in Creation* is scheduled for release in September.

Official beginnings of the Dordt College Press go back to the fall of 1976 when an *ad hoc* committee was formed to prepare for the Board of Trustees a report on the need and cost of such a venture. By the following spring a report was prepared and the board called for "a scholarly press which would publish works of Reformed scholars." The DCP Committee reports that it has accepted a second book for publication and that several others are in various stages of development.

The committee has issued guidelines for authors, including presentation of manuscript plans and approval of at least one chapter. Actual printing is to be handled in the Dordt College printing office in most cases, although the committee may choose to sub-let some operations. Advertising and distribution of books produced by the DCP will be managed by the Dordt College Bookstore.

The thesis of *The Unity in Creation*, as reported by the author, is "that physical science is possible only because men know, even though they might suppress the idea, that God

created the world and controls it." The question addressed by Dr. Maatman is, "Is there a 'Christian physical science'?" After providing some examples of how physical science works and a brief history of physical science, Maatman sets out to answer some fundamental questions based on his thesis:

How should physical science be taught? If physical science can be "known" only because man knows there is a God, is the reverse true, that is, does the existence of physical science prove the existence of God? Does Heisenberg's famous Uncertainty Principle weaken the argument? What must we say about space and time? What about Kuhn's paradigm concept? Is the physical scientific enterprise bringing us closer to the truth? Can the non-Christian do science? (Notes from author.)

These and other notes from the author show Maatman at work with basic assumptions about the unity of creation.

*The Unity in Creation* will be used as a pilot publication by the Dordt College Press Committee to assess the viability of running a college-owned publishing business.