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## The Voice, August 1959

Dordt College

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Sioux Center, Iowa

August, 1959

## Dordt Open House Sept. 8 & 9

### *Present and Future Need For Christian School Teachers Has Reached Critical Stage*

Ministers, Teachers, and Parents Urged to Help in Recruiting

Students to Meet This Kingdom Emergency

Let's face it. Even now several of our Christian Schools are looking for teachers at this late hour. This situation exists even though forty-two girls who attended Dordt College last year have taken teaching positions in our Christian Schools. And statistics reveal that in the next ten years many more teachers will be needed to meet the increased enrollment.

There is only one solution to this problem. We must have young men and women who will prepare themselves now and in the future. All our people should concern themselves with this matter. It is a spiritual issue. God has made clear our responsibility. He has blessed us with a kingdom offspring. He gives us the material necessities to fulfill our obligations. It is up to us to carry out our part in His covenant with us. One aspect, a vital one, of this responsibility is to provide kingdom workers. We must be ready to encourage our sons and daughters to devote themselves to this work and we must be willing to sacrifice, if necessary, so that they can prepare themselves. Dordt College is fully prepared to accomplish the necessary training to achieve that goal.

As is always the case in kingdom life, there are obstacles to overcome. We must be awake to them and resist them. The most common obstacle is materialism. While on the one hand we speak of our love for the kingdom and God's right to our service, when it comes to our personal situation, we often consider our material fortunes and leave the kingdom service to others. Young people who are qualified to be teachers and have a certain interest in it are often dissuaded from attending college in favor of getting a job. The cost of education looms too big in their eyes and the eyes of their parents. This is true in spite of the fact that after two years of college training one can both serve the needs of God's kingdom and enjoy a comfortable salary, in addition to the personal benefits gained from college training.

Recently the demands of the states for increased college training as a requirement for teacher certification has had its influence in changing young people's minds about entering the teaching profession. This is cause for weeping. While it is true that the state can demand too much minimum training for certification, it is not true that two years of college constitutes an unreasonable demand. The nature of present day education and the nature of the times in which we live make this imperative. Surely the evil one has his laugh when members of God's kingdom, who claim to promote and cultivate the highest and best in this life, turn from the teaching profession to ordinary jobs because of the requirements involved. This is not the mark of a healthy spiritual idealism.

Perhaps at this very hour some of our young people are facing this problem with their parents. Don't forget, this is a tremendously serious matter. The Lord seeks and deserves laborers in His vineyard. Anyone who heeds this call will never be disappointed. Shall all of us make this a matter of prayer?

### College Addition Nearing Completion

Tuesday and Wednesday, September 8 and 9, have been set aside for inspection of the new college addition by our people.

The De Stigter Bros. Contractors have assured the Board that the project under construction will be completed at that time.

Included in the addition are a large library room, library work shop, student lounge, additional rest rooms, stage and two class rooms. Total cost of this project amounts to \$70,000.00.

It is suggested that, as much as is possible, those living a distance of approximately thirty or more miles away from Dordt College, attend this open house on Tuesday, September 8. And those living within thirty miles from Dordt College attend open house on Wednesday, September 9. This is advised in order to spread the attendance more evenly over the two days. Naturally if anyone finds it inconvenient to comply with this the Board does not expect or even want them to do so. If it is convenient we suggest this arrangement. But all our people are urged to try to attend. A soup supper will be served both days, beginning at 4:30 p.m. (See special article on this on the back page of this issue.)

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### Dordt College Opens Wednesday, Sept. 16

REGISTRATION ON MONDAY &  
TUESDAY, SEPT. 14 & 15

Convocation exercises at Dordt College will take place on Wednesday, September 16, at 9:00 a.m. in the college auditorium. Rev. B. J. Haan, college president, will speak. The public is cordially invited to this service.

Registration of students will take place on the preceding Monday and Tuesday. Prospective students are asked to watch the church bulletin for details on registration.

# Editorial . . .

## Neutrality In Education . . . A Major Issue

By C. Van Schouwen

Many orthodox Christians are fully persuaded that neutrality is antithetical to faithful Christian living. Christ himself said, "No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Again the Lord said, "He that is not for me is against me." In the sphere of morals and ethics there cannot be neutrality—deeds are either for or against God. Religion is an "either-or" proposition and leaves no room for neutrality. On this point all orthodox Christians agree.

However, when the sphere of education is considered, the approach of many orthodox Christians is altogether different. Education, they say, does not involve spiritual factors, it is neutral, neither for or against God, it is not inimical to the Christian faith. Consequently we can send our children to any institution of education, grade-school, high-school, college—for education is a neutral sphere.

It is very easy to demonstrate that this position is entirely contrary to the orthodox conception of the sovereignty of God. Education is not merely the impartation but also the interpretation of the facts of the universe. Facts by themselves as brute facts have no purpose or meaning unless they are interpreted. They can be interpreted upon the basis of God's revelation or upon the basis of human pre-suppositions. However, the sovereign God created the universe and the fullness thereof, determined every fact, and gave every fact its meaning and purpose. As such, they existed in the thoughts of God and these thoughts have been given material form in the works of his hands. Consequently, to understand reality and the true meaning of all things, man must think God's thoughts after him, as he observes and studies all created things. In doing this the student sees the greatness and the majesty of God and cannot help but glorify God in the many studies pursued at school. This is real education.

However, to hold that neutrality is possible in the sphere of education is to eliminate God from the whole universe of reality and to relegate him to a position of another fact among many other meaningless facts. To believe in neutrality is to be-

lieve that things can exist independently of God and that God did not create them. Under the circumstances, man is considered to be capable of interpreting the facts of this world upon the basis of human reason. Such a procedure predicates the autonomy of man, which in essence is like to the sin committed by Adam and Eve in Paradise and cast the entire world into sin and misery. Consequently, to hold to neutrality in the sphere of education is to uphold a philosophy that can have only dire results for man and the world.

All Christians believe that God alone creates, determines, and sustains all things that come to pass. God alone speaks authoritatively both in nature and in grace. Man's role in the sphere of education, in seeking to understand the universe, is re-interpretative and analogical. Without the infallible and authoritative voice of God in interpreting the facts of the universe, all knowledge becomes subjective and relative. And no universals, standards, norms, and principles can survive in a world wherein God does not first of all speak and speak with authority. This indicates the direction a country will go, morally, socially, politically, economically, when education is considered to be a neutral sphere.

In a neutral sphere, education becomes the reorganization of human experience—the experience of those totally depraved by nature. In a neutral sphere, history has no meaning as far as origins and goals are concerned. History can only become real and have meaning when the world is viewed as governed by a sovereign God, who decrees and predestines all things. In a neutral sphere, all of life must be governed by impersonalistic forces, which control and drive and force without motive or reason. It is only when every fact is considered to be a God-given fact, God determined, and God interpreted, that a child of God is able to see the wisdom, power, and purpose of a Heavenly Father. This gives the student meaning, assurance, hope, confidence, optimism, a sense of responsibility, fortitude, and understanding, relative to a welter of facts encountered in a variety of courses pursued. In a neutral sphere there is no room for the centrality of the Bible, which alone can present

the truth about all facts. In a neutral sphere the Bible may be acknowledged, but only in so far as it does not interfere with the prerogatives of autonomous man in interpreting the universe. A great theologian said once upon a time that when the Crown Rights of the King are not recognized in one sphere of human existence, it is only a matter of time that He will not be recognized in any sphere. We are experiencing the fulfillment of this statement in our own country right now. Neutrality in education is impossible, it is unbiblical, it is disastrous for the well-being of the church, the state, and society.

The history of education has adequately demonstrated that there is no neutrality in the sphere of education at all. A large number of books are rapidly coming from the press—published by both Christians and secular writers—protesting vigorously against the evil influences of modern education. We do not have the space to enlarge upon this subject; but those who are interested in pursuing this subject farther, should read such books as:

*Crucifying Christ in our Colleges*, by Dan Gilbert; *No Wonder We Are Losing*, by Robert Morris; *The Diminished Mind*, by Mortimer Smith; *Bending The Twig*, by Augustin G. Rudd; *Retreat From Learning*, by Joan Dunn; *Brain Washing in the High Schools*, by Merril Root; *Conquest of the American Mind*, by Felix Wittmer; *Collectivism on the Campus*, by E. Root.

Dr. Wittmer in his book, "*The Conquest of the American Mind*", fearlessly names the leaders and their helpers, who seek to conquer the American mind for socialism through the teacher colleges, the schools, teacher organizations, library journals, and text books. In a book on "*Foundations: Their Power and Influence*", the author states that the purpose of the Progressive Education movement is not to turn out good Americans with the ability to think for themselves, but good little socialists, who will follow-the-leader into the dreamy collectivist world of the modern educationist.

It is not my purpose in any way to discredit the American educational system. But, must we as Christians close our eyes to all these movements and trends, when those who have gained reputation on a national basis in education sound the alarm? The Bible warns us that in the last days Satan will appear as an angel of light and will deceive many. Today Satan comes behind the mask of culture, science, progress, development, adjustment, government, education, prosperity, etc., to deceive and to lead astray. There is no sphere in life which can be considered to be neutral — least of all education.

**Annual Financial Report For  
1958-1959 Fiscal Year**
**GENERAL FUND**
**Receipts:**

Bal. on hand Aug. 1, '58	\$ 4,593.50
Classis Sioux Center	8,140.16
Classis Orange City	3,756.73
Classis North Central	1,040.07
Classis Minn. North	583.02
Classis Minn. South	1,994.87
Denominational Offerings	14,449.21
Societies	2,494.20
Individuals	885.70
Choir	2,171.31
Tuition	34,272.00
Deposits	730.00
Protestant Ref. Churches	452.31
Student Act. Fund (Postage on Films)	30.74
Dorm and Dining Fund (for Utilities)	1,200.00
Building Fund (Postage, etc. for drives)	750.00
Chr. School (Janitor's Supplies)	44.62
Reformatiin Day Offering	368.90
Insurance—Students	141.25
Insurance—Basketball	71.25
Graduation Fees	215.00
Lab. Fees	415.50
Practice Teaching Fees	675.00
Teachers Certificates	52.00
Faculty Gown and Cap Rental	29.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	232.61
Total	\$79,788.95

**Disbursements:**

Instructional Salary	\$41,288.77
Non-Instructional Salary	7,612.50
Student Employment	209.06
Telephone	245.48
Utilities	3,481.26
Social Security	956.60
Office Supplies	494.57
Postage	1,492.59
Printing	1,369.56
Janitor's Supplies	601.96
Library	3,500.00
Choir	2,277.74
Travel Expense	962.97
Reserve Fund	4,536.00
Instructional Supplies	479.16
Equipment	1,227.77
Maintenance	486.67
N.W.I. Jr. Conference Fee	10.00
N.C. Jr. College Fee	5.00
Iowa Jr. College Assn. fee	10.00
Commencement Expenses	37.29
Studio—Pictures for Voice	13.26
Diplomas and Covers	83.52
Graduation Robes & Caps	144.05
Ads	127.50
Bank Charges	6.00
Deposit Fee Refunds	716.90
Graduation Fee Refunds	5.00
Tuition Refunds	307.50
Lab. Fee Refunds	9.00
Insurance Refund	3.00
Practice Teaching Fee Refund	25.00
Insurance — Student	137.75
Insurance — Basketball	86.25
Insurance—Bldg. & Equip.	234.14
Faculty Robes and Caps	73.00
Teachers Certificates	52.00

Safety Deposit Box Rental	4.80	N.U.C.S. Fees and Annuals	39.94
Fee Paid to Cooperating Teachers	520.00	Auditorium Rental, Reformation Day	55.00
Other Practice Teaching Fee Disbursements	159.00	Dr. R. Danhof, Expenses and Message	130.59
Year Books	2.50	Miscellaneous Expenses	293.34
Payment for Sod	150.00		
Cutting Sod	90.00		\$75,981.67
Benally Fund Re-imbursement	378.50	Bal. on hand Aug. 1, 1959	3,807.28
Teachers Moving Expense	849.18		\$79,788.95

**REPORT OF SOCIETY CONTRIBUTIONS**

There are many encouraging evidences of support from our people. One that deserves special acknowledgment is that which comes from the societies in our churches. The library of Dordt College owes a great deal to these societies for its steady growth. We sincerely hope that this wonderful support will continue and we are confident that it will. Perhaps some of our church societies in outlying areas, such as California, Washington, Montana, and Wisconsin, might be willing to consider Dordt's needs. All funds from societies go for the support of the library.

The total amount received from various societies for the library since August, 1958 is \$2,494.20. Below is a list of the societies that sent in gifts since January 1:

CHURCH	SOCIETY	AMT.
Clara City, Minn.	— Ladies Aid	\$45.00
Emden, Minnesota	— Mission Society	25.00
Minneapolis, Minn.	— Men's Society	5.00
Raymond, Minn.	— Ladies Aid	25.00
Chandler, Minn.	— Dorcas Society	20.00
Chandler, Minn.	— Sunshine Guild	36.32
Edgerton, (First) Minn.	— Mission Club	50.00
Holland, Minn.	— Men's Society	15.00
Luverne, Minnesota	— Men's Society	10.00
Holland, Iowa	— Young Women's Guild	10.00
Kanawha, (Wright) Iowa	— Men's Society	10.00
Bigelow, Minn.	— Dorcas Society	10.00
Hospers, Iowa	— Golden Hour Circle	25.00
Hospers, Iowa	— Priscilla Society	50.00
Ocheyedan, Iowa	— Men's Society	10.00
Sanborn, Iowa	— Loyal Workers Society	25.00
Sheldon, Iowa	— Golden Hour Circle	50.00
Sioux City, Iowa	— Christian Fellowship Society	10.00
Leighton, Iowa	— Ruth Circle	25.00
Oskaloosa, Iowa	— Societies	25.00
Corsica, South Dakota	— Young People Society	61.95
Hull, Iowa	— Senior Ladies Aid	40.00
Hull, Iowa	— Helping Hand Society	10.00
Inwood, Iowa	— Dorcas Ladies Aid	40.00
Rock Rapids, Iowa	— Martha Circle	25.00
Rock Valley, (First) Iowa	— Valley Gleaners Society	50.00
Rock Valley, (Calvin) Iowa	— Harmony Workers	25.00
Sioux Center, (First) Iowa	— Ruth Society	25.00
Sioux Center, First) Iowa	— Societies	68.00
Sioux Center, (Bethel) Iowa	— Ora Et Labora	25.00
Sioux Center, (Bethel) Iowa	— Sunshine Circle	15.00
Sioux Center, (Bethel) Iowa	— Girls Society	25.00
Sioux Center, (Bethel) Iowa	— Mary Fellowship Society	50.00
Sioux Falls, South Dakota	— Societies	33.66

# SOUP SUPPER TO BE SERVED AT OPEN HOUSE

**Local Women To Serve.**

**Proceeds For Equipment In  
New Addition**

Those attending open house at Dordt College will be able to have their supper in the College. On both days supper will be served beginning at 4:30 p.m. This will enable those coming from a distance to have supper and return home early.

Supper will be served in both the college dining hall downstairs and in the college auditorium. This is to insure speedy service. The local women are taking charge of the supper and plan to have ample help.

The menu will include vegetable, pea, chicken, and chili soup; tavern and chicken sandwiches, hot dogs; pie and ice cream.

There will be no special charge for the supper. However, opportunity will be provided for our people to make a contribution. The proceeds from open house will go toward payment of equipment in the new addition. Items included in this are the new library furnishings, student lounge furnishings, stage curtains, and outdoor shrubbery. The cost of these items totals approximately \$6000.00.

V

## Enlarged Parking Facilities At Dordt College

There is good news for those who attend Dordt College activities on the campus. The Executive Board has made provisions for more parking space to the rear of the college building. Those attending open house are asked to bear this in mind and to make use of these facilities.

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## DORDT COLLEGE FINANCE COMMITTEE STILL NEEDS TO BORROW \$10,000.00

In answer to Banner ads the Finance Committee has received \$60,000.00 in borrowed monies. Another \$10,000.00 at 5% interest is needed. Our people are solicited for help.

Some of our people might take a cue from what two youngsters have done. One thirteen year old lad took a bond for \$500.00, and another fourteen year old took a bond for \$250. Their aim is to invest in Dordt College, leaving the interest in the school and hopefully purchasing more bonds in the future. When time comes to attend college, they will have a fine start on tuition payments. Should it be impossible to attend Dordt College they can take out their investment plus interest. Think about it, young people and parents.

## PLENTY HOUSING STILL AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

Those planning to attend Dordt College needing rooming facilities will find several places from which to choose. Conduct of past students has encouraged many of the Sioux Center people to offer rooms for Dordt College students. Rooms are rented for the standard rate of \$4.50 per week. Meals per week at the college commons amounts to \$9.00. Those going home week ends pay approximately \$6.00 per week for meals.

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## A PUZZLING AND DISTURBING ITEM

The Siouxland Women's Missionary Union has offered a scholarship, free tuition at Dordt College, to someone who intends to prepare for full time service in mission work. It is hard to believe that not one person has applied for this scholarship. Does this indicate anything concerning interest in kingdom activity, specifically missions?

Anyone seeking to apply for this scholarship is to write to Mrs. Gilbert De Stigter, Sioux Center, Iowa.

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## Students From 10 States To Attend Dordt College

According to reports from the registrar's office, students from at least ten States will attend Dordt College this fall. They are Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Colorado, New Mexico, New Jersey, California, Washington.

While it is difficult to estimate the enrollment for the coming year, it appears from present statistics that it will compare favorably with last year's enrollment.

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## Rev. John Vander Ploeg, Reformation Day Speaker

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, IS  
DATE SET

The annual Reformation Day celebration has been set for Friday, Oct. 30. The Reverend John Vander Ploeg, editor of *The Banner*, will be the speaker. As in the past, this meeting will be held in the Sioux Center Public Auditorium. Provisions are being made to have 800 chairs set up so that the older ones will be able to enjoy comfortable sitting. The bleachers hold an additional 900. Plan to attend.

## Iowa College Committee Grants Dordt College Approval

### Credits Continue To Be Transferrable To Other Colleges

The Iowa Committee on Secondary School and College Relations met on July 9, 1959, and considered reports concerning Dordt College. After a study of these reports the committee expressed that it was gratified to know of the progress that Dordt has been making and voted to grant Dordt College approval.

Previously this committee deemed it necessary to grant us only a "limited approval." Now we are approved. This is a very significant item and one that will please our constituents.

This gives us opportunity to make a few comments on this subject. We do this because there has been a great deal of misunderstanding about it. Dordt College has suffered some very unjust blows from the malicious untruths that have been peddled around concerning this matter.

From the very first year of Dordt College's existence, never has any Dordt College student, recommended to another college by our faculty, been denied acceptance of his credits from Dordt College. What has prompted individuals to claim that Dordt College credits are not transferable? We often wonder.

We are happy that not only are our credits transferable to all other colleges, but that several highly respected colleges warmly welcome and invite Dordt College students to attend their school upon graduation from Dordt. They do this on the basis of their past experience with our students and on the basis of the kind of education they know our students are receiving. Our faculty has gained the respect of several reputable colleges.

That Dordt College has now been approved and no longer carries the "limited" approval does not mean that it has reached the summit of academic progress. This is only another significant step in the long road to gaining academic stature and respectability. Fact is, we would soon lose what we now enjoy if we did not zealously guard our academic program.

Students attending Dordt College need not fear that they will suffer academically by doing so. We have reason to believe that they will find Dordt College most acceptable. Former students will confirm this.