

perspective

Newsletter of the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship
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Dear Supporters and Friends of the ICS and AACS,

Going
About
Our
Work

Being at the Institute now is like being in the eye of the hurricane. The students are buckling down for the last three weeks of courses and exams; the profs are reading papers and finishing up their courses; and the Association staff is planning the flurry of summer AACS activities which will be held in most parts of the continent. The Discovery II lectures in all of the different communities are over; the recent meetings of the trustees and curators are finished; and the controversies and debates of the fall and winter months have now subsided. We're going about our work.

Rev. Joosse Resigns as Trustee Chairman; Accepts Edmonton Church

On the evening of February 12 thirty-eight current and retired members of the board and staff of the AACS met at the Cottage Restaurant in Toronto to thank the Rev. and Mrs. Joosse for their years of service to the AACS. Until the middle of February Rev. Joosse served as the minister of the Newmarket, Ontario, Christian Reformed Church, and since then has become pastor of the Third Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, Alberta. A supporter of the AACS since its founding in the fifties, Rev. Joosse has served on the Board of Trustees for five years, and had been chairman for the last three years. Rev. Joosse was Trustee for region 7. A move out of the region means automatic resignation from the Board of Trustees and therefore from the presidency.



James and Lena Joosse at
farewell party

Unlike most meetings of the Association, this gathering of thanks was conspicuous because there were no long speeches. The only speech of the night was a brief statement of

"Continue
the Way
You've Gone"

thank-you by Rev. Joosse on behalf of himself and his wife, Lena, and this challenge: "Continue in the way you've gone, in that direction, in obedience to our God, sensitive to critique. I am thankful to my God for the very great honor of having the privilege of serving the Association in some small way."

Served With
Wisdom
and
Dignity

Those of you who know James Joosse know that his statement of thanks to God for being able to serve the Association "in some small way" is a great understatement. Rev. Joosse has continually devoted his spare time and energies to AACS affairs, and has served with wisdom and firm dignity in the office of trustee chairman. His contribution will be missed.

"Christianity
is as
Broad as
Life."

As the movers carried the last boxes out of the vacated parsonage, Rev. Joosse told me these things about the Association and Institute: Why does James Joosse think the AACS is necessary, and how did he get involved? "This has been the way I've been taught in terms of world and life view. My dad read and followed Abraham Kuyper. He used to speak in those terms--I've always thought in this way--Christianity is as broad as life. I've always had my feelers out. So I got involved--although I didn't understand everything. My experience through the years has convinced me that the AACS work is crucial and indispensable. We've got to concentrate on it."

Institute
Fellows
Exaggerate
Church's
Importance

Rev. Joosse looks off contemplatively and says, "I think sometimes the Institute fellows exaggerate the importance of the instituted church. It doesn't do any good to shoot at the church because it's us. I'm still optimistic that if we truly preach the Word it is just going to do its work. It won't be easy, but the Gospel will win out. There are many problems which come up which we regret and which are very sinful, but God still blesses his believers."

"The real strength of the AACS and ICS is their foundation: The Word of God, the Spirit of the Lord, the Bible--as expressed in our creed. That strength is being expressed by our profs--it's taking on flesh and blood."

"On the other hand, our weaknesses are lack of understanding, lack of knowledge, over sensitivity, being hyper-critical about some things of secondary importance."

Kids
Waiting
to Break
Out of a
Moralistic,
Dead
Formalism

"One of our problems at the Institute is that we may have, through certain emphases, attracted neurotics with psychic weakness. Kids who've been waiting just to break out of a moralistic, dead formalistic tradition. They looked for room to express that in our Institute. You can become obsessed with a problem and you can use it as a defense system--a way of vindicating much injustice in the Christian community. But I think we're coming through that."

"The Lord's
Moving
This
Thing"

And what of the future? "I see and sense, first of all, notwithstanding opposition and the need for internal cleansing, the Lord's Spirit moving this thing, and I feel the bond in Christ. I think that through this effort the Body of Jesus Christ could well become a power for reformation in our nations. The possibilities are unlimited if we remain faithful before He comes back. He's doing this among us."

* * * * *

Critique,
Issues and
Problems
from
Now on

Beginning in this issue, the Newsletter will embark on a slightly modified editorial policy. From now on you may find statements by people associated with the AACS or ICS which are critical of the actions or trends of either, and issues or problems will be brought up for public airing and consideration. We want you to know what's really happening here in Toronto and elsewhere; and we hope that we can all have confidence in the fidelity to truth and the fair coverage of dissent which the Newsletter strives to make its concern.

See
Wedge
Publishing
for
More
Meat

Perhaps one other statement about the Newsletter's editorial format is in order. Perspective Newsletter concentrates on bringing you news and insight into the developments which are part of the Association and Institute. Because of this it is difficult to bring complicated theoretical ideas via this channel. You may get a whiff of the aroma of Biblical scholarship but you won't get the meat of it in these pages. We encourage you to satisfy further curiosity by actually studying full or part-time at the Institute, or to make use of the services of Wedge Publishing Foundation. Wedge publishes books and pamphlets through Tomorrow's Book Club; most of the Institute's lectures are distributed by Mr. George Balogh through the Wedge Tape Library; Wedge also publishes a monthly magazine, VANGUARD, which contains articles and commentary from a Christian viewpoint. Information about these services can be secured by writing to Wedge Publishing Foundation, Box 10, Station L, Toronto 10, Ontario.

AACS Summer Study Conference Dates

Final arrangements are being made for the AACS summer study conferences; please reserve time in your calendar to attend one of these exciting occasions filled with intellectual stimulation and celebration of Christian community. Our regular conferences will be held in Ontario on the Canadian Civic Holiday, August 1-2; the British Columbia conference will be held Sept. 3-6; in Alberta, Sept. 3-6; in Iowa, Sept. 3-6; in Seattle, Sept. 1-2, and in Western Michigan, Sept. 22-24.

We are also making plans with Dr. John Van Dyk for a

conference in the Middle Atlantic states, taking into account the local board's preferences for a conference location. We hope also to hold a conference in the Boston area of the Northeast. A California conference is planned for the Isla Vista-Santa Barbara area during the mid-summer. Locations and schedules will be included in the conference brochures which should be finished in a few weeks, and future newsletters will give more details. These conferences are exciting; if you'd like to see our Association in action, please plan to attend now.

Koole Elected New Trustee Chairman



Marinus Koole,
new chairman of
the Board of
Trustees

Mr. Marinus Koole was elected as the new chairman of the AACS Board of Trustees at its March 29-31 meeting. Mr. Koole is president of Creekside Gardens, a wholesale florist company in St. Catharines, Ontario. Long a supporter of Christian education, Mr. Koole has served on the Board of Trustees for a number of years. An interview with Mr. Koole is planned for the next Newsletter.

AACS Co-sponsors Second Summer Program in Christian Education

Curriculum
Writing and
Research,
Summer
Courses

Preliminary plans and the brochure giving details of the "Summer Program in Christian Education, 1971" are finished. Copies of this brochure are available from Mr. John Top, Co-ordinator and Registrar, c/o Toronto District Christian High School, Box 527, Woodbridge, Ontario. The Summer Program, sponsored jointly by the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship (AACS) and the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OACS), will feature three parts: 1. Curriculum Writing Workshops in Biblical studies and in science and social studies (July 5-30); 2. Curriculum Research Seminars in art, language and literature, mathematics, and in French (July 19-July 30); and 3. Summer Courses in philosophy of education, psychology of education, and introduction to Biblical theology (July 5-August 6).

To Provide
an Integral,
Christian
Course of
Studies

This three-fold program is designed to further the development of an integral, Christian course of studies for elementary and secondary schools and to provide additional training and research opportunities for teachers and students.

Hermeneutics and Economico-Political Seminars Cancelled

Seminars in hermeneutics and in economic and political issues originally scheduled for this summer have been

cancelled by the Board of Curators of the Institute at the request of Drs. James Olthuis and Bernard Zylstra. Dr. Olthuis feels that another year of research is necessary to lead a seminar at the level of scholarship that graduate exploration demands. Dr. Zylstra is going to use the time gained from this postponement to write the draft of a new book on the Biblical conception of justice, for which he's already done considerable research.

Long-range
Benefits

The Association and Institute make severe demands of our professors, and as much as we'll all miss the fruits of these seminars, the rest and advance in sustained intellectual inquiry at the foundations of their disciplines which this pause will make possible will probably yield richer scholarly dividends in the long run.

Why Seerveld Will Become ICS Visiting Prof

Ten
Monthly
Aesthetics
Seminars



As reported in the last Newsletter, Dr. Calvin Seerveld has accepted an appointment as visiting professor of aesthetics at ICS beginning this fall. He will lead ten monthly seminars concerned with developing a theory of art and art criticism that "breathes an evangelical, reformational vision" of life.

What
Seerveld's
Done

Calvin Seerveld
giving a dramatic
reading

Dr. Seerveld received his Ph.D. in philosophy from the Free University of Amsterdam in 1958; his dissertation was entitled, "Benedetto Croce's Earlier Aesthetic Theories and Literary Criticism". He is professor of philosophy at Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, Illinois, where he has taught for the past decade. Many of you know him through his publications: A Christian Critique of Art and Literature, Take Hold of God and Pull, The Greatest Song, in Critique of Solomon. He has lectured widely for the Association, and many of his lectures have been published in the Christian Perspectives Series, and elsewhere. Dr. Seerveld has served as trustee from the U.S. and has been a member of the curatorium of the ICS since it was formed.

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Why did Dr. Seerveld accept the challenge of conducting the aesthetics seminar at the Institute? He states,

To Bring
Experience
to Bear
on a
Theory of
Art

"I wish to see whether I can bring my long background of comparative literature and classics, European training in philosophy and theology, interest and thesis work in aesthetics and literary criticism, to bear upon foundational matters in theory of art. More Christian ground needs to be broken here, I think, that breathes an evangelical, reformational vision, and I hope to put my energies into this in the coming years."

"ICS Will
Be Known
by Its
Fruits"

Long associated with the AACS and now the ICS, Seerveld gave the following statement of concern and vision for the future of the Institute: "The ICS will be known by its fruits. So I am concerned that both the scholars and cultural resource type people it graduates in the coming years demonstrate sound learning and wisdom in their area of specialty. That means in-depth research, cross-cultural exposure, and long hard work in history, languages and systematic reflection, enveloped by joyful prayer. The radicality we need is the rallying, winsome one of deepened Christian faith. Not a spongy kind of intrepid idealism. If we become faithful in radically Christian scholarship, God may indeed bless the ICS undertaking as the core of a new kind of university, replacing bankrupt systems, so we shall be able to serve society at large, and especially God's people, with Biblical leadership."

C.T. McIntire Will Teach History at ICS in 1972

Year at
Cambridge
to
Finish
Ph.D.

You'll remember from the news flash in the last Perspective that C.T. McIntire has accepted a full-time appointment in history beginning in September, 1972. In his letter of acceptance 29th, he says, "My plans are to take the academic year 1971-72 as a 'sabbatical,' after six years of college teaching in order to complete the thesis and work on some projects. We will likely live in Cambridge, England, where I hope to participate in the university's academic life."



Has
Received
News
Coverage
for
Radical
Christianity

At 31 McIntire many of you lecturing on throughout

The modish C.T. McIntire

is already well-known to through his extensive behalf of the Association the U.S. and Canada. He

has also become known in North America for his recent article entitled, "Quitting the American Way of Death", which led to news stories on his advocacy of radical Christianity in the Los Angeles Times, the Chicago Sun-Times, and the Philadelphia Enquirer, among others.

Why did C.T. accept the appointment at the ICS? In his words: "The Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship has been truly central to the life development

AACS Has
Helped
Open up
Biblical
Perspective

of both Mary Carolyn and me for the last ten years and we are deeply honored and gratified that it is possible now, before God, for us to become more directly a part of its work. Since the Unionville Study Conference in 1960, which I attended while still an undergraduate student, the AACS has helped to open up to us the Biblical perspective of the universal lordship of Christ. I shall come to the Institute, God willing, with the hope that my contribution will help all of us Christians in North America gain deeper awareness of the religious and cultural situation in which we are called to work. I look forward to communal work with such outstanding colleagues, trusting that the graduate Institute for Christian Studies can give even a small measure of leadership in bringing healing to our age and in showing the way to a fuller life for all Christians."

DISCOVERY III: "Christian Education in the 70's"

Communities
Divided
into
University,
Urban and
Rural

The Board of Trustees of the Association, after considering suggestions from various areas of the U.S. and Canada, has settled on the theme, "Christian Education in the 70's" for Discovery III. Although there must be consultations with the local boards, the trustees agreed that Discovery should be offered to most, if not all, of the centers covered this year. In addition it was decided to add more university centers in both Canada and the U.S., and to divide the communities covered into three categories: university, urban, and rural. The level and type of lectures scheduled for communities in each category will be patterned to meet specific needs of these three different kinds of communities.

Reach
Out

New avenues for making the Discovery series a meaningful event for the entire Christian community, and not just for Christians of reformed background, will be sought. If you have suggestions for Discovery III, please send them to John Olthuis, executive director of the Association.

* * * * *

How Brad Breems is Preparing Himself at ICS

Our first Perspective student interview was with Rev. Ko Takariki, our second is with Mr. Brad Breems, a first year student at the Institute from Prinsburg, Minnesota. Recently Miss Karen Van Til interviewed Brad, and here's what she learned.

Brad comes to the ICS from Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, where he edited the Dordt Diamond newspaper during his junior year and was active in the Rockford, Illinois, Christian Reformed Church doing volunteer work in after hours during the summer of 1969.

From U.S.
Midwest

Besides this he was also active in drama, literary expression, and student politics at Dordt. This coming June he plans to marry Miss Helen Veltkamp who will be graduated from Dordt in May.

Called
to be
a
Minister

Brad Breems was known at Dordt as a student leader, and as is often the case in reformed circles, he was encouraged by parents, community leaders, neighbors, relatives and professors to become a minister in the Christian Reformed Church; even in this day to be a "bringer of the Word" is a high calling, perhaps the highest, in Dutch Calvinist localities. At Dordt he couldn't make up his mind whether he should go into the ministry or not, but even today he's actively preparing himself for the pulpit--if the Lord opens the way into this office.

AACS
Delivered
the Goods

Then why did Brad decide to study at the Institute for Christian Studies rather than in a seminary? Simply, the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship came to him at Dordt through publications, speakers, a reburbished Biblical vision of life, and the prophetic and intellectual goods which he needed.

Another
Possibility
Besides
Seminary

He says, "I saw the AACS publications getting more into what the Word of God wants us to do in society. I started seeing in my senior year, studying history under John Van Dyk, how the Lord works in history as men have responded to His law order, and as they must still respond today. Also, the Discovery I lectures, and lectures at Dordt by men from the AACS--through these I became aware that Christians can be intellectually competent and that the Christian faith has real vibrancy. Before I hadn't had much contact with these men--the Institute was just a dream, far away. But I began to sense that perhaps there was another possibility for further study besides seminary."

Institute:
Best Place
to
Come

"In making my decision to come to the Institute, I considered that anyone who developed a Christian approach to learning and theoretic study and a wholesome approach to the Word of God would come to conclusions similar to those of the AACS. Since the AACS had established the Institute, I decided this would be the best place to come.

"I began to think of coming to the Institute, not a seminary, because I wanted a more diversified course and atmosphere than seminary might offer. A diversified course of study and atmosphere is important because the minister must see why people are influenced in certain ways, and what conditions people to act contrary to the Word of God while they use the Word to justify their actions. We must not only know that people develop theories contrary to the Word, but also why. Our primary obligation is to discover how we can make the Word

Action
Isn't in
the
Seminaries

relevant to combat the forces that control people's attitudes. I feel that most of the major development in contemporary attitudes and trends isn't in seminaries or denominational gatherings, but in other sectors, i.e., government, counter-culture, music, and cinema, among others. I feel these people are responding to deeper motives which are being solidified all the time. We must see these deeper motives. The Institute doesn't look at these strictly from a 'theological' view. Here we are in a better position to learn to deal with these responses."



Helen Veltkamp helping Brad Breems prepare for his Biblical Prolegomena class

How has Brad found studying at the Institute? "After studying here I have found out that the real benefit of the AACCS and ICS, for me, was the way I saw that living and learning are integrated; something that none of the other schools that I had been part of had been able to do.

Tremendous
Challenge
of Opening
the
Scriptures

"In the course in Biblical Prolegomena, which many of the students at the Institute take, we see the tremendous challenge of opening the Scriptures and of appreciating the Scriptures for their clarity to people in their given life situation.

"I'm also auditing the class in Problems in Theology. It deals with contemporary theologians and their systems. Here too, my study in ethics is complementing this class, and I can use both as I try to train for the kind of pastor that I would like to be.

"ICS Tries
to
Train
Whole
People"

"For example, probably more than any one factor, the group therapy--or intensive group discussions, which were initiated by some of the students studying psychology with Dr. DeGraaff as an exploration into this type of therapy--have opened my appreciation for other people and their problems. I've seen that it's not necessary for people to subdue their feelings in the way we've been taught. Most of our education and training, both formal and in the family, hasn't allowed us to be ourselves to the extent where we can integrate our

personal feelings and personal calling and task. The Institute tries to train whole people."

Either
Pastorate
or
Professor
of Ethics

What will Brad do when he's finished studying at the ICS? "I'm still training here with the possibility of the ministry in mind. But in Olthuis' class in ethics, I'm discovering as we study, for example, Fletcher's 'situation ethics' or Gordon Clark's type of eclectic ethics, that the questions which these men are trying to answer arise from the wrong framework, and that they are raising questions which Christians should be positively answering. So, I see value in integrating my study of ethics into a study for the pastorate. It would be possible for me to go either into the pastorate or ethics with the training I'm receiving at the Institute."

Students like Brad Breems are the backbone of the ICS scholarly community; maybe someday he'll be the minister of your church. Pray for him and his fiancée, and if you know them, drop them a line.

* * * * *

New ICS Bulletins Ready

New Institute for Christian Studies Bulletins for 1971-72 are now available from ICS headquarters, 141 Lyndhurst Ave., Toronto 4, Ontario. The ICS staff, students, curators, and trustees have hammered out a further refinement of the two advanced certificate programs offered by the Institute. Beginning this fall students will enroll in either the graduate program, the associate program or as independents.

Graduate
Program
Further
Defined

The changes come in the graduate program, which, until now, was the equivalent of the first two years of the associate program, our advanced research certificate. From now on students will choose the graduate program if they do not plan a career as a university professor or theoretical researcher. Although courses in the graduate program will be theoretical in nature, they will form the foundations for internships in various non-academic professions. These internships will be joint ventures between the Institute and various agencies within and without the Christian community, including grade schools and high schools, social welfare agencies, political parties, foundations, publishing enterprises, churches, and businesses.

Discussion at the Institute centered around the question of whether or not the Institute would maintain its theoretical and foundational character if it engages in "preparatory" programs as well as research programs. A group of eight students presented a paper entitled, "Out

Some
Students
Fear
ICS May
Lose
Theoretical
Character

of Concern for the Institute" in which they expressed their fears that the Institute would become more undergraduate in nature. A student-staff meeting was called and the professors answered student objections and questions until a working consensus was attained. Dr. James Olthuis stressed that the further definition of the graduate program would not mean a loss of theoretical character, but a heightened sense of how that foundational study can be utilized outside the college or university for the service of contemporary society, and especially in those areas where Christian action is being carried on.

Agreement
Reached

* * * * *

James Olthuis is Pioneering in Theology, Hermeneutics and Ethics

His
Views on
Commonly
Raised
Questions
and
Objections

Our second professorial interview is with Dr. James Olthuis, our man in Biblical prolegomena, ethics and problems in theology. Interviewing Dr. Olthuis is at once exciting because of his wide-ranging, questing intellect; frustrating because so much of his thought is new and pioneering; and overwhelming because of the implications. It is impossible to boil down the thorough yet subtly phrased statements he made in an hour and a half about many things that would be of interest to us all, but I've tried to present his answers to commonly raised questions and objections.

Theology
is a
Science;
Confession
is a
Matter of
the Heart

How is Biblical confession different from theology?
"We believe that the Scriptures are a confessional book, and not a book of theology. Theology doesn't examine God; it examines one aspect of man's experience. Theology as a science involves abstraction; a confession of faith is an act which takes place with a man's whole being and it's a faith confession which affects whatever he does. When a man confesses his faith, he doesn't abstract, he confesses before the face of the Lord integrally and totally, 'This is my Saviour in whom I believe'. In theology, on the other hand, you deal with confession in abstraction, and you're analyzing in order to better understand how the norm of God's Word holds for confession in general."

Why do people in circles where the Bible is taken seriously, in Reformed-Evangelical circles, sometimes get upset when you explain your new ideas about theology?

We Must
Distinguish
Confession
from
Theology

"Many people don't distinguish their confession from their theology, and they think that anytime you try to relate the Scriptures or the Word of God, or Christ to anything, you're doing theology. And they think that if you start to change your theology or reform your theology, you're undermining faith in Jesus Christ. And that's

We Need
Prophetic
Preaching,
Not
Stories
or
Doctrines



why they get very upset. They get upset because they've been wrongly taught.

"The people of God have either been fed theological doctrine or they've been fed stories from the Scriptures. Some have been taught stories about social concern (the liberals) and others have been taught doctrine (the conservatives). What we really need to have is prophetic preaching which leads to confession. But we in our tradition have so identified the Scriptures with theological doctrines that as soon as you begin to question the theological doctrines--that is, system-

"The Scriptures are the Word of God, but the Word of God is bigger than the Scriptures"

atization of, for instance, the attributes of God, through induction and deduction--they think you're questioning the Scriptures.

Some
Theologians:
Safer in
Arms of
Theology
than in
Arms of
Jesus

"Some theologians feel that when we question their theology we're questioning their faith, their very certainty. They seem to be safer in the arms of theology than in the arms of Jesus. There's that tendency--and that's a tendency among us too in regards to philosophy--we cannot find our certainty in anything man-made or human. Whether it's philosophy or theology. We have too often tried to find our certainty in our deductions from the Scriptures rather than in Christ according to the Scriptures."

What, briefly, is your view of the Word of God? Is the Word of God bigger than the Scriptures?

The Word
of God:
Scriptures,
Christ and
for Creation-
Structures
Existence

"The Word of God upholds all of creation. In the beginning God put His Word to the world and it came forth; after man's fall He inscripturated His Word in the Bible so that man could be directed to keep God's Word again. In Jesus, the Christ, the Word of God made flesh, this became possible. The Word of God lives and stands forever, and that Word calls man to respond and obey. The Word of God for creation, in the Scriptures, and in Jesus Christ structures existence in every way; that Word makes discovery of an orderly world possible, for instance.

"We maintain that the Scriptures are the Word of God, but that the Word of God is bigger than the Scriptures.

The Scriptures themselves teach us that Jesus Christ is the Word Incarnate; they also teach us that the Word of God holds for creation--that Word is the very condition of and structure for creaturely existence. Compare the last part of the Book of Job, or the first part of Hebrews, and many of the Psalms."

Is it true that nobody really knows what ethics is?

Ethics
is the
Study of
Troth
Relations,
Very Few
People
Know
This

"I'll be happy if in my life I succeed in convincing a number of people that ethics has to be limited to one aspect of reality, and that it should not try to deal with all of human conduct. I think, indeed, that there is no one outside of the tradition in which we work who has tried to limit ethics to the study of troth relations. Troth, meaning reliability, counting on each other, as one aspect of human conduct. A humanist tradition which got its great impetus in Socrates has tried to make ethics deal with all of life; this has led to an impossibility of doing ethics at all. If in my life I can convince a number of people that we have to limit ethics in order to really practice ethics, then I think I'll have made some contribution."

Not
Old or
New
Morality-
But an
Ethicist,
According
to God's
Word



If you aren't an "Old Moralist" and you aren't a "New Moralist", then are you a middle-of-the-roader?

"No, I'm not. I would hope to be known as an ethicist of the Word. To use an analogy, the 'New Morality' frustrates man because it pretends that man can swim without any water--but the 'Old Morality' has frozen the water, not allowing the

"Yeah...a fish in a fish bowl with fresh water"

fish to swim at all, and the 'New Morality' has no water. I think that what is needed is that from time to time the water be changed, but that the Bowl, the Word of God, remains, providing the conditions and structure to make the environment, the 'furnishings' meaningful. And so our approach is not in between, but it structures the things rightly; and that's why we can use so many things from the 'Old Morality' and the 'New Morality' and put them into the right structure, the right framework--the Word of God that holds for creation."

Of course there's much more that James Olthuis said, but I've just tried to do the impossible--present in a few excerpts ideas that are very complex and that depend on a broader context for much of their meaning. But I

For More
Details
Read
Olthuis'
New Book

thought you'd want to know what Dr. Olthuis is exploring with his team of Christian graduate students. If you want to discover more about these ideas, I would encourage you to read Dr. Olthuis' new book, Towards a More Biblical Life Style, when it is published.

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Women's
Action
Doubles
Giving to
\$7,311.91
in One
Year

The Women's Action for the AACS reports in the financial statement for April 1, 1970 to March 31, 1971 that during this year \$7,311.91 was raised through the 3,500 penny banks in as many homes of women working for the AACS. On November 3, 1970, as reported in earlier Newsletters, the Women's Action transferred \$2,000 to the Institute. Expenses for the whole operation amounted to \$445.42. This leaves a bank balance of \$4,866.49 for further AACS work. A tremendous increase in activity is responsible for a doubling of Women's Action income in the last year.

Need
More
Help in
B.C. and
U.S.A.

The Women's Action is concentrated in Ontario, but during the past year the women of Alberta have rallied to this cause with new enthusiasm. Right now the Women are looking for new contact women in British Columbia especially, where little work has been done to date. If you live in B.C., can you help? Any of you who live in other parts of Canada or the U.S. who would like a part in this united action, please write Mrs. F. Kooy, 21 Pelmo Crescent, Weston, Ontario.

A
Great
Help
to
AACS and
ICS



On the left you see one of the very important fruits of the Women's Action effort. It is estimated by John Hultink that this addressograph machine saves the Association about \$5,000 a year by making its mailing operation more efficient. That means that we need one less secretary and that money can be used for other more urgent tasks. In the future \$3,000 will be used to expand the

Karen Van Til mailing out Perspective on the addressograph provided by the Women's Action for the AACS

addressograph set-up; \$5,000 will be used to expand the library; and \$2,500 will be used to buy new office equipment. This Women's Action is vital to the growth of the Association and Institute.

Recent Speeches by ICS Profs

When the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada had their 1971 convention in Toronto on March 9-11, John Olthuis, executive director of the Association, was asked to be one of the respondents to a speech by Dr. Stanford Reid, of Guelph University, entitled "Christian Involvement in Education."

Reid: "Take
Young Babes
Out of
Swaddling
Clothes"

"Christians may be able to swing Christian school systems, but it is a much different matter to set up colleges or universities where the buildings run into the millions of dollars. Also, is it wise for young people to be kept in swaddling clothes all their lives?"

Olthuis:
"Public
Schools
Isolate
Child from
Christ"

In response to Dr. Reid, John Olthuis stated, "We must make a case for Christian education, not hot-house isolation.....The argument that Christian schools isolate is a basic fallacy. Public schools isolate--they isolate the child from Christ. Christians must be a culturally formative power in society. Christian schools must train the child to make contributions....Christian schools are not isolation wards, but training centers to be Christian doctors to go into a world sick from sin.... Christian schools are not Jesus frosting. The starting point is that God upholds creation, in this light we train the child."

Dr. Olthuis
at Geneva
and
Nashua O.P.

Dr. James Olthuis flew to Geneva College the next week to speak at informal meetings with the faculty and students, and in philosophy classes and chapel. In his meetings, Dr. Olthuis talked with the Bible department on the Word of God, and with college administrators on the structure of the college. In a public meeting at the Nashua Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Pulaski, Penn., Olthuis spoke on "Marriage". Many people in the crowd of about 100 said that they would like to participate in the Discovery III next year and hoped that the lectures could be given in their area.

On March 20, Dr. Arnold DeGraaff talked with about 100 students from area universities and high schools, Trinity Christian College, and the ICS in the basement of the Woodstock Christian Reformed Church. The conference was sponsored by FOCUS (Fellowship of Christian University Students, P.O. Box 921, Guelph, Ontario).

Dr. DeGraaff gave two lectures on "The Christian Concept of Man and its Relation to Psychotherapy and Education." He stated that the two lectures were tied together because without a clear Christian conception of man, it is difficult to find one's way through recent developments in both the field of education and psychotherapy. "Without a clear vision, it is difficult to decide which way we should go."

Christ
Upholds
Structure
that
Governs
Man

In both of his speeches, DeGraaff emphasized that we must trust not in the goodness of man or the child, but in Christ who upholds the structure that governs man. God's Law unto life makes life whole, and this is not a negative something, it is not a structure that is imposed, but God's upholding law for creation that means that man will strive for psychic wholeness, and children will want to discern creation and express themselves.

Zylstra Addresses 150 Elders from Ontario CRC

Healing
Through
the
Word
of Life

Dr. Bernard Zylstra spoke to a meeting sponsored by the Elders' Conferences of classes Hamilton and Toronto on March 27, with elders from the surrounding area as well as members from the Free Christian Reformed Church of Canada present. In his speech entitled, "Thy Word Our Life," Zylstra told the 150 present on Saturday morning that now is the time "for our community to experience a time of healing. How can our wounds be healed?...The wounds in our life--also our life together--can be healed if our hearts are opened by the Spirit to listen to the Word of the Saviour, the Great Healer."

The afternoon session, lasting about two hours, was devoted to discussion of Dr. Zylstra's morning speech. Zylstra said, "On the whole the discussion was constructive and upbuilding. There was also a measure of criticism, especially in connection with the theme of the Word of God and the nature of the church." Zylstra stated that he tried to explain that "The church is in the first place a spiritual body of the 'People of God' with whom the Lord has restored the covenant. In that light we can understand that the instituted church is a manifestation of that body--the ministry of the Word, the prophetic office of proclamation, has been assigned especially to the instituted church."

Dr. Zylstra's speech is available in mimeographed form upon request. Price--40¢.

Plantinga Writes Article on AACS in April VANGUARD

Assesses
AACS
and
ICS

The April issue of VANGUARD magazine features an article that should be of interest to members of the Association. Mr. Ted Plantinga in the third of three articles entitled, "The Search for an American University"--having examined the efforts of the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, and the rise of the University of Chicago as Christian attempts to create an American university which would honor the Lord--assesses the movement which the AACS has led for Christian graduate education through the ICS.

On p. 18 he states, "We have already seen that the American university is in desperate need of a new way, a new conception of its proper goals and functions, a new under-

ICS
Aims to
Find a New
Way for
the American
University,
Says
Plantinga

standing of education and of how it relates to scholarship and research. The ultimate aim of the Institute for Christian Studies is to find that way, to integrate the sciences into a total vision of reality and its meaning, to restore both education and scholarship (which includes research and publication) to their proper place and mutual relation within institutions of higher learning. By finding a new way, it hopes to give new life to higher education in North America--including the Christian colleges. This, essentially, is the mission of the Institute for Christian Studies.

At the ICS
Biblical
Truth is
the
Foundation
for All
Theorizing

"The Institute for Christian Studies is committed to the belief that all of reality coheres in the Word of its Creator. It regards this Biblical truth as the foundation for all theorizing. It therefore takes its task to be that of re-unifying the various sciences and disciplines by making them reflect more closely the unity and lawful character of the reality by which they are governed. If the Institute is able to re-unify the sciences and disciplines, it will also be able to re-unify the fragmented university, in the process restoring relevance and meaning to the educational enterprise. The Institute for Christian Studies will then become the long sought after American university, which will enable the intellectual and cultural life of North America to flourish as never before. The American university must be a Christian university."



The door of opportunity at the Institute for Christian Studies, drawn by Lambertus De Graaf for the April VANGUARD

Copies
Available
from
VANGUARD

For a copy of this insightful article that also includes interesting pictures and graphics of professors, students and the ICS building, send 50¢ with your request to VANGUARD subscriptions, Box 2131, Station B, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada.

Mini-scripts:

* Netherlanders Give \$1,000 to Publish Curriculum Materials

Mrs.
Zwart-
de Graaf
and
Mr. Tulp
Responsible

The AACS has received \$1,000 from supporters in The Netherlands to help pay for the cost of publishing curriculum materials for Christian teachers. The support was organized by Mrs. A.A. Zwart-de Graaf from Lunteren with the assistance of Mr. J. Tulp from Ede. Mrs. Zwart and Mr. Tulp have had an intense interest in Christian schools in Canada for several years. In the summer of 1970 they learned about the work of the Institute, and set up a plan for collection of contributions to help pay for the publication of the curricula.

Join
the
Faithful
Ko
Molenaar

The AACS now receives privately organized assistance from two sources in The Netherlands. For many years Mr. Ko Molenaar from Heiloo has done a tremendous job in acquainting the Dutch reformed community with the work of the Institute. The AACS has received several thousand dollars because of his activity.

* Still Seeking Appropriate Building

May
Rent
More
Space in
Sept.

The Association and Institute are still searching for adequate facilities. The anonymous donors who've promised to provide an adequate building stand ready to give this help when the proper time comes. If a suitable location hasn't been found by September, 1971, the Association may well rent more space to accommodate its growing staff.

* Unusual Demand for "AACS in the Christian Community"

7,000
Copies Gone
in Few
Weeks;
5,000
More
Copies
Now
Ready

Recently the Association staff wrote a communal document entitled, "The AACS in the Christian Community," primarily intended to answer questions within the Reformed churches where the Association has its most support and has raised the most questions. "The AACS in the Christian Community" serves as a basic introduction to our work, and it also answers objections, criticisms and questions which are asked about our work. To our great surprise, we soon ran out of the 7,000 copies we had printed, and requests came in by the score for orders numbering in the hundreds. So we've had 5,000 more published, and they are available without charge from the AACS, 141 Lyndhurst Ave., Toronto 4, Ontario. This pamphlet may be helpful to those of us, such as myself, who are not of reformed background, but the nature of the audience should be kept in mind when reading it. If you'd like extra copies for your church, let us know.

Hagan
and Greene
to Open
Seattle
Undergrad
Institute

* Member Lowell Hagan in Washington state informs us

that a group led by Albert Greene and himself plan to open an undergraduate institute in Seattle in the fall for Christian students who need to attend a large school, or for financial reasons need to attend a state school, but who would like to keep some sense of perspective in

their academic work. There will be regular seminars in philosophy, education, history and social sciences. For more info write to Lowell Hagan, Bellevue Christian School, Box 772, Bellevue, Washington 98009.

Karen
Van Til
Works
Half-time
for
AACS

* Much of the interviewing and rough-drafting for this Newsletter was done by Miss Karen Van Til, who works half-time for the Association as assistant director of communications; she also handles the secretarial work for Robert Carvill. Karen, 21, studied at Dordt College for three years, and plans to return to student life this fall, hopefully at the ICS. She also works half-time for Wedge Publishing Foundation doing editorial and secretarial work.

Miniscripts about some of our students

Son of
Kenyan
Missionaries

* Dave Campbell: Dave, 24, comes out of a missionary family in Kenya. He is a Reformed Presbyterian, has received a B.A. from Covenant College and has also studied at Westminster Theological Seminary. He's studying educational theories and philosophical prolegomena at the Institute. He came to the ICS because he wanted to study education from a Christian perspective.

"Made
Me Less
Dogmatic"

Dave sees the Institute having contributed to him as a person in the following ways: "It's broadened me--in the sense that I'm less dogmatic on many issues--more aware of how subtle and complex things can be. I've become much more aware of my psychic life, both from group therapy sessions and from contact with other Christians struggling with psychic problems. I think I've made progress in my own struggle because of it."

Into
Kant
and
Hegel

* Harry Vander Velde: Harry is 26, a native of Ontario, and a former student at the University of Toronto. He's studying philosophy of science, Biblical prolegomena, ethics, and history of philosophy. He's presently engaged in a couple of major projects--one on the ethics of Kant, the other on Hegel's intellectual development.

Incisive
Critic

Harry is known at the Institute for his ability to ask critically incisive questions on fundamental issues; he hopes to teach philosophy after completing the associate program of studies.

Albertan
Political
Theorist

* Jack De Klerk: Jack is an Albertan, is 22, and is a graduate of Calvin College. His church membership is Christian Reformed. He's studying political theory, philosophical prolegomena and politico-economic questions. He's presently finishing up a case study of David Easton, a major political thinker in contemporary American political theory. Jack came to the ICS to "get a better basis on which I could build; that is, to prepare myself for graduate work more adequately." Next year he hopes

To Work
at
U. of T.

to start a graduate program at the University of Toronto.

"Refined
My Tools,
Gave
Me
Vision"

Jack says that the ICS has helped him academically to "refine the tools which are necessary to do academic work and has brought me to a greater understanding of the problematics involved in my discipline." As a whole person it has led him "to a greater understanding of 1. the reality of God's creation, and 2. my task as a member of the Body of Christ. It has given me a great vision (rather, it has helped me see the vision Christ gives us)."

Jack
on
ICS

Jack sees the strength of the Institute being the vision of which it's a part, and its weakness as being too much involved with other than academic affairs. He commends the faculty for their excellent academic training, but thinks they're too busy and don't have enough time to do their work. The Association staff members deserve high marks for their energy and devotion, but they don't have enough time to do everything; they need more help. The Institute's students' greatest strengths, humanly speaking, are their hope and determination. But he also says, "Too many of us are not sufficiently integrated to know what we are about, and consequently don't know precisely what we're doing."

Psychologist

* Richard Tyssen: Rich, 23, is from Chicago, a member of the Reformed Church of America, a graduate of Northwestern College in Iowa, and is studying psychology at the ICS. His major projects are for Bible and psychology.

The things that have stood in his way in studying and developing as a mature person are, according to him, "my scholastic, moralistic, individualistic tradition."

ICS:
Cosmic
Redemption,
Perspective,
Dedication,
But Limited
Because of
Size

He feels the greatest strengths of the Institute, professors, staff and students are: the healing understanding of Christ's cosmic redemption, the faculty's reformational perspective on their work, the staff's dedication, and the students' realization of the necessity for a Christian approach to graduate study. The greatest problems of the Institute, profs and staff are their size; the students suffer, in his opinion, from psychic problems and lack of academic preparation on the undergraduate level.

\$94,000
ICS Budget

\$32,000 in
Tuition

* Hultink Reveals That the ICS Needs \$62,000 in Donations.
John Hultink estimates that out of a budget of \$94,000 for the Institute, approximately \$62,000 will have to come from donations on the part of those of us who understand the importance of building a Christian witness at the graduate level of study. Only \$32,000 will be raised through tuition fees. Please pray and give as you are able. By 1975 it is projected that the Institute alone will have a budget of at least \$250,000; with the budget for both Association and Institute now standing at close

We Need
Your
Support in
Money and
Prayers

to \$190,000 for fiscal 1971, it is likely that the combined budget will rise to approximately \$500,000 by 1975. Only the sacrificial giving of our faithful supporters, the prayers of many who know of this work, and a miracle of God will enable us to meet that kind of budget. We ask all our members and friends to remember John Hultink and his difficult task of raising the income to make the ICS and AACS possible.

"Time
to Take
a Stand
for
Jesus Christ"

* Chicagoans Organize Discovery Weekend April 2-3

A group of students and parents who "thought it was time to take a stand for Jesus Christ in Chicago" organized a Discovery Weekend April 2-3 on the southwest side of greater Chicago. About 350 people heard Dr. James Olthuis speak on the institutional church in Biblical perspective, Dr. Gordon Spykman trace the institutional church in history, and Dr. Zylstra locate the institutional church in the Kingdom of God. Saturday night Rev. Donald M. Parker of the Forest View Presbyterian Church invited the assembly to hold a vespers service in that church, which would seek to discover renewal of the institutional church in action. Dr. Olthuis reports that there was a very joyous atmosphere much akin to that of our conferences. Reactions from the participants varied from: "We've heard that since we were in kindergarten, our parents brought us up to believe that...it's some of the outworking in other areas that doesn't click with me," to "No objections--these guys are biblically sound...what more can you ask? Frank discussion, too! I thoroughly enjoyed myself."

Joyous
Atmosphere

* Institute Marriages

More
Troth
Relations!

Bernie Haverhals and Marjan Vander Ros ---April 18
Harry Fernhout and Hilda Dykstra ---April 30
Tom Forman and Nancy Vander Schaaf ---May 1
Brad Breems and Helen Veltkamp ---June 11
Don Sinnema and Lois Gerritsma ---July 26

At
Calvin
May 21-22:
ICS,
Calvin,
Dordt,
Trinity
Philosophers

* ICS and Calvin Co-sponsor Philosophical Conclave

A small, intimate philosophy conference will be jointly sponsored by Calvin College and the Institute for Christian Studies philosophy departments on May 21 and 22 at Calvin College. Philosophy professors from Calvin, Dordt, Trinity and the ICS have been invited to hear Dr. Johan Vander Hoeven, guest lecturer at Calvin from the Free University of Amsterdam, give two critical papers on aspects of Wittgenstein's thought. Dr. Hendrik Hart says that the organizers hope that in the future such conferences will be held on a larger scale.

That's it from here.

Sincerely,

Robert Lee Carvill
Director of Communications

Published by the AACCS. Send all correspondence to the editor, Mr. Robert L. Carvill, 141 Lyndhurst Ave., Toronto 4, Ont. Second class mail, reg.nr. 2091

we've made a start now we need growth

Estate Planning

We have been encouraged by the number of people enquiring about making bequests to the Association and Institute in their wills.

Neither the Institute nor its supporting Association has regular financial reserves beyond the yearly contributions received from members and friends.

Bequests, gift annuities and special gifts will provide the means for much needed expansion of staff and facilities and ensure a continuing role for the Institute.

Bequests should be made to "The Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship". Please send your queries regarding annuities and other gift possibilities to Mr. John Olthuis, executive director, AACCS, 141 Lyndhurst Ave., Toronto 4, Ontario.



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