

perspective

Newsletter of the Association for the Advancement of Christian Scholarship
Vol. 9, No. 4 - July/August, 1975

Seven Hundred Attend Workshops on Aspects of Male-Female Relationships

Wow! We set a few records at our 1975 Niagara Conference: the total registration approached about 900 people and included 200 children. The temperature inside and outside approached 100°F. And there were over 160 tents and trailers parked wherever there was space.

This was also the first time we tried a workshop format at a Niagara conference. This report by Heather Marsman, an AACS member from Barrie, Ontario, focusses on these workshops and the central questions asked by speakers and conferees.

Were you at Niagara Christian College on the August holiday weekend for the AACS Conference? Did you boil in the heat? Did you find out Monday morning that your borrowed tent leaked? Did you miss by one the last hotdog Sunday evening or were you the one who testified to having swallowed five watermelon pits in the dark Friday night? Maybe you were along when, somehow, that wristwatch was found by the river at five in the morning, or maybe you were the man I overheard telling about his first-time experience babysitting one to four year olds.

If you were there, you didn't encounter the usual topics of politics, inflation, or congregational squabbles. Instead, you talked about your marriage, your friendships, your being man, woman. While the workshop leaders talked about the norms for these relationships, we weren't just taking notes so that we could get the principles straight, or remember the structures as outlined. We were in there struggling to work it out for ourselves.



J. Olthuis: men and women are made to be creatures of troth in all human relationships

Through all the laughing and the singing, in the listening and the responding we were each of us involved in a deeply personal assessment of the structures of our own relationships, a confession of our problem areas, a hurting and a reaching out for answers, encouragement, mutual acceptance, and the courage to accept the strength of the Spirit at work in our midst.

After devotions Saturday morning, when Matthew 19 was introduced as the keynote Scripture passage for the conference, Jim Olthuis set out the framework which was to guide our activities during the weekend. Emphasizing the words involvement, encouragement, enjoyment, he expressed the hope that we might identify some of the weak spots in our relationships and begin to work on them.



Penelope Tyndale

This hope he founded on the uniquely Christian character of our approach. Beginning with the confession that God calls us to live out of His Word, we can fight the lie that man is basically a chemical machine, an animal with a veneer of civilization. Instead, we know from Scripture that man is made to be a creature of truth, of integrity and commitment under the law of God, and that only by losing ourselves in Him do we gain the freedom to make our individual responses to the norms He designed for marriage, for friendship, for man-woman partnership in the creation. We were also urged to remember that good times or bad times in our relationships do not signify salvation or damnation, but that our final hope must rest in Christ Jesus alone.

After that we started to work. We listened to Penelope Tyndale of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship who whistle-stopped her way through history, setting us aghast at the pervasive denial of woman as a full human being, at the decision of the Canadian courts as late as 1920 that a woman was not a full person under the terms of the British North America Act (the British came to our aid and overruled that one), and the church's general refusal to deal with the issue which left many women considering the church part of the problem if not the chief cause.

She did more than this. She shared with us her personal struggle to take up a wider task in the kingdom after fourteen years in the home and with a grade eleven education. She admitted to having some problem areas in her biblical understanding of a woman's place in home, church, and society. She shared with us her understanding of many of the passages dealing with women in the Scriptures, and stirred up in many of us questions and new thoughts.

So did Louis Martin of the Christian Counselling Services who spoke on "The Christian and an Approach to the Riddle of His Behaviour". The internal questioning for most of us began when he asked us to accept

that the Christian can be a continuing sinner in his behaviour, in "the flesh", but in his heart, his mind and his goals, be totally committed to Jesus Christ and so struggle to change his behaviour. That bothered us at first. This Baptist therapist was not tampering with the doctrines of total depravity and total redemption in Christ, but was challenging us to a deeper orthodoxy. He challenged us to give up all our legalistic little prescriptions for how a "good" Christian should behave. We were not asked to discard or weaken the norms, not at all, but we were urged not to impose private and culturally-determined codes of behaviour on our brothers and sisters in Christ.

I noticed that many people had the opposite problem with the talks given by Arnold De Graaff and Mary VanderVennen. Because these two leaders had a more practical rather than a theoretical orientation in their presentations, fear was expressed that there might not be a distinctly Christian basis for their suggestions and insights. If Arnold De Graaff in "Perspectives on Child Rearing" was going to emphasize an approach (Parent Effectiveness Training) taken from a non-Christian psychiatrist (T. Gordon), how could we be sure we were not going to take along some non-Christian values too? Although Gordon does not present his views in a Christian framework, De Graaff stressed that he has highlighted certain aspects of child rearing practices that have often been neglected and which need to be incorporated within a Christian perspective.

Mary VanderVennen (also of Christian Counselling Services) took the topic "The Dynamics of Family Life". From her work as a family therapist she defined the family as a multi-generational unit that functions like a system. A system she explained as a collection of units that are all interrelated so that any change in one unit affects the others and back again. She then described three types of problem marriages which she commonly encounters in her work--the conflictual, the overadequate-underadequate, and the united front marriage--and she explained how these marital relationships usually affect the children in the families involved.

Perhaps because her listeners could see elements of their own marriages in her typical problem marriages, there was an uneasiness and a seeming need for a balancing picture of a sound Christian marriage and family. She was challenged as to whether she was bound to give her patients an account of the hope in which she stands. The end question appears to be whether a therapist bears responsibility for her clients' heart commitment, or whether her task is mainly that of clearing up behavioural problems so that the client is then better prepared to answer that ultimate question.



Louis Martin talks with conferee, Alice VanderMeulen after his workshop



Mary VanderVennen

Jim Olthuis gave two workshops, "The Joy of Friendship" and "Fostering Intimacy in Marriage". He described friendship as a troth relationship characterized by openness, vulnerability and honesty, male to male, female to female and male to female. It is the male-female friendship which is most difficult to maintain and foster in our culture because it has been wrongly identified only with marriage. Therefore our society exerts unwarranted pressures on it and individuals erect barriers against it. He urged those who experience congeniality with someone of the opposite sex not to suppress the feeling but to be fully aware that this relationship is not that of marriage.

In "Fostering Intimacy in Marriage", Jim emphasized the uniqueness of the Christian's position in tackling the weak areas of his relationship to his partner. Christ is greater than any of our failures and in Him there is much hope for greater intimacy. He identified

several damaging cultural patterns, such as the lack of congeniality before marriage where a broad range of concerns are never discussed, and expressed a concern that mutual commitment must come before a healthy marriage can be formed.

The foregoing account gives only bits and pieces of the experience which was the AACS Conference at Niagara Christian College. For those of you who did not attend it, I hope I have been able to give a taste for what it was like. A person who attended only on Monday commented that he felt as if he had caught the tail end of something delicious. And it was.

Tapes of Conference Workshops are available

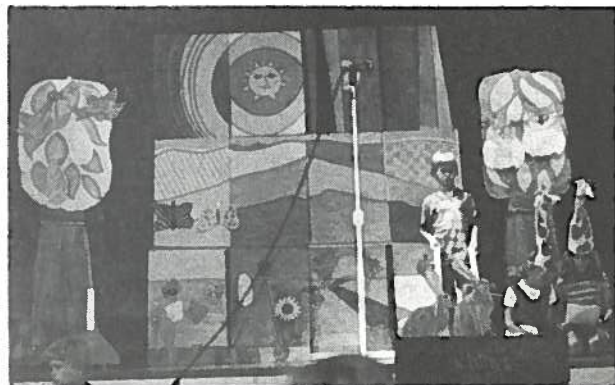
Cassette tapes of each of the 1975 Niagara conference workshops are available at a cost of \$2.50 per tape (approx. 90 min.).

<u>Title</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
Perspectives on Child Rearing	Arnold De Graaff
The Christian and an Approach to the Riddle of His Behaviour	Louis Martin
Fostering Intimacy in Marriage	James Olthuis
The Joy of Friendship	James Olthuis
The Contemporary Woman: An historical and biblical approach to the changing position of women in home, church and society.	Penelope Tyndale
The Dynamics of Family Life	Mary VanderVennen

When ordering, please indicate clearly which tape(s) you want. Send your order and payment (payment must be included) to the AACS, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4.

CONFERENCE

SCENES



Dr. H. Ridderbos lectures in Toronto

by Harry Fernhout

Professor Herman Ridderbos, the outstanding and well-known New Testament scholar from The Netherlands, visited Toronto on June 11, 1975, as the guest of the Ontario Ministers Conference of the Christian Reformed Church and the AACS/ICS. On that one day this professor, recently retired from Kampen Theological Seminary, was the featured speaker for three different gatherings.

During the morning hours Dr. Ridderbos met with the staff of the Institute to discuss academic issues of mutual concern. In the afternoon a gathering of about fifty ministers heard Ridderbos give an explanation of current trends in the research of the synoptic gospels and his own understanding of the character of these gospels. Then, completing his demanding schedule, Ridderbos spoke at an evening meeting held at Toronto Rehoboth Christian Reformed Church. Here he focussed his attention on "Modern Trends in Church and Theology", with particular emphasis on the situation in The Netherlands.

The address in the evening was sponsored by the AACS and was open to the public. Ridderbos began that address by stressing the fact that we North Americans must make a genuine effort to understand the dynamics of the struggles European Christians are engaged in. In the highly technical, rapidly secularizing culture of the seventies, said Ridderbos, people are finding it more and more difficult to experience their faith in a genuine, life-directed way. The new currents in church and theology are in the first place an attempt to come to grips with this situation. The primary motivation is not the destruction of traditions and doctrines, but rather a genuine wish to relate in a pastoral relevant way to Christians who are attempting to apply their faith in the modern age.

However, this positive attempt at understanding did not prevent Ridderbos from offering a penetrating critique of these new trends. Ridderbos identified a tendency toward horizontalism as a basic characteristic in recent Christian thinking. To illustrate, he elaborated on three crucial problem areas: the doctrine of Scripture, the doctrine of Christ, and the doctrine of the Kingdom.

THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE

Ridderbos stated that many modern day scholars tend to regard the Scriptures in purely human terms. The Bible is said to be made up of what different people at different times considered to be God's Word. The gospels, for instance, are regarded as the church's interpretation or confession of who the man Jesus was. For modern man the gospels are therefore only indirectly revelatory. In them we catch a glimpse of the 'historical' Jesus only through the eyes of the early church and its understanding of who Jesus was. The task of Christians today is to once again, as the early church did, interpret or confess the faith in ways that are understandable and reasonable in today's cultural context.

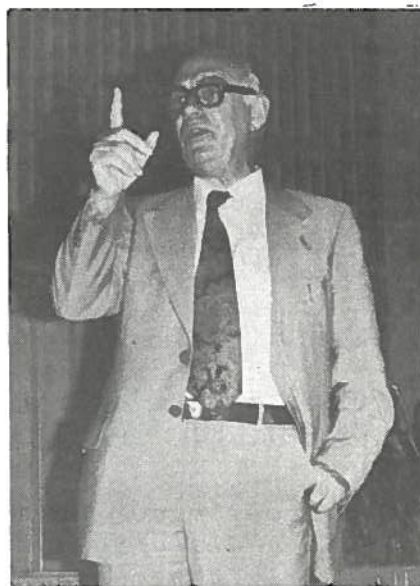
In articulating his own views on this matter, Ridderbos stressed the importance of taking seriously the fact that God's Word comes in and

through the words of men. But, he said, this does not mean that these words are simply the product of human confession in a transitory cultural setting. Changing human words and values do not determine God's revelation. The Spirit-breathed, fully human words in Scripture constitute a true account of the salvation God accomplished in Jesus Christ.

THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

Horizontalism expresses itself in an overemphasis on regarding Christ "from below", i.e., in His human appearance. Christ's divinity is said to be a confession to which the church later came in light of its understanding of His life, death, and resurrection.

Ridderbos stressed that the tendency to take Christ's humanity utterly seriously is not in itself bad, since this is what the gospels indeed do. But Christ's humanity does not call into question His divinity, said Ridderbos, if it is recognized that the flesh-and-blood Jesus is, as man, the Son of God. Christ is the Word made Flesh; His divinity does not arise out of what the Church confessed Him to be.



Dr. Herman Ridderbos

THE DOCTRINE OF THE KINGDOM

The new currents of thinking stress that God meets us in our fellow-man. Therefore the Kingdom of God materializes wherever we make our inter-relations, both individually and in the wider social context, more genuinely human. The Kingdom, in this view, is concerned with the liberation of people in a social context of oppression.

Ridderbos pointed out that this approach, rather than tackling the secular social context itself, tends to spiritualize the Kingdom into an attitude of humaneness.

In his conclusion, Ridderbos articulated the need for a genuine alternative to the two poles in the current debates. Especially in the Reformed churches, he said, the conservative camp is so concerned with guarding its tradition that it has in effect buried the talents it ought to be contributing to the world. And the 'new' camp in its efforts to be pastoral and relevant, has forfeited its talents by being absorbed by the spirits of the age. It simply uses words like 'God' and 'Kingdom' for the same realities that humanists talk about, thereby losing the respect of many of those it seeks to win. The church must avoid these pitfalls, Ridderbos emphasized, and step forward with the truth in a way that is faithful to God's Word and yet understandable to modern man.

Dr. Ridderbos' audience was deeply impressed by his genuine openness, his loving, understanding attitude, and his incisive grasp of the issues at hand. He was at his best in the discussion period, when his answers to questions, seasoned liberally with his sparkling sense of humor, continually hit the nail on the head. It was an enriching

evening of dialogue which, however, left one troubling but challenging question: Why is the genuine alternative articulated by Ridderbos, with its rich array of biblical ideas, not itself a leading, powerful force among the 'modern trends in church and theology' ?

* *Harry Fernhout recently received his M.Phil. degree in theology at the Institute for Christian Studies. He is now working full-time on Bible studies curriculum for the Curriculum Development Centre.*

De Graaff outlines basics for Education

We receive our news about this year's AACCS Basic Issues Seminar from a diary by Jan Disselkoen. Jan teaches junior high students at Calvin Memorial in St. Catharines, Ontario. (Thank you, Jan; some editing was done to save space.)

Monday, July 7

A two-week pattern begins as four rather sleepy-eyed St. Catharines people settle back into the car which merges into Q.E.W. morning traffic. We're heading towards Toronto District Christian High School in Woodbridge, where, along with almost 50 other people, we're attending the Basic Issues Seminar in Education sponsored by the AACCS and led by Dr. Arnold De Graaff. This is a morning of establishing patterns: arrive at 8:45, coffee first (preferably hot!), devotions led by one of the seminar-ians, a presentation by Dr. De Graaff, coffee at 10:30, and back together for questions and discussion until noon.

We find out immediately that we come from a variety of places, backgrounds and experiences. I greet several colleagues whom I meet year after year at Ontario Teachers' Convention and then talk with a friend who has just taught her first year in Vancouver. Sitting at the table with me is a woman who has taught many years in Michigan, Iowa, and New Jersey and is now moving to Florida. At the next table is a couple who are involved in setting up a high school in Ottawa. A group of people are up from the blossoming Christian school movement in Pennsylvania--Thank the Lord for every new sign of service.

Recognizing this variety, Dr. De Graaff begins with the basics. Life is religion. All men live according to a belief and give expression to it communally. Within the Christian community there seem to be four world and life views. They're distinguished by their offering ideas about nature (creation) and grace.... Dr. De Graaff identifies himself with the group which believes that grace must give creation--the good structures created by God--the right direction. In education that means searching out the norms for the structure of the school and the child, for the sake of the Kingdom.

The day is hot, making concentration difficult, but in the carpool going home I can sense anticipation for the coming two weeks.

Tuesday, July 8

This morning we didn't arrive until 10:30 coffee. Car trouble.... (Later, when listening to the tapes of the morning, I realized how basic that morning's presentation was to what Dr. De Graaff developed in the rest of the seminar. We believe we can see God's order in the creation and know it through His revelation. But many around us believe that our world is a chaotic one, and that free, autonomous man must give it meaning and coherence through his logical thinking.... Dr. De Graaff's lecture showed how this space age rationalism has worked itself out in the science, math, and even social studies teaching and textbooks-- which we Christians often unwittingly pick up.)

Wednesday, July 9

The heat wave seems to have broken, which is good because today's topic looks like one which will plunge us into the thick of educational controversy: the nature of knowledge. Typically Dr. De Graaff begins by clueing us in on what others have said--Christians and non-Christians alike. His main concern seems to be that we avoid the secular emphasis on a rationalistic view of knowledge....the problems which we and our fellow Christian educators have. True knowing is deep, biblically deep; it is much more than just distinguishing and it calls us to discipleship, to doing the truth. This kind of knowing Dr. De Graaff calls contextual knowing as distinct from scientific, abstract knowing. Abstract knowing is a good way of deepening our understanding of the creation, but it is only one way. A child can come to true "vision of life" knowledge in many ways: through the arts, through situations of justice or injustice, through working together with other children, through a variety of experiences in which the child is personally and meaningfully involved in a kind of whole-hearted many-faceted response to God.

During coffee and over lunch our conversations are animated. We all sense that if we accept this view, its implications for the school are far-reaching and even frightening.

Thursday and Friday, July 10 and 11

Yesterday and today we've been busy with clarifying our view of knowledge and looking into its implications specifically for high school and elementary curricula.... Dr. De Graaff's research into the needs, interests and abilities of children and adolescents of different levels help us see what kinds of topics can be dealt with at each level. In this way a child's learning can be meaningfully close to his experience while at the same time it is leading him to new interests and discoveries.

Monday, July 14

We are into another crucial topic: the nature of the child. First we examine our view of man; we look at what others have said, the Behaviorists



Dr. De Graaf: "true knowing is biblically deep."

in the secular world and Dr. Waterink from our own Christian tradition. We are challenged to work out the belief that "Man is a unity". If we truly believe this, then we do not believe that part of us (heart, soul, will) which is good must regulate and subdue the physical part of us (emotions, sensations) which is bad. No. We are totally spiritual; every part of us: Everything we do is a gift of the Lord, an avenue of service. To be a Christian is not to have a new function added to our lives. It simply means to be fully human, to be as we were created from the beginning, to be putting all our functions into the service of the Lord.



Two teachers concentrate on the morning presentation

Wow! Because if this is true then it means something radical for education. It means that a child's structure, the way he has been created to function, is good. A child wants, because of the way he is created, to be physically moving, active, exploring, communicating. A child hates to be lethargic or lazy or uncommunicative because it's not the way he was meant to be. This does not mean that children don't need guidance with regard to how they express and handle their feelings and experiences. They do need to be patiently guided to use their functions rightly--this makes them happy.

We can't wait until coffee to start asking questions today. Our reformed hackles are up. The first question is the inevitable one: What about sin? Slowly, groping together, we realize that both sin and grace are much more radical and serious in this view because our heart direction works itself out in every way we function. Out of sinful inclination we all, adults and children, tend to give our functioning the wrong use or focus but let's not make insignificant the power of grace. We can trust that within a normative setting, one which calls forth a total heart response from the child, he will want to function according to the way he has been created.

We have much to think about and discuss on the way home tonight.

Tuesday and Wednesday, July 15 and 16

Jan explains how they discussed what this view of the child as a person in the Lord means for the child in school, especially for motivating and disciplining him to true knowledge. We skip now to the final day:

Friday, July 18

As we sing together some of the new songs we've learned each day in opening devotions, I feel a little sentimental about the conclusion of our two weeks. Aside from the insights I've picked up into the nature of education, I've also learned that people of very different backgrounds and levels of understanding can discuss and grow together in an atmosphere of acceptance and love.

CDC summer workshop emphasizes integrated learning

At the Niagara Study Conference the August 1st weekend the editor had a chance to talk with a woman who had participated in the Integrated Curriculum Workshop that had been held several weeks earlier at the Toronto District Christian High School in Woodbridge, Ontario. The workshop had been offered under SPICE (Summer Program in Christian Education) which is an annual enrichment program organized each summer for Christian educators by the Ontario Christian Teachers Association (OCTA).

The participant I interviewed was Mrs. Lorraine Lind of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She, as well as others out of province, out of country, had first heard about this SPICE workshop through the AACS announcement of its Basic Issues in Education Seminar, which the AACS offered at the same location to accommodate interested SPICE participants.

Lorraine Lind, who has her master's degree in the psychology of reading, teaches special reading on a part-time basis at a small Christian academy in Eastern Pennsylvania. The workshop was particularly attractive to her because its instructor, Mrs. Jean Olthuis, of the Curriculum Development Centre, had chosen to concentrate on "The Place of Language Arts in the School Program".

Assisting Jean in this the first week was Mary Brus, teacher at Immanuel Christian School in Agincourt, Ontario, who has specialized in remedial reading. During the second week, when the participants had a chance for firsthand experience with thematic units in which reading and language arts are integrated with many other kinds and areas of learning, Jean's assistant was Mrs. Judy Gunnink, who is the acting principal for the newly formed Toronto Central Christian School.

Lorraine had written down for Perspective some of the guidelines she would like to share from the workshop. She granted me permission to employ some of her explanations of those points in this write-up.

I think the workshop helped me see how much we have limited the ways in which a child can learn in school. In my work in special reading, for example, the usual is to pull the child out of his regular classroom and then almost the only activity is to test him in order to categorize his reading ability. The tests ask factual questions, such as "What colour was the lady's dress in the story?" I now say to myself, what difference does it make if the dress is blue or green? The workshop led me to see that the most important thing is helping the child to understand and express what is meaningful for him in that story. The more he can do that, the more valuable reading will become to him.

I had always been taught from the viewpoint that reading was merely a decoding to get at meaning. The workshop activities and discussions convinced me that meaning is obtained, not from the printed page, but from the reader himself. Reading is a function of the total person, not just of the intellect. When a student reads something, he brings to it all that he has experienced and knows to be true and inevitably from that view of life--his own view--he decides what the author means and is trying to say.

That's where the workshop was so helpful. We learned practical ways of integrating the language arts program with all other learnings in a more naturally life-like way; and ways to allow the child the emotional freedom to be himself--to read, write, listen and speak about things which concern him in his day-to-day living; and ways to grant the child the freedom to choose his own method and rate of learning, providing for his involvement on many different sides, so that he can become personally responsible for what he learns in school. It's when you decide things for yourself that you feel most eager to do them.

I must mention how important the sharing is. It's not cheating for kids to help each other with possible answers--that's learning. Working together on thematic units in the workshop made us teachers feel how important it is to share responses. It makes you feel good about learning.

I'm convinced that integration, including the integrating of how and what our children read, is the way I'd like to teach someday. It's a great way to let our children experience and be opened up to the wholeness of life as we know it from the Scriptures and as they experience it. This way can help children discover the order in the creation and what it means for them. It can broaden their own experience and deepen their insights. They'll learn how to respond critically and creatively and honestly to what they meet, being guided by the Truth as we know it in Christ. That's the most important thing--that each child can find his way of being a disciple in the ever-changing and complex times he will be facing.



WOLTERS' INAUGURAL AVAILABLE

The published version of Dr. Al Wolters 1974 inaugural lecture, entitled Our Place in the Philosophical Tradition, is now available from the AACCS for \$1.00. Other lectures available are:

The Ongoing Task of Christian Historiography

by Dr. C.T. McIntire

\$1.00

A Turnabout in Aesthetics to Understanding

by Dr. Calvin Seerveld

\$1.00

Notes Towards a Christian Critique of
Secular Economic Theory

by Dr. A.B. Cramp

\$1.50

ALL ORDERS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENT

Report on May Trustee Meetings

by Peter Nicolai

The Board of Trustees of the AACS is entrusted with shaping and directing the activities of the Association. To do this it meets twice a year to set policy and goals. To the Board of Directors and the most capable staff is entrusted the responsibilities of implementing the policies and programs outlined by the Board.

The meeting of May 21, 22 and 23 was no exception to this general aim. Under the chairmanship of Alvin Venema the Board discussed the usual, but important, matters of public relations, finances, personnel and programs. The discussions have the character of generality but, hopefully and prayerfully, they lead to specific and concrete activities which enrich and strengthen the Christian community in its service of the Lord.



Trustee W. Kamphuis (Eastern Canada) and C.T. McIntire

Prior to its business meeting, the Board met with the Curators, Directors, and the faculty of the Institute. These annual combined meetings do much to keep the Board informed and in tune with the spirit and activities in Toronto. This year Dr. C.T. McIntire outlined the present state of historiography and the relation of his work and the work of other Christians to this area of scholarship. Mr. Tom Malcolm also led us through an evaluation of the present (other than the ICS) educational services of the AACS. A general discussion concerning the long-range goals of the Institute also occupied those present.

In its regular meeting, the Board awarded a second two-year term as a Senior Member of the ICS to Dr. McIntire and continuing appointments to Drs. De Graaff and Seerveld. These appointments were made upon evidence of developing Christian scholarship consistent with biblical faith and the aims of the AACS. These three men, and all the staff of the AACS/ICS, enjoy the confidence of their fellow workers and of the Board.

After an interview and discussion, the Board was happy to grant a one-year extension of his position as Development Director to Mr. Harry Houtman. In a position that requires more and more expertise, Mr. Houtman has served well. His is the trying and difficult task of fostering and directing the programs of the AACS in the community. To him, too, falls the difficult task of fund raising and finance management. Harry, with Mr. Marinus Koole, will also represent the AACS to the Christian Stewardship Services, an association of Christian organizations co-operating in deferred giving. There will be more

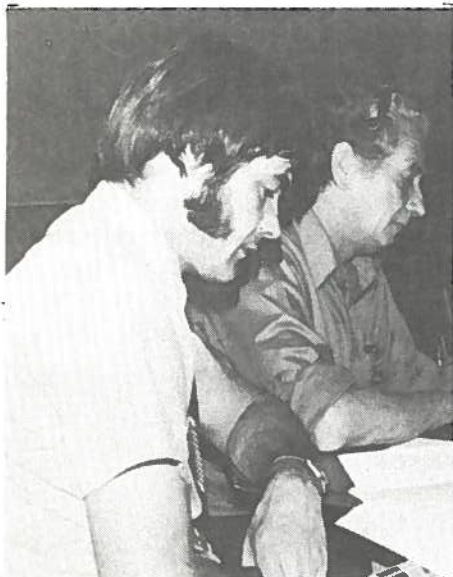
information concerning this service later.

Mr. Tom Malcolm was also interviewed and given a one year extension of his position as Director of Educational Services. Mr. Malcolm will continue his work of recruiting students from the campuses of Canada and the U.S.A. The Discovery and Conference programs also come under his direction. The Study Conferences have, in recent years, evolved into more general, less academic family conferences. These are rich and meaningful, but there is also a desire and a need for more theoretically-orientated conferences. Mr. Malcolm will work to come to some definite proposals in this matter. Other groups and agencies will also be invited to co-sponsor and participate in the conferences with the AACs. The Discovery lectures are also to be evaluated. How to reach more people and wider areas is a constant concern. The need to present meaningful Christian programs to the Christian community demands consistent and persistent use of the best available means and resources. All this comes under the scope of Mr. Malcolm's activities.

With gratitude and thanksgiving the Board recognized that three students--Harry Fernhout, John Hull and Masuo Miyazaki--have graduated with the Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degree. The goal of graduating students at a post-graduate level has long been the concern of the prayers and efforts of many, many people. That we have reached this milestone can only prompt us to humbly profess: The Lord is gracious and faithful!

We continue with the hope that soon the ICS will enjoy full accreditation. Dr. VanderVennen continues to make important contacts and a charter has been drafted. It seems to be really only a matter of time before the Institute is accredited, but it is most important both for the attraction of students and the place of our graduates in the community and society that our degrees of M.Phil. and Ph.D. be fully and properly recognized as soon as possible.

It is nothing short of amazing that the Lord always provides the means for the Association to conduct the work entrusted to it. The "financial squeeze", however, is real. To help Junior and Senior Members financially, the Board adopted some specific measures. It was decided to pay one half the amount by which the costs of principal and interest for housing exceeds 20% of a Senior Member's salary. Each case will be decided separately and judged on its own merits. This measure is necessitated by the high cost of housing in Toronto. The Board thanks Mr. Gerrit de Koning for the excellent study which he prepared in this matter. The possibility of enrolling the AACs/ICS staff in a group life insurance plan will also be investigated and implemented.



Trustee H. Lunshof
and Director M. Koole

The Board also established some conservative measures to financially help Junior Members of the Institute. The money budgeted for Dr. Griffioen's salary will be used for this and

a fund will be established to aid needy and deserving students. A Scholarship Endowment Fund was also established for the supervision of memorial gifts given for the purpose of aiding students.

The Board was pleased to note that some twenty new students had applied to begin study at the Institute in the fall of 1975. It is hoped that more students from Reformed background and also from Canadian campuses will be attracted to the ICS.

Looking ahead, the Board decided, in principle, to add one Senior Member to the ICS faculty each year for the next five years providing suitable personnel and resources are available. The Board feels strongly that the building of a strong team of scholars who complement and support one another is essential for the growth of Christian understanding in education. Unless theoretical work is done with diligence, it will be impossible to be the kind of service agency that the AACS seeks to be.

The Board expressed its keen disappointment that Dr. S. Griffioen was unable to take up his position in the Institute in 1975, the appointed time. We hope that he will soon be able to take his place among the Senior Members.

Trustee meetings are also a time for appointments and preparations for elections. Dr. P. Schouls and Mr. J.A. Olthuis were appointed to the Board of Curators. The terms of the following Trustees have expired: Dr. P. Schouls, Region 2, Mr. J. de Koning and Mr. W. Posthumus, Region 7, Dr. J. VanDyk, Region 3, and Dr. W. Kamphuis, Region 8. The chairman sincerely thanked these men for their faithful work on the Board. All except Dr. Kamphuis and Dr. Schouls, who have each served two consecutive three year terms, are eligible for re-election. It was also decided to add an additional Trustee in Regions 6 and 7. The members in the regions affected by elections will soon be receiving their ballots in the mail. Trustees elected will begin their terms at the October meeting of the Board.

A word of sincere appreciation must be expressed to those AACS staff members who, on top of their regular duties, prepared the meals and coffee treats for the Trustees. Thank you!

When the Trustees finally adjourned to part to widely separated homes, there was thanksgiving to our God for His blessings and for the privilege of being His servants. The Trustees, each with varied gifts, seriously applied themselves to the many items of business. No question, observation or critique is ever slighted. There were moments of deep concern and moments of laughter--but all was done in a willing joyful spirit to know and be submissive to the way of our Lord.

* *Peter Nicolai, Trustee from Region 1, is pastor of the Christian Reformed Church in Houston, B.C.*

Goudzwaard to lead third Economics Seminar

Dr. B. Goudzwaard, professor in economic theory at the Free University of Amsterdam, will be the major lecturer in a third economic seminar organized by the ICS. It will be held on January 12-23, 1976. The immediate occasion for this seminar lies in the fact that Sander Griffioen, though appointed to teach economics at ICS starting 1975, will not be able to start until September, 1976. Dr. Goudzwaard has consented to fill part of the resultant vacuum.

In distinction from the philosophical and cultural emphasis of the 1972 and 1974 summer seminars, Dr. Goudzwaard will focus attention this time on a systematic treatment of the history of economic theory. Covering the time from the classical economists until today, he plans to deal with Adam Smith, James Mill, Pareto, Pigou, Keynes, Mishan, Tinbergen and others.

In view of this distinctly theoretical orientation, the seminar will be open to members of the ICS, to theoreticians from other institutions, to persons giving leadership in the economic sector, and to a small number of students who can come to Toronto in January, possibly as part of an interim program in their own university or college. Interested persons can obtain additional information from Ada Oegema at the ICS.

AACS inaugurates financial aid program

A structured financial aid program has been set up this summer to help financially needy students attend the Institute for full-time degree study. The program has been approved by the staff and the Board of Trustees and has been organized during the summer by a special Committee that will administer the program.

Changing times are making this student financial help necessary. Because of high unemployment, Canada no longer permits new students from outside the country to work even part-time, with almost no exceptions. Until now most Institute students have depended on part-time work to pay their tuition and expenses. Since a very high percentage of Institute students come from outside of Canada, without special help enrolment would drop very sharply.

There is a second reason why student financial help is badly needed. As a graduate school that accepts only college graduates, the Institute has many Junior Members who are already married and have family responsibilities. They are finding they need to work about half-time to cover tuition plus living expenses. This means that study for a degree that ought to take two to three years will take them four to six years. That's too long. The quality of their study suffers, too, when they can't concentrate on their studies with full attention.

So we are making available financial grants to worthy students who would not be able to study full-time for a degree at the Institute without extra help. We expect them first to get all the money they can from work, other scholarships, family help and the like. We find out from each applicant for financial aid what initiatives he has taken to meet his needs, and then how much money he is short. If it is legally possible for him to carry some employment while he is a student, we will help him arrange 10 to 15 hours a week of work. Beyond that we will see how far we can help him with a grant.

Earlier this year two or three people who applied and were accepted for study at the Institute told us they could not come because they needed to work part-time or receive financial aid in some way. One or two are now reconsidering whether they can still come, now that we have told them about our financial aid, but others have already made other commitments for the coming year. Perhaps they will be able to come to the Institute next year. It hurts us to have gifted and dedicated young people not able to study at the Institute, not able to benefit themselves and society and the Kingdom from the Christian insights they wish to develop at the Institute. This is especially true for those increasing numbers who are applying whose undergraduate study has been at a secular university rather than at a Christian college.

The Board of Trustees has set the policies and budgeted the funds for the program. The special Committee implementing it consists of Tom Malcolm, chairman, Dorothy Huisman, Dr. Seerveld, Christiane Thies, Dr. VanderVennen, and Dr. Zylstra.

This program does not take the place of the Scholarship Fund for overseas students which we have had for some years. The Scholarship Fund will now be administered also by the Committee.

Please consider making a special donation to make study at the Institute possible for worthy students who cannot pay the entire cost themselves.

**AACS MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES CHAPTER SPONSORS SEPTEMBER CONFERENCE
(AS WELL AS THE USUAL NOVEMBER CONFERENCE)**

Date: September 27, 1975. Time: 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Cost: \$4.00

Place: Ambler Campus of Temple University (near the intersection of Route 309 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike)

Subject: THE PHILOSOPHY OF HERMAN DOOYEWEERD FOR THE NON-PHILOSOPHER
a lecture by Dr. Robert D. Knudsen of Westminster Seminary

Registrar: Mrs. Karen B. Wadsworth
417 Delaware Avenue
McDaniel Crest
Wilmington, Delaware 19803

For anyone travelling a long distance and requiring overnight lodging, arrangements can be made to stay in the homes of nearby conferees.

Wedge publishes basic book on Dooyeweerd's thought

It's been a long time coming but finally Leendert Kalsbeek's book describing the Christian philosophy developed in The Netherlands has been translated into highly readable English. Wedge has published this Dutch book under the English title, Contours of a Christian Philosophy: An introduction to Herman Dooyeweerd's thought.

The author, Leendert Kalsbeek, has been a principal and teacher in the Dutch Christian school system for over 50 years. Originally published in Amsterdam in 1970, his book has already seen three printings, since it is perhaps the most lucid book written on Dooyeweerd's complex philosophy.

The book has a number of features of special importance to anyone interested in what is called "reformational" philosophy. One of these is an extensive Introduction written by Dr. Bernard Zylstra. In it he describes the roots of Dooyeweerd's thought in such Dutch thinkers as Groen Van Prinsterer and Abraham Kuyper, and the team of people with whom this philosophy has been developing in the last half century, especially Vollenhoven, Mekkes, Popma, Zuidema, and Van Riessen. He also discusses the difficulties involved in the transmission of this philosophy into the Anglo-Saxon world. The footnotes to this introduction contain the most important publications that have been published in the Dutch language by the representatives of this school of thought.

Two other features include the Bibliography and Glossary of terms. The Bibliography contains the most exhaustive collection of titles to date of "reformational thought" in English, French, and German. The Glossary (definition of terms), prepared by Dr. Albert Wolters, will be very helpful to anyone trying to understand the basics of this philosophy.

This English edition is a result of cooperation among several persons. Judy Petersen, a native of Boston, supplied the initial translation, which was modified by Bonnie Greene. In the past year the bulk of the work of refinement of the translation has been carried by Bernard and Josina Zylstra. Bernard checked the text for philosophical accuracy and Josina went through the entire manuscript for editorial precision and consistency.

Dr. Zylstra recommends the book by saying, "For anyone interested in the basics of Dooyeweerd's thought, as well as for college and university students who look for a biblically oriented framework for their studies, this book is a good start."

The 360-page book is available in hardcover for \$12.50 (+ 75¢ shipping charges) from Wedge Publishing Foundation, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4.

The author, editors, and publisher acknowledge their appreciation for the generous gifts which have made a lower retail price on this book possible.

AACS News

* We have been happy to have Aria Poot working with us in the AACS office since last September. At that time she accepted a position with us with the intention of continuing her education in about a year's time. She is now leaving us to take up full-time study at Humber College. Upon completion of a program there she hopes to begin working with developmentally handicapped children. Our staff will miss her; we wish her well in her studies and future work.

* Recently the AACS received two beautiful sets of furniture for the ICS staff room and for the lounge. We heartily thank the anonymous donor for the gift which makes these two rooms bright and attractive. Students and staff appreciate the furniture and hope to enjoy it for many years.

* G. Angus Hills has published a 33-page article entitled, "A Philosophical Approach to Landscape Planning", in the new international journal, Landscape Planning, Volume 1, pages 339-371 (1974). He argues that science and technology are not enough to solve the many-faceted issues in landscape planning, that nothing less than a philosophical perspective is needed for their practical resolution. He then shows how the cosmic-order philosophy of H. Dooyeweerd can be used to provide such an integrated perspective in this complex field. The article is an outstanding example of how a person can work in a Christian way at the conceptual level of his professional field, and also how a forthright testimony of Christian faith can be incorporated integrally into a technical article in a professional journal. (Angus has retired from the Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, and lives in Thornhill, Ontario.)

* The following paragraphs are excerpted from a thank-you letter written to Marcia Hollingsworth by recent ICS graduate, Rev. Masuo Miyazaki:

My work at Kunitachi Christian Center has been quite enjoyable, though it takes a while yet, it seems to me, before it becomes a real center (stronghold) of the Christian Gospel for the student world. The work in connection with the Reformed studies center is going to start in the fall with my lectures on Calvinistic philosophy and a Christian approach to Japanese culture.

A reformational work here in Japan seems to be more difficult than I thought in Toronto, because of the binding forces of tradition in all sectors of life, but it is the Lord's work, and our only hope lies in Him, so I am not worried about it. We just pray, trust and do. I shall be praying for your work in Canada, too.

Rev. Masuo Miyazaki
1-11-46 Masashi-dai
Fuchu-shi
Tokyo, Japan (183)

* U.S. Members and Supporters

Your donations for the AACS and the Institute should be sent to the AACS Foundation, 1677 Gentian Drive S.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49508, to receive a tax deductible receipt for the U.S. income tax return.

* Moving? Please include your former address when sending us a change of address. If you inform us of your move beforehand, it will save us time and postal charges.

* The AACS has previously agreed to lend Wedge money to help finance the publication of the Kalsbeek book described on p. 18, until sales can make up for the initial outlay of funds. We now have immediate need for \$10,000 in loans to carry out this promise. We offer up to 8% interest per year, if necessary, with return of funds upon 30 days notice. If you have the means to help, please write Harry Houtman for details.

Curriculum Development Centre (CDC) News

* Joy in Learning, Volume I, has now appeared in its second printing. Higher printing costs have raised the price of this 618-page curriculum manual to \$17.50, plus \$2.00 shipping charges. Copies may be ordered from the Curriculum Development Centre, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4.

* Cal Jongsma reports that the groundwork is progressing on the CDC volume featuring a curriculum in mathematics. Meetings are currently being held to discuss both content and approach.

ICS News

* Recently the ICS library received as a gift from Rev. A.E. Rozendal of Hudsonville, Michigan, the 1877 to 1896 issues of De Heraut. A Dutch Christian weekly, De Heraut was edited by Dr. Abraham Kuyper, one-time prime minister of The Netherlands. It brought very important spiritual, religious, and social issues from a Christian perspective to the common people during the most important decades of Kuyper's leadership. This newspaper was an important instrument in the shaping of a Christian mind, and a rally organ that led to and supported the establishment of a Christian university, Christian day schools, Christian labour and political organizations, and Christian media. Thank you again, Rev. Rozendal, for this valuable addition to the ICS library.

- *
Dr. Carl F.H. Henry, founder of Christianity Today, from Washington, D.C., visited the Institute in July for a conversation with Senior Members and the AACCS Executive Director on the prospects of Christian academic work. He is one of the founders of the Institute for Advanced Christian Studies in the United States which awards grants for research and publication by evangelical scholars.
- *
Fourteen physicists, mathematicians, chemists and others in the natural sciences participated in the ICS Philosophy of the Physical Sciences Seminar, July 28 - August 8. A full report will appear in the next issue of Perspective.
- *
A short essay by Calvin Seerveld, entitled "The Christian and the Arts", appeared in For The Time Being (Spring, 1975 issue). This is a magazine for the arts founded by Cor Barendrecht, who is also the literary editor for Calvinist Contact. Beginning with the next issue, this magazine will be published by the Calvin College English Department.
- *
C. Seerveld attended the Fourth International Congress on the Enlightenment and Sixth Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies, at Yale University, July 13-20. Key scholars were present at this conference from all over the world.
- *
Bernard Zylstra participated in the training program for the new staff recruits of the Pittsburgh Coalition for Christian Outreach. The Coalition is a college evangelism outreach on numerous campuses in Western Pennsylvania and surrounding areas. Zylstra lectured at Graystone United Presbyterian Church, July 7-13, on the components of a biblical view of man and society in confrontation with the materialistic perspective of our culture.
- *
James Olthuis' book, titled I Pledge You My Troth, is scheduled by publishers Harper and Row (New York) for a second printing this summer. It was first released during the second week in May of this year.
Copies are available at the purchase price of \$7.95 from Wedge Publishing Foundation, 229 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R4.
- *
"Ideas Have Legs", Al Wolters' keynote address to the annual convention of the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), has been published in The Guide (July, 1975).
- *
A description of the Institute for Christian Studies appears in the April-June issue of Theological News, the quarterly newsletter of the Theological Assistance Programme of the World Evangelical Fellowship, edited by Bruce J. Nicholls of New Delhi, India. Each issue contains summaries of research projects around the world related to theology.

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* C.T. McIntire completed a successful research trip to Europe in June and July in connection with his book, now nearing completion, England Against the Papacy, 1858-1861. At the Royal Archives in Windsor Castle he was able to find two versions of a private diary by Edward, the Prince of Wales, about his journey to Rome in 1859, when he was the first heir to the throne to visit the Pope since the Reformation. In Rome McIntire worked in some new materials at the Vatican and the State Archives of Rome. He also was able to visit for the first time some of the important cities mentioned in his book--Orvieto, Perugia, Ancona, Bologna.

The highlight of his trip was a half-day interview with Prof. Sir Herbert Butterfield at Peterhouse, Cambridge University. Last year McIntire studied Butterfield's thought and writings in an ICS seminar in philosophy of history. In the interview Butterfield answered questions about his writings and ideas on Christianity and history, historiography, and his intellectual and spiritual biography.

* George Grant to present lecture at ICS
Professor George Grant, of the religion department at McMaster University in Hamilton and author of Technology and Empire, Lament for a Nation and numerous other publications, will present a lecture at the ICS on Wednesday, October 8, at 4:00 p.m. His lecture, entitled "Beyond Economic Growth", is open to the public.

AACS Annual Membership Meeting

OCTOBER 25, 1975 IS THE DATE FOR THE AACS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

AACS AND ICS STAFF MEMBERS WILL PRESENT REPORTS ON PROGRAMS AND FUTURE PLANS, AND THERE WILL BE AMPLE TIME FOR DISCUSSION. LOCATION AND MORE DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Institute for Christian Studies Institutional Repository

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