

"CHRISTMAS 1955"



—F. W. Thomsen
—J. D. Linahan

ALUMNI QUARTERLY

of

Dana College and Trinity Seminary
Volume XI December, 1955 Number 4

A quarterly bulletin published by the Alumni Association of Dana College and Trinity Seminary at the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebraska. All matters pertaining to business should be addressed to the Alumni Office, Dana College, Blair, Nebraska. Entered as second-class matter November 4, 1944 at the post office at Blair, Nebraska.

Dana College, Blair, Nebr.

Officers of the Association

President Robert Hemmingson D53
1120 W. 19th St., Cedar Falls, Ia.

Vice-President Forrest Leighton, D49
609 Ann St., Columbia, Mo.

Treasurer Lee Daggett, D41
510 W. Washington St., Blair, Nebr.

Secretary Luella Nielsen

From the Editor

Our cover for this issue is a cut of one of the four panels which were displayed in the auditorium during the recent performance of Handel's "Messiah." (See story in college news section of this issue.)

Collaborating on the simulated stained glass windows were art instructor Prof. Wm. Thomsen and freshman art student John D. Linahan of Omaha. They obtained the stained glass effect by pasting colored crepe paper over the latticed outline of the figures made of heavy black paper.

A new **Alumni Quarterly** editor will be on deck for the next issue of the publication, but meanwhile the editorial chores are being handled by the undersigned, class of 1956.

Special credit this issue goes to several alumni officials who were very cooperative in helping us gather our material and to the college news service, whose facilities we utilized extensively.

Much of the college news herein was unabashedly borrowed from the **Hermes**—for this we thank Tom Langenfeld and his hard-working staff for saving us a lot of leg work.

Jim Clemon

Letters to the Editor

"An alumni association has a definite place and purpose in the operation of any college." This is a phrase often repeated by officers of alumni associations, but it is a phrase which can easily become devoid of meaning as far as the practical affairs of an association are concerned.

The Alumni Association of Dana and Trinity has since its inception been seeking to find a significant purpose and place for itself in the operation of the schools. From meager beginnings it has grown and expanded its activities under faithful, capable, and dedicated leadership. The number of those who have contributed to the alumni fund has mounted steadily until last year, when the Association operated with a \$4,000 budget. Projects have been many, including the purchase last year of band uniforms. Thus our Alumni Association has tried to find its place and purpose. No one would say that we have reached the ultimate goal, but a firm foundation has been laid.

What then can we say about the future? First, we want to bring all alumni of Dana and Trinity to an even closer relationship with their alma mater. If we think back to our days at school, shouldn't we feel that we owe something in return, that the opportunities afforded us may be carried on for others in an even more impressive and valuable way? To do this, we as alumni need to remain close to the schools and be interested in their every operation.

And it must be said that financial aid is not the only way that alumni should maintain their interest. There are other ways which we as an Association need to explore.

If possible, more Dana clubs in communities across the country need to be established. These clubs can have a purpose for existence and be of real aid to the college and seminary.

Certainly we must continue our financial contributions and make them more impressive each succeeding year. If we

(Continued on page 12)

Before



And After . . .



You remember that the picture at the top of this page appeared in the **Quarterly** a year ago in connection with a story urging alumni to pitch in on the band uniform project.

That project is completed now, and the bottom cut illustrates with what success it was completed. The college now has a full-time band director, who leads a well-rounded, well-uniformed band.

The picture of the band in uniform is in black and white, but the uniforms are very much in color. The jackets are red, with white trim and a gray breast flap.

The trousers are grey, with red and white trim along the outside seams. The whole is topped off by a brilliant red shako type cap, complete with glittering silver emblem and fluffy white ostrich feather plume.

The band marched in the Homecoming parade in the new uniforms, and presented a show at half-time of the Homecoming football game, assisted by high school bands from surrounding towns. The band has appeared on the college radio broadcast, and has made several appearances around the campus in connection with Christmas festivities.

Simmons Is Speaker At Banquet; Emilie Laursen Is Crowned Queen



Emilie Laursen

1955 Homecoming festivities got off to a flying start on Friday night, October 2, when 1954 Homecoming queen Pat Beck of Fremont crowned Emilie Laursen of Ord, Nebraska, to reign over the remainder of the weekend's activities. The coronation took place during the alumni talent show, which was emceed by Prof. Norman C. Bansen.

Queen Millie is active in several Dana organizations—treasurer of the History club and secretary-treasurer of the Home Economics club. She was featured in last year's Viking Play-

ers production of Kaufman and Hart's comedy, "You Can't Take It With You."

Millie is part of the royal line extending back to her brother Paul Laursen, a Dana athletic great who shared royalty honors at May Fest a few years back. The queen and her attendants, Jean Coffey of Blair and Nellie Faye Larsen of Atlantic, Iowa, were elected from a slate of six candidates in an election on Thursday, October 20.

Other traditional Homecoming events included an alumni kaffeboard, the alumni business meeting, the big parade on Saturday, and a football game with Concordia on Saturday afternoon.

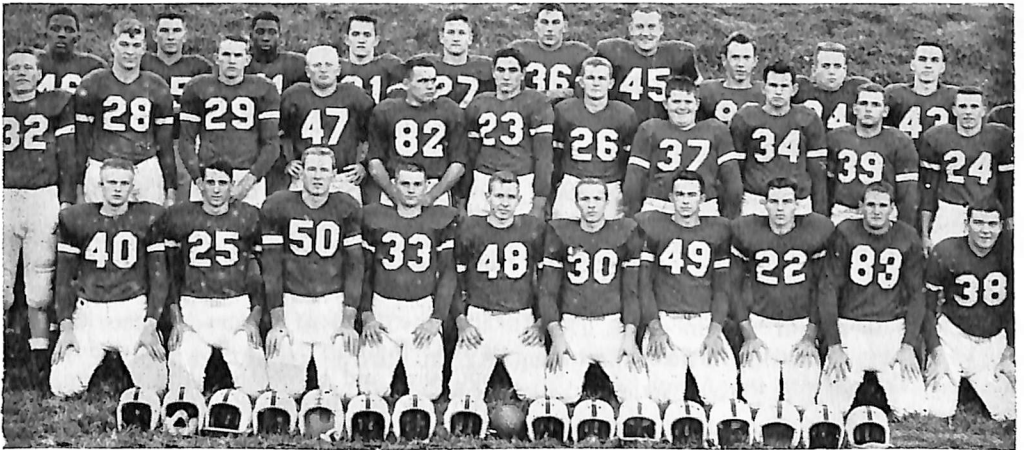
Featured speaker at the Saturday night alumni banquet was Judge Robert G. Simmons, chief justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court. He centered his address around impressions of the Orient which he received while traveling there recently. He has been Chief Justice of the state's highest court since 1938.



Robert G. Simmons



These four young ladies are leading Dana's cheering at athletic contests this year. They are, left to right: freshman Janice Plath from Omaha; sophomore Gaye Schmidt from Blair; senior Edna Skobo from Blair and freshman Shirley Chandler from Ferndale, California.



Front row, left to right: Gary Jessen, Charles Eriksen, LeRoy Anderson, Russ Moseman, Jon Petersen, Frank Gabby, Milan Johnson, Ed Ellis, Jack Linahan and Dean Fredericksen.

Second row: Dave Larsen, Orval Harling, Jim Petersen, Malcom Quick, R. G. Davis, Louis Philby, Jack Lodl, Ron Andersen, Marvin Olsen, Bill Averman and Terry Wichert.

Back row: Rod Wead, Don Kahnk, Marion Hudson, Larry Jorgensen, Lynn Farrens, Carmen Craig, Hilmar Krueger, Ernest Andersen, Milton Jensen and Lee Weismann.

The only dark spot on the Homecoming eschutcheon came on Saturday afternoon, when the Vikings dropped a game to the Concordia Bulldogs, 14-6. The Bulldogs cinched the Central Church College Conference title by downing Dana in the contest, having beaten Tarkio and Westmar earlier in the season.

The Bulldogs pressed a strong ground attack in their victory over the Red and

White, utilizing sprinters Gary Seevers, Eldon Neben and Vic Peter. The Vikings were handicapped by the loss of ace passer Jan Philby, who was sidelined earlier in the season with a knee injury.

The Homecoming tilt was the last home game of their careers for Dana seniors Hilmar Krueger, Mal Quick, Lee Weismann, Marion Hudson, Jack Lodl, Lynn Farrens and Jon Petersen.



On Destiny's Deep Sea

Mr. and Mrs. Vordyn Nelsen (Dixie Allen) are the parents of a girl, Renee Lea, born November 3. They have one boy. Vordyn is coaching at Austin, Minnesota.

Rev. Verner Carlsen has been promoted to the rank of full commander in the Naval Reserve chaplaincy. Rev. Carlsen, now serving Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa, is a veteran of the Second World War and the Korean war.

Phil Kaldahl is teaching English and speech at Plattsmouth High School, in Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

Joan Nelson and Robert Coffey were married in Racine on November 26. They are living in Anchorage, Alaska, where Bob is stationed with the Army.

Kenneth Ostergaard was married on September 18. He is currently employed by Ernst and Ernst, an accounting firm in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Chicago Dana Club held a supper meeting at Golgotha Lutheran Church in Chicago on Monday evening, December 26. Mr. Byron Langenfeld of Racine, Wisconsin, was the speaker. Guests included Robert Hemmingson, newly-elected president of the Alumni Association.

Several alumni who are currently attending the University of Iowa held a get-together recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Christensen. They were: Orvan Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. John Mehr, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hansen and Charles Christensen.

Athanasius V. Hjortsvang, one of the

earliest graduates of Dana College, died of coronary thrombosis on September 24.

Rev. Maynard O. Hansen, who previously served congregations at Bark River and Negaunee, Michigan, has been named pastor of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church at Ninety Third and Dodge streets in Omaha.

"3000"

"Three thousand" will be the magic number in alumni endeavor during the coming year. At the alumni business meeting held during the Homecoming festivities in October it was decided to raise the total of names on the alumni active mailing list to a round three thousand, and three thousand dollars has been set as the financial goal for the year.

Of the three thousand dollars, \$1500 has been tentatively earmarked for gifts to the college's athletic plant, and \$1500 will be used for sprucing up the chapel in Pioneer Memorial.

Bob Hemmingson, athletic director Paul Peterson and Dr. C. C. Madsen comprise the alumni-faculty committee that will supervise the "3000" project.

Another item of business of considerable importance transacted at the meeting was the election of the following officers: Bob Hemmingson, president; Red Leighton, vice president; Lee Daggett, treasurer; Luella Nielsen, secretary and Paul Simon, new member of the advisory council. Leighton and Daggett were re-elected to their respective offices, having served as officers during the previous year.

Dana College



Office of the President

Christmas greetings to all alumni.

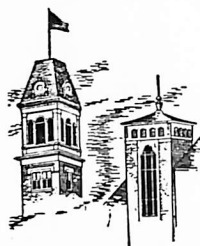
When the wise men set out from their homes in the Far East to go to Jerusalem, some of their contemporaries could have chided them for starting out on what would today be called "a wild goose chase." After all, they were setting out on a long and perilous journey on some rather flimsy evidence—anew star which had appeared in the heavens. During the long and arduous trek across desert wastes these Magi may often have wondered if they were right. When they arrived in Jerusalem, however, they asked in full confidence, "Where is He who has been born, King of the Jews?"

The truth of the Christmas miracle is not as much doubted today as it is ignored. In our day of easy and pleasant living there is little longing and waiting by many people for a Savior. He just is not needed. That is the tragedy of Christmas today.

A Christmas wish is sent to all alumni in this message. Not only do we wish you a happy and blessed Christmas and a prosperous and better New Year, but we pray earnestly that the Spirit of God may reveal to each of us our distinct need of this Savior. The wise men of old had to find him. Countless thousands since that first Christmas night have sought and found him because they could not live without the Savior. May this be your cry this Christmas, with Job of old, "Oh that I knew where I might find Him, that I might come even to His seat."

Sincerely yours,

R. E. Morton



On College Hill

AND WITH THE ALUMNI

Dr. Swansen Passes Away At Age 66

Dr. H. Fred Swansen, 66, head of the Department of History at Dana for twenty-three years, died early in the morning of Dec. 3 at Clarkson Hospital, Omaha. Death was the result of an embolism following several operations. He is survived by his wife, Beatrice, and two sisters, Miss Loretta Swansen, Marshfield, Mass., and Mrs. Irving Hedtler, Dorchester, Mass.



Dr. Swansen, known to historians and to thousands of former Dana students throughout the nation, was born Nov. 14, 1889, in Boston, Mass. He held the B.A.

degree from Luther College, Decorah, Ia., the M.A. degree from the University of Minnesota, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Iowa. In 1949, following research in this country and in Scandinavia, he published **The Founder of St. Ansgar**, a biography of Claus Lauritz Clausen, Danish-American pioneer leader in the central Midwest and the founder of the town of St. Ansgar, Ia. Scholarly articles from Dr. Swansen's hand have appeared in national journals.

Dr. Swansen is listed in the **Directory of American Scholars** for his work in the field of history. In 1938 he was a member of the Carnegie Foundation on International law at the University of Michigan. He was a member of a number of national learned societies, including the American Historical Association, the National Council of Geography Teachers, and the Norwegian-American Historical Association; he was a charter member of the Dana Chapter of the American-Scandinavian Foundation. Since its organization in 1954, he served as chairman of the Faculty Senate at Dana. Throughout his life of service to scholarship and education, he was a defender of the liberal arts tradition.

Prior to joining the faculty at Dana, Dr. Swansen was principle of Gale College, Galesville, Wis., from 1920-1925, and was a member of the faculty of Luther College, Decorah, Ia., from 1926-1932. In 1943 and in 1944 he was on the faculty of the Iowa State Teachers College summer sessions.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 6, in the college auditorium, the Rev. H. C. Jorgensen of Blair's First Lutheran Church officiating.

Student Radio Program Is Aired; First Presentations Successful

Radio audiences around Blair and Fremont have been hearing a new sound of late—"Dana College Is on the Air."

The bi-weekly program, tape recorded on the campus by Dana students, is presented on alternate Thursdays over station KFGT in Fremont. Midland College is on the air on every other Thursday.

Under the direction of Pete Smith, Jim Clemon and technical director Harold Holt, the 25-minute program presents the best of Dana's talent in a variety-type format. Theme music is "Hail Dana," sung by the college choir. Carmen Craig, freshman from Omaha, is the regular announcer. He has been assisted in past weeks by Ron Siersbeck, Doris Madsen, Phil Pagel and Derol Valder. The choir performs regularly on the program, and will be featured on the next presentation on December 22. They will treat KFGT listeners to a half-hour of traditional Christmas carols.

Special guests on the program have included Dr. Henry Steele Commager, noted author, lecturer and historian, Mr. Byron Langenfeld, alumnus who has done a lot of work with the nation's leading cartoonists (see last issue of **Quarterly**), and Mr. Bill Finegan, who comprises fifty percent of the famous Sauter-Finegan orchestra combination.

Program director Pete Smith has asked for comments by alumni who have heard the programs. Replies should be addressed to him in care of the college.

CHOIR ON CBS...

CBS will feature the Dana College a capella choir on its Sunday "Church of the Air," on January 8, 1956. Dr. Hans Jersild, president of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, will be the liturgist.

Alumni should check their local papers for the time of the broadcast in their area.



Carmen Craig, freshman from Omaha, Nebraska, is the regular announcer on Dana's new series of radio broadcasts over KFGT in Fremont. Craig, a married veteran with one brand-new baby girl, plans to enter the radio-TV field when he graduates.

Messiah Presented

A Dana tradition was renewed and expanded this year when the a capella choir presented Handel's "Messiah" in its entirety on Sunday, December 4, in the auditorium. Augmented by seminarians and faculty members, the choir sang the great oratorio in two sittings—Part I, "The Birth of Christ," at 4:30 p.m. and Parts II and III, "The Crucifixion" and "The Resurrection" at 8:00.

The auditorium was decorated for the occasion by four large simulated stained glass windows executed by Prof. Wm. Thomsen, head of the art department, and John D. Linahan, freshman art student. The four panels, one of which appears on our cover, depicted the manger scene, the adoration of the Magi, the crucifixion and the Cross on Easter morning.



Viking

SPORTS



FOOTBALL SEASON NOT SO BAD AS STATISTICS SHOW IT

(Dana's football season can best be summarized by reprinting wholesale an editorial from the November 11 Hermes.)

Last year we started off an editorial like this: "One win, one tie and five losses. Not exactly a brilliant season. Why?" And then we went on to explain Dana's most unsuccessful season in recent years.

We could have started this editorial with a similar: "One win and six losses, Not exactly a brilliant season, etc.," but was the season so unsuccessful? In terms of wins and losses . . . it was.

But rather than repeat last year's explanation of why we think the Vikes didn't win more games, we'd like to hand out a few orchids to a team that got up off the floor even when they didn't have very much to get up for.

The combined loss of coach, football games and key players had the Vikes on the ropes, and then came the 53-0 Iowa Central episode. Players quit, fans deserted and canteen quarterbacks started discussing basketball prospects.

But somehow the gridders who quit managed to, be around for practice the following week and a few fans showed up to appreciate the Vikings' unexpected showing at Tarkio the next Saturday.

Then came an inspired, though losing battle with Concordia, followed by last

Saturday's loss to Buena Vista, which was a much more interesting game for Dana fans than the 33-6 score might indicate.

Dana's gridders had checked their downward skid mid-way in the season and finished their schedule going uphill. Which players deserve credit for the recovery? We hesitate to say; we merely watched the games from the sidelines. The ones who deserve the pats on the back—and they won't tell you anyway. Maybe just who deserve the pats on the backs won't tell you anyway. Maybe just thanks to the entire squad for not giving up.

CAGE SCHEDULE

HOME

January 10	.....	Westmar
January 20	.....	Buena Vista
January 24	.....	Midland
February 4	.....	Sioux Falls
February 11	.....	Concordia
February 20	.....	Luther
February 27	.....	Tarkio

AWAY

January 13	.....	Concordia
January 21	.....	Sterling
February 15	.....	Westmar
February 18	.....	Sioux Falls

6 Veterans Boost Cage Hopes

Six returning lettermen top a list of 17 basketball aspirants currently working out under the tutelage of coach Paul Peterson.

The six veterans are seniors Fritz Youra, Jim Thomsen and Marion Hudson, juniors Larrie Stone and Bob Jensen and sophomore Bill Davis. Also back from last year's squad is sophomore Don Kahnk.

Youra and Thomsen have been all-conference choices in previous years. Youra, who has been scoring points at the rate of 16 a game, sets a new school scoring record with every marker he registers this year. He had compiled 947 points before this year's first game—an all-school scoring record in three seasons' play.

Thomsen finished third among Dana scorers last year and teamed with Larrie Stone as play-maker. Stone finished last season with a scoring barrage, featuring

a quick one-handed push shot, to shove his game average over the ten point mark.

Finishing second in individual scoring, Jensen provided a little depth under the boards. He was considered the most improved player on the team. Additional power under the boards is available in Marion Hudson, who has also been known to score a few points now and then.

Sophomore Bill Davis, a regular starter this season, has polished up his long one-handed push shot since last year, and hit an impressive 27 points in the Midland game this year to share top game honors with Bob Jensen.

At the time of this writing, the Vikings have compiled a 4-1 record, dropping a 95-91 heartbreaker to Midland and chalking up four victories over Luther, Augustana of Sioux Falls, Dakota Wesleyan and the alumni.

1955-56 BASKETBALL ROSTER

Player	Height	Weight	Position	Year
Fritz Youra	6' 2"	190	Center	Senior*
Jim Thomsen	5'11"	160	Guard	Senior*
Marion Hudson	6'	190	Forward	Senior*
Larrie Stone	5'11"	160	Guard	Junior*
Bob Jensen	6' 2"	170	Forward	Junior*
Bill Davis	6' 2"	170	Forward	Sophomore*
Don Kahnk	6' 1"	190	Forward	Sophomore
Dave Hess	5'11"	160	Guard	Sophomore
Roger Madsen	5' 9"	160	Guard	Freshman
Ron Huston	5'11"	150	Guard	Freshman
Orval Harling	6' 4"	190	Center	Freshman
Mark Thompson	6' 3"	190	Forward	Freshman
Charles Ericksen	6' 1"	170	Forward	Freshman
Leslie Jensen	5' 7"	160	Guard	Freshman
Ernest Andersen	6' 3"	175	Center	Freshman
Keith Grill	5'11"	175	Center	Freshman

* Returning lettermen

The Alumni Quarterly
Dana College—Trinity Seminary
Blair, Nebraska

PAULSEN MR & MRS HAROLD F
RTE 2
MINDEN NEBR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

prosper as individuals we certainly can feel we can share some small part of our income for the expanding operation of our Association and to make material gifts, such as band uniforms, to our alma mater.

So in the year ahead there is work to

be done. This work is not to be accomplished only by the officers you have elected to run the Association. You as an individual alumnus have a stake in it. Cannot we together show loyal spirit and enthusiasm for Dana and Trinity that accomplishes things? We hope we can count on you.

Bob Hemmingson, Pres.

