



HERMES



THE DANA MESSENGER

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Number 12

Juniors Tackled By English Tests

Late in January 114 Dana students, mostly juniors with a few seniors, took the Junior English Proficiency tests. These tests are required of students who graduate from Dana.

When the tests were first given at Dana, it sometimes happened that as many as thirty per cent of the juniors needed to take extra work to bring their English background up to a sufficiently high level. Using the same standards as in previous years, this year only eight of the 114 students will be required to take extra work because of weak backgrounds in English.

On the writing test, 71% of the juniors scored above the average on the norms and 41% scored in the upper fourth. On the grammar test, 81% scored above the average and 47% scored in the upper fourth. In both cases, national forms are used.

The tests given are on the college sophomore level, the highest level available in the area measured in the Junior English Proficiency tests.

Democrats Plan Invasion Of Dana

Republicans of Dana College alert! Young Democrats' invasion slated for this week! It is thought to be of a great service to all of you as Republicans Nebraska-style to warn you of the approach of the infidel left-wing group (young Dems) to your hallowed campus. Since it is an election year they have decided to attack Republican strongholds with vigor and try to worm their way into your confidence with campaign slogans and signs. Pay no attention to this horrible form of propaganda. Just go back to your soggy form of operating and don't worry, the Democrats never have succeeded in this state . . . YET!

(Any DEMOCRAT that has not been frightened off by this marshland full of the opposition party is cordially invited to the organizational meeting of Young Democrats which will be Wednesday, February 12, at 10:30 a.m. in Old Main 105.)

Barry Sogwater

Tweton Granted Research Support

Mr. D. J. Tweton, chairman of the Dana history department, is one of twelve national historians to receive a 1964 grant-in-aid from the American Association for State and Local History. Mr. Tweton is the only Nebraska historian to receive such a grant for the current year.

The grants, awarded annually by the Association, were initiated in 1961 to encourage the study, writing and publication of sound and interpretive local history.

Mr. Tweton's grant will enable him to begin research concerning farm protest movements in the Dakotas during the 1880's and 1890's with material gathered to be used in a forthcoming book.

This Week In Chapel

Wednesday, February 12 — Dr. Madsen

Friday, February 14 — Universal Day of Prayer for Students.

Monday, February 17 — Rev. F. W. Thomsen

Tuesday, February 18 — Mr. Roy Johnsen

Emphasis Days Displays Progress

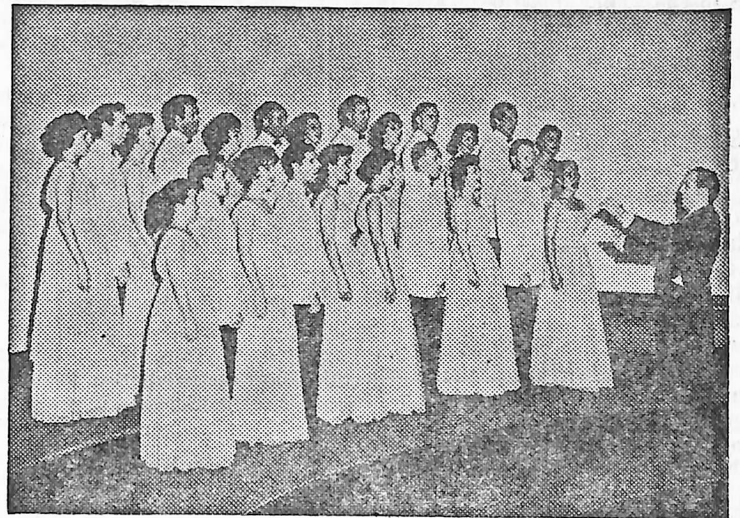
Plans and work are progressing for this semester's Spiritual Emphasis to be held February 21-23.

The theme for the Spiritual Emphasis is concentrated on the "New Nations, New Ideas and New Faith" of the continent and peoples of Africa.

Two outstanding speakers with first hand experience in Africa have been engaged to participate in this endeavor. Two other speakers may be added if confirmation can be made.

Watch for displays in the library, Public Relations display cases and cafeteria for further information on Spiritual Emphasis Days. Next week's issue will carry a detailed story of the activities scheduled for the up-coming weekend of learning, sharing, and fellowship.

Gregg Smith Singers Honor Campus Tonight



Termed by some reviewers the "most distinguished choral ensemble to be presented to the American public in almost a decade", the Gregg Smith singers will appear on campus this evening, February 11, in a concert at Alumni Memorial Auditorium at 8 p.m. Dana College students and faculty will be admitted free with activities cards.

This group of young Southern Californians is currently making its third ten-week tour of the United States and the European continent. Their repertoire ranges from the complex contemporary to the music of the Renaissance and includes classic choral works and American folk music.

The Gregg Smith singers began in 1955, when Gregg Smith, a graduate teaching assistant in the music department of the Los Angeles campus, University of California, gathered a group of music students and young musicians interested in singing the new music and rarely-performed old works.

In 1958, the Gregg Smith Singers took their first steps to international recognition with a tour of Europe that began with their spontaneous decision to participate in the International Eisteddfod, a centuries-old choral folk singing competition held in Wales, where the singers presented the rich folk music of our country.

Since then, the Gregg Smith singers have appeared three times in the Los Angeles Music Festival, with Igor Stravinsky conducting; at the Ojai Music Festival, Chicago's Grant Park Series; and they have made annual tours of Southern California and the United States.

Almost two-thirds of the original Gregg Smith Singers are still with the choral group. Every one of the singers is a graduate of music from universities or colleges in Southern California, and a professional musician, with many of the group's singers doubling as instrumentalists.

Current members of the group represent several countries including Korea, Japan, France, Germany, Sweden and Scotland. "We never have a translation problem when we tackle works in foreign languages," says Director Smith. "Somebody is bound to know the exact words and meanings."

Causes of Student Probation Probed

The number of first semester students who ended the semester on scholastic probation is almost exactly the same as the number who achieved the honor roll. Scholastic probation need not be fatal to academic life, though certainly it does not help.

Reasons for below normal success in studies are varied. Without doubt, one of the reasons is plain lack of serious study. This is supported by the fact that one-fifth of the probation group are in the upper quarter in ability as indicated by aptitude tests. And at least half of the group was in the upper half of the high school graduating class.

Sometimes taking on too much part-time work is a major cause of low grades for a student. A major change in vocational interests and occupational plans can also be a cause (as well as a result!) of low grades. Illness is a possible cause, though it is relatively rare as the chief cause of low grades. Specific courses that are too "rough" are commonly blamed, though careful study reveals that the failures are spread quite evenly over many courses in all departments rather than centered in one or two courses only. Too much time in extracurricular activities is definitely the cause in one or two instances, but cannot be considered a major cause of low grades because many of the probationers are non-participants.

Probably the major cause, though not the only one, of low grades is lack of maturity and direction that leads the student to "kill time" in oversleeping or in excessive pointless activities such as "visiting", cards or other forms of play, radio or TV and the like. Perhaps the shock of probation will lead them to a greater seriousness; if so, it is a worthwhile operation.

Elmer M. Rasmussen
Dean of Students



Happy
Valentine's
Day

Hanson Lauds Enthusiastic Spirit and Physical Plant

When asked for some views about Dana College Dr. Clifford Hanson, former student and former as well as current professor, expressed his delight in the tremendous development of the physical plant of the campus. A student here for two years, Dr. Hanson graduated from the University of Minnesota after which he returned to this campus to attend Trinity Seminary. Following his ordination in 1944 he took a pastorate in Underwood, Iowa. During his stay there he taught in the public schools part-time as a chemistry teacher. In 1949 he returned to the University of Minnesota to do graduate work. Dr. Hanson later received his doctorate in philosophy from the University of Nebraska.

Later in 1949 Dr. Hanson came to Dana as a professor. It had been his ambition for some time to teach here so when the opportunity presented itself he gladly accepted. His first year found him engaged in a great many activities among which were the teaching of Freshman English, Modern Civilizations, Philosophy and Religion—plus being the Dean of Men.

As his teaching career progressed Dr. Hanson accepted a position at Willamette University, in one of Oregon's most beautiful valleys. He and his family were to remain there from 1956 to 1958. At Willamette he filled the position of associate professor in Philosophy. Then, due to many reasons, one of which was that most of his friends were in the Midwest, he accepted an offer at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.

Dana still held a special place for Dr. Hanson and when he was asked to return, he gladly did so. One of the reasons could be sentimental as he met his wife here while he was attending seminary. Mrs. Hanson is of Norwegian stock and has always been a Hanson... a fact which has resulted in a lot of teasing for her. Dr. and Mrs. Hanson have three children—Don, a freshman here at Dana, Lois, a sixteen year old high school junior, and Neil, who is in second grade.

In commenting on the student body at Dana, Dr. Hanson expressed pleasure in the atmosphere of enthusiasm which generally prevails. He feels that the students here are a very competent group but he is not quite as happy about their ambition or perhaps the lack of it.

It is quite obvious from his record of many returns to Dana's campus that Dr. Hanson feels very much at home here and that Dana fulfills his lifelong ambition to teach Christian young people.

Ellen Peterson

Journalism Offered Here!

Because of so much interest in newspaper work (where, where?) and writing such things as letters to the editor, it has been decided that a few courses in the curriculum might be of value (don't look for these in your current catalogue, however, as they are listed exclusively with us).

001 Beginning Reporting: This is the basic course (one usually starts at the bottom) and resembles advanced hide-and-seek. The people that you are assigned to see hide and you seek them from one end of campus to the other.

002 Feature Writing: Includes a review of Course 001 and goes on to develop initiative. The latter is needed when you receive an assignment to write a "feature—on anything, just as long as it fills up four inches double-column."

003 Behind the Scenes: Deals with advertising and business side of newspaper work. Little credit given. Aspirants should have endless patience, tact, salesmanship and good arches or a means of transportation with wheels.

004 Headline Writing: A creative imagination is needed here. Object is to write glowing, eye-catching titles for any article, good or bad. A background of math may be helpful in counting out headlines.

005 Getting the Paper Together: Includes things for those who do not feel brave enough to chase down stories—typing proof-reading, sorting of mail, etc. Also opportunities for those who like to cut up and paste.

006 Staff and Departmental Editing: Training for positions with titles and some power but minus the responsibility and blame of the chief. Prerequisites—at least one year of newspaper experience in other positions.

040 Editorial Duties: Only for those extremely loyal to the newspaper profession or those easily persuaded during periods of temporary insanity to run for offices. Combines aspects of all other courses.

041 Criticism: Designed for vocally articulate persons. Creative imagination usually not used in this course.

Editor's Column

Last Thursday morning there was a Student Body meeting and from all the ensuing discussion it must have been unique—somebody actually said something when they didn't have to make a report or a motion. One wouldn't think that would be so unusual; after all, it was a meeting of supposedly all the members of the Dana student body.

One might raise the question of who are all these people that we see around campus and in classes if not members of the student body. But they must not be because they weren't at the meeting.

Why weren't they? They didn't have time. A student body meeting usually doesn't last over half an hour. What did they accomplish during that half hour when they didn't claim to be student body members?

"Why go? Everything is all 'cut and dried' before we get there". Just because the budget and agenda are made out ahead of time doesn't necessarily mean that. Can you imagine what a fiasco the meeting would be if there were no advance preparations made? Gives me visions of sitting there for hours while we try to decide how many candles, paper clips, packages of crepe paper and ditto sheets would be needed by the various committees during the semester!

If you don't like the way that things are being done and you think that you have a better and a cheaper way, say so. Take your suggestions to the committee handling the area you have a complaint about. Take your suggestions to Student Council. Or better yet, take your ideas to a Student Body meeting. The meetings need not be merely a formality—they will be as lively, constructive and productive as we make them, because, after all, we are the students in the Student Body.

L. M. K.

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HERMES LARP Elections On

St. Valentine's Day

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Faculty Adviser ----- Miss Luella K. Nielsen

This Friday, February 14, elections will be held to select two books to be included in the Liberal Arts Reading Program for next year. Voting will be held in the usual place outside the door of the library.

Ballots for this election will contain a list of fiction books and a list of non-fiction books. Students are asked to vote for only one book on each list. This is not a preferential election.

The faculty committee in charge of selecting books for the program is holding the election in cooperation with Student Council.

Student Congregation Relationships Discussed

While a student congregation attempts to be like other Lutheran congregations, it must speak especially to students. The purpose of this article is to relate the membership, attendance and local ALC relationships as based on questionnaires returned from the other ALC senior colleges.

A student who is a member of a home Lutheran congregation may voluntarily become an associate member of the student congregation. He would then have voting and communion privileges and this membership would not jeopardize his relations with his home church. In most congregations students who are not members of an ALC congregation may become affiliate members without voting rights but with possible communion privileges after conferring with the pastor. However, at Augustana College (Sioux Falls) no distinction is made between Lutheran and non-Lutheran membership, and at Capital (Columbus) only Lutherans may become members.

Generally at the beginning of the year all the students are presented individually with the opportunity to join the congregation if they so desire.

The survey replies indicated that church attendance is higher because of a student congregation. St. Olaf (Northfield) reports that they have 65-70 per cent attendance of the total student body every Sunday; Wartburg (Waverly) has more than 50 per cent attendance. Unfortunately, Capital University estimates that only about 25 per cent of the student body attend services. This is probably the result of holding services off campus in a local church and restricting membership solely to Lutherans. Augustana, with a congregation that was initiated only last October, reports that it has a greater attendance than membership. This is a definite sign of a growing congregation!

Of the six colleges that have congregations, St. Olaf, Luther (Decorah) and Pacific (Tacoma) have no relationship at all to a local ALC church. On the other hand, Wartburg, Capital and Augustana are directly affiliated with local congregations. Probably the most important reason for this relationship is the sponsoring of Holy Communion. Wartburg possibly has the closest ties because the local congregation assists both in the calling of the campus pastor and the subsidizing of his salary.

Finances, organization and meeting place of a student congregation will be discussed in the next issue of *Hermes*.

Again we strongly urge you to present your opinions and comments on the formation of a student congregation either in *Hermes* or on the opinion board in the canteen. It will be student opinion, support or non-support that will either give birth to a student congregation or kill it in the bud!

Student Congregation Committee

Communication Lack Felt By Council and Campus

Is it really the Dana oligarchy? Somewhere along the line the Dana Student Council and the Dana Student Body have lost contact. As to whose fault this is no one is positive . . . but it most certainly appears that there are diverse opinions.

The Student Body President is at fault for not being more dynamic in his approach.

The students are at fault because they do not attend the Council meetings and student body meetings and tell the Council what it is that they want. (The student's reply to this is that it doesn't do any good to go to these meetings anyway because there is nothing that he or she can do or say that will change the mind of the Council which is already made up concerning its policy and the course of action which it plans to follow.)

The Council is at fault for never reporting to the student the events of conferences and other such meetings for which the student pays and never hears about again.

The student is never on campus on the weekends for the planned activities which are provided. The Council never plans any activities for the student so he is forced to go home or someplace else for his entertainment. And so it goes.

It is obvious that the opinions here are representing some of the biases and misunderstandings of both sides. To some extent all of the arguments are true. The problem which confronts both groups is the "what-can-we-do-about-it?" problem. (It has been heard from the mouth of many a student that it really doesn't matter what he does because he is only one person. The fallacy here is too obvious to have to be repeated.)

Election time is not as far off as one might suppose and the time has come for the student to look around and see what kind of person he would like to have represent him next year. If the present Council could be improved by the addition of one or the subtraction of some other office, NOW is the time to discuss this thing and bring it to the attention of the people who have the authority to change this policy—the Council.

Does it sound as though the advice put to the student concerning new officers is intimating that there is nothing that can be done to improve existing relations? Perhaps this is true. It appears that there is neither the guts nor the gumption on either side to do anything about the existing problem except to live with it until the end of the year and then try to get rid of it. Admittedly this gives a note of defeatism to the campus . . . but one which fits its apathetic contours rather well . . . don't you think?

B. A. S.

Winter Festival's Plans Take Form!

A tentative schedule for the Winter Festival has been released. Plans for Friday, February 28, include a Smorgasbord dinner, 5:30-6:45 p.m., with casual dress being the fashion for this and the rest of the evening. At eight o'clock a program will be held in Alumni Memorial Auditorium. At this time the beards will be judged. Four prizes will be given. They will be for the most distinguished card, the longest beard, the best color, and the most original beard.

Saturday evening, February 29, there will be a semi-formal dance. For this, short party dresses or long formals are in order for the girls; for the boys, suits.



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Beck Project To Fill Dramatists' Fitness Needs

Other than the quality of talent, which is that intangible thing that some people supposedly have and others have not, and that of training, the actor must be in top physical condition. This, according to Mr. Whitaker, is just as important as talent and training and is a quality looked for by the casting director. Why should this be?

In the first place, the professional actor spends hour after hour in rehearsal, often as many as 72 hours at a stretch, without break just before opening, and then must still have energy enough to carry him through opening night giving a top performance. Nervous energy will carry him just so far; after that is gone, it is his physical condition alone that determines whether or not he will maintain his "sanity."

On the college level, the actor must spend three hours each night at regular rehearsal. In addition to this, he should spend at least two hours in private study as well as carry his regular academic load. This, compounded with the emotional and nervous strain under which he works requires better than average physical conditioning.

In existence today there are physical fitness plans for the businessman, the secretary, the housewife, and the student, but these are not effective enough for the actor. On the other hand, those plans that are designed for the athlete are far too vigorous and require more endurance than would ever be required of the actor. Therefore a plan somewhere in between is the ideal and it is such a plan that we here at Dana are trying to develop.

The physical fitness program that is developed for the actor must be one that will take no more than one half hour each day; it can require no special equipment, or space and can require no special preparation of foods. Roger Beck, a senior from Exira, Iowa, is the man that is going to develop just such a program. It must, and will be approached from a purely scientific level. For instance: There are two ways of falling on stage without being hurt. One way is by the conversion of the downward vector of force to a lateral one as is done in tumbling. The other method is to distribute the impact over as large a surface of the falling mass as possible. The latter is the method most used on the stage because it has the drama of shocking impact and gives the appearance of injury. However, the slightest error here would result in a fracture of any one of a number of bones. It is for such physical feats that the actor must be prepared.

Roger Beck is now in the process of devising a plan of physical fitness that will fill the special needs of the actor. His project is being supervised and monitored by both the physical education and drama departments. Up until now, there has never been such a plan devised. This is mainly due to the fact that those people who have the skill required for devising such a plan are in the field of physical education, not in the theater, and are therefore ignorant of the need. Also, those in the theater who are aware of the need of such a program do not have the knowledge or the skill to devise one. It is obvious that cooperation between the two fields is required and that is what is being accomplished here at Dana. I wish we could see more such cooperation, say between the music and drama department. Maybe then we could really do something like MUSIC MAN or OKLAHOMA.

This new physical fitness program should be completed by the end of this semester and should it be a success here, it could be sent to other colleges for further testing. In his quest for a physical fitness program for the actor, Roger will have two guinea pigs with which to work — Mutt Schaezle and myself. We are both doing work in Problems in Speech and Drama (Speech 399) and this will be a part of our work in the course along with other specialized study in drama. It should be great fun — care to join us?

Dick Moosmann

"If a little knowledge is dangerous where is the man who has so much as to be out of danger."

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Loveman Award Given For Student Libraries

Nominations are now open for a student to receive the \$1,000 Amy Loveman National Award for the best personal library. One nomination may be made by each college or university.

The late Amy Loveman was for many years an associate editor of *Saturday Review*, a judge of the Month Club and a prominent member of the Women's National Book Association. In her memory the three organizations with which she was so closely associated have established an annual award to be given to a college student who has collected an outstanding personal library. The award was first given in 1962.

Requirements are as follows:

- 1) Only collections of 35 or more books will be considered. Numbers are secondary to discriminating selection.
- 2) The nominee should present an annotated bibliography of his collection. If the collection is large, not all books need to be listed, but at least 35 should be annotated.

3) The nominee will provide a commentary on his library covering such points as "My ideals for a complete home library" and "Ten books I hope to add to my library."

4) Libraries of any type will be eligible. They may be general libraries, collections centered in a subject, or collections of a single author or group of authors.

Libraries will be judged on a basis of intelligent interest, knowledge of books as revealed in annotations and commentary, scope and imagination shown in creating the collection and on their value as a nucleus for a permanent personal library.

Closing date for the receipt of nominations will be April 30. A panel of distinguished judges will select the winner in time for presentation of the award at Commencement.

Any Dana students who are interested in finding out more about The Amy Loveman National Award should contact Mr. Paul Emerich of the English department.



Who's putting you through school?

If you're "working your way", it's tough — not enough hours in the day. If someone else is footing the bills, they cared enough to start saving a long time ago. And now is the perfect time for you to start saving — for your own retirement, or to provide a college education for the children you will have some day. Rates for your Lutheran Mutual insurance are lower now than they will ever be again for you. Every insurance dollar buys more security and provides more savings. Why not see your Lutheran Mutual agent and get all the details . . . soon.

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