

I Do Not Chose To Run

by Willard Clutchmyer

Reprinted from the Cluster, April 4, 1958

It was 9:30 Wednesday night and having stayed up past my bedtime I was preparing to turn in. I had slipped into my burlap bunny pajamas and my roommate was helping me in my trundle-bed when there came a loud knock at the door of our dingy cubicle.

I cracked the door and in pushed Eugene Pendergrast, boy political boss, almost obscured in the smoky haze created by his Hava-Ropa cigar.

Not even pausing to smile and shake hands, as was his custom, he said, "Willard, we're in bad trouble . . . we can't get anyone to run on the Stagnant Activities Committee this year. We've already asked everybody on the campus then naturally we thought of you!"

"I'm deeply moved Eugene," I said as I licked his hand to show my sincere gratitude "but as you probably remember I ran on the LET'S HAVE MORE CULTURE IN CHAPEL COMMITTEE last year and was handed the most ignominious defeat in the history of the Retarded Party." Do I have to remind you that it was the Macon Chief-of-Police who, after hearing the returns of the election, sent me a permit to carry a pistol saying 'one with no more friends than you have ought to be armed at all times'?"

"Well," Eugene conceded, "It was quite a defeat, you got only one vote."

"Yes," I hastily injected, "but I would have gotten more if I hadn't been to modest to vote for myself."

"Nevertheless Willard we've got to get somebody . . . who do you suggest?"

"What about Lamar Ferd?" I asked, thinking of a delicate music major, "He's very gay and quite popular with the choir."

"No good," replied Pendergrast, "he's in the hospital . . . ruptured himself trying to open one of the front doors to the Ad building."

As we were talking Smiling Ed Ignorovitch rushed into the room and shouted, "Pakanbaru has just been seized by Hindu peasants and the Ryot army is marching on the capitol!!!"

"This looks like a job for Superman!!! screamed my roommate as he ripped off his shirt and leaped through the screen in our window.

"Don't be alarmed," I explained to the obviously shaken Pendergrast, "My roommate's mother was a rabid comic book reader and he thinks he is Clark Kent, mild-mannered reporter . . . those fraternity pledges down the hall are always pulling these little jokes to excite him."

"Well it's a good thing this room is just on the second floor," said Eugene as he watched the nurse scrape my roommate off the Lee Battle marker. "But enough of this insane prattle . . . We need help on the political scene . . . a candidate that is known!"

"How about the R. O. T. C. Cadet Colonel, Saberslash Pershing?" I offered, "Everyone ought to know him . . . he wears his R.O.T.C. costume to class every day of the week."

"Too late the other party has already offered him a position on the LET'S FORM MORE SGA COMMITTEES COMMITTEE," said Pendergrast sadly.

"The only course seems to be to run one less candidate and try to belittle the job that the Degenerate Party did with the Stagnant Activities Committee."

"Fat chance," I laughed, "With the talent they brought to the campi? Think back Eugene, they gave us Milton Farthwell, boy carinist; Thaddeus Thyroid, noted biologist with his rousing lecture on 'Baser instincts of the Polynesian fruit fly'; The Dudley M. Hughes Roving Players and their three-act presentation of 'I Was a Teen-age Dean-of-Men'; and can we forget the eight and a half piece marching band they brought from Elephant's Beach, S. C.? No, Eugene I don't think you can say the SAC hasn't given the students their money's worth."

"But we'll have to do something," Pendergrast sobbed, "the Degenerates will ruin us when their day in chapel comes . . . last year they claimed credit for everything from the G. I. Bill to sliced bread."

"Yes," I admitted, "and also blamed us for the paper mill, John Foster Dulles, and the Chicago fire."

"A pox upon them all!!" I cried, "Maybe we should change over to the other party like the Beta Pyorrhea fraternity did." Before these vile words slipped out my mouth I began to apologize to Eugene for such a gross, nauseous suggestion. "Oh but what can we do?" I cried.

"I have it!!" screamed Pendergrast as he laughed and beat his breast violently . . . "we'll make hundreds of posters saying that faculty members are running for the post!!!"

"For our party?" I asked.

"For the Degenerate Party!!!" shrieked Eugene as he raced out the door to the smoke-filled room.

(Left over from April Fool's Day)

YOU HAVE ONLY 10 DAYS LEFT!

Observe The Centennial, Kill A Yankee

General Joseph E. Johnson surrendered the last major remaining Confederate army on April 26, 1865.



GREEK WEEK festivities included the Alpha Gam Open House shown here. Girls are, left to right, Brenda Allen, Mela Pereda and Kay Adams. (Greek Week photos by Tommy McGhee)

The Social Set

By Sara June McRae

Mercer's Greek week ended with a bang Saturday night at a dance in the Walter Little room of the Dempsey Hotel. During the evening this year's Greek God and Goddess were named. The winners were Linda Tabor, Chi Omega, and Colin Harris, Sigma Nu.

Monday night the Alpha Gams carried over the Greek theme in their Open House for the fraternities. The party took place in the "Acropolis", complete with columns, slave girls, and ambrosia. The entertainment was provided by a harpist, three dancing "nymphs", and a "poetess" and translator.

As the week continued, each

sorority held a party composing the spring rush season. The week's activities were rounded off on Thursday night by the Sigma Nu Open House for the sororities.

In the romantic spotlight this week were newly lavaliered Harry Davis, Kappa Sig, and Marty Gregory, ADPi. Kappa Sig also made news during the week, announcing their new officers—President, Andy Wasden; Vice President, Pete Black; and Grand Master of Ceremonies, Harry Davis. The Kappa Sigs now have three new brothers, Slayton Shaw, Pete Fletcher, Doug Dozier, and one new pledge, Harry Chaffin.

If everyone broke into the dinner line, we could all eat first.

—The Spy

R. Faulkner Lectures To Psychology Dept. Here

Dr. Robert L. Faulkner of Atlanta visited Mercer Tuesday as the guest of the psychology department. Speaking before Dr. Hendricks' 111 class in physiology, he traced the evolution of the brain, both embryologically and phylogenetically through the nerve chain of the earthworm and double brain of the dinosaur, pointing out parts and their functions in the human brain. He then dissected a brain, answering questions posed by the students.

Currently at Columbia Seminary, preparing for missions work, Dr. Faulkner did his undergraduate work at Emory, then attended medical school at Baylor. For a 3-month period during his medical schooling he worked in a Baptist mission hospital among a Stone Age tribe in Southern Rhodesia. Prior to his lecture, he briefly described his experience among a people who have not yet discovered the wheel and who, emerging from primitive spirit religions, have never heard of a "god" of any type. Yet these people, Dr. Faulkner said, often grasp Christian concepts we find difficult and cling to them with remarkable tenacity.

Dr. Faulkner has recently published "Tuberculosis as a Surgical Disease of the Abdomen" and "Burn Mortality in a General Hospital".



Trustees . . .

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gram at Mercer as revised by the ROTC Revitalization Act of 1964.

Dr. Harris pointed out that major changes from the former ROTC program include increased compensation for the cadets, a new government scholarship program, and an optional two-year course of instruction in addition to the regular four years of training. He added that student participation in ROTC at Mercer will continue to be voluntary.

The trustees adopted a resolution memorializing the late Dr. William Heard Kilpatrick, one of the nation's leading educational philosophers and a Mercer alumnus, former faculty member and former acting president. Dr. Kilpatrick died Feb. 13 in New York City at the age of 93. He was known as the father of progressive education and as the man most responsible for translating the principles of pragmatist philosopher John Dewey into American classroom procedure. He was for many years a member of the faculty of Columbia University.

Speaking to the trustees, President Harris reminded them that "the well-being of the nation is inextricably tied to the strength of its educational institutions."

He commended the 88th Congress and the national administration for the major steps taken to strengthen higher education and to help prepare students, especially through the Higher Education Facilities Act and the Health Professions Assistance Act.

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