

THE SUNDAY LIBRARY

The Mercer student body and faculty and the citizens of Macon have been blessed for over a year now with the functional and voluminous Eugene W. Stetson Memorial Library. The Mercer family and many Maconites have responded to the challenge of the facility in their laborious use, pride, and respectful maintenance of the building and its literary material. But have the library administrators and staff members responded adequately to the needs of the students?

The Mercer Cluster feels that the answer to this question must be a limited affirmation. Specifically, why are Mercer students denied use of the facilities on Sundays, except for the brief, mid-afternoon, two-hour interval? The majority of educated persons, especially those who are experiencing or have experienced a career in college undergraduate work, are aware of the challenging burdens of fifteen or more quarter hours plus the educational socialization of the college student, a process, too, requiring numerous hours. Furthermore, a realistic person realizes that these two processes, studying and socializing, require somewhat of an irregular, unnatural schedule. Realizing this, there is a two-fold challenge: first, that the student organize his time so that both processes may be satisfied to the maximum, and second, that the administration, i.e., the administration of the library, aid these processes by making as much educational material as possible available to the student body as much as possible (note "as much as possible", not "as little as is necessary" for who is able to place a gauge on student necessity?).

The last three or four weeks of this past Fall quarter witnessed the acceptance both of the student body and the library administration of this challenge of time, i.e., in leaving the library open until ten in the evening on Sundays. Student use of this additional time was overwhelming, and the librarians' extra work was appreciated and should have been rewarding to them. Why has the library administration this quarter reverted to its irresponsibility in this matter, especially after witnessing the above-mentioned turnout?

Working in the library on Sundays in actuality needs no defence whatsoever. If those "padlocking ones" opposed such on moral grounds, then why allow for the 2:30-4:30 immorality spree? Furthermore, why allow studying in the dormitories if morality is in the reason? The atmosphere in the Stetson facility, while not ideally conducive to studying, is more so than the majority of dormitory halls, halls which, by the way, are lacking in the thousands of "volumes of knowledge" only limitedly available to Mercerians.

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall may ye free. . . ." — let us have this opportunity on a less-limited basis.

Faculty Corner

"Time Spent Worrying Is Time Wasted"

—Dr. Harold MacManus—



To many moderns, the use of the word "worry" in such a sentence as, "The cat worried the rat", seems ludicrously inadequate. They feel the rat was a great deal more than worried. They would be right, for as used here in its original meaning, the word means "to kill by strangling". Thus, in earlier centuries, we read of one who worried another man with his hands, of criminals worried on the gallows, and of a certain Earl who worried to death because a piece of bread stuck in his throat. This would make meaning to a twentieth century reader, but not the intended meaning. The interesting thing is how weak the word "worry" has become. It is now merely a synonym for anticipatory fear and unwarranted concern. The strong, older idea of choking to death with fear has almost completely faded. Yet, even in its modern sense, worry is still capable of producing stifling and exasperating effects on its victims.

Few of us escape worry. We worry so long and so intensely that a certain blow is going to strike us, that when it does fall, we crumple beneath it. Why? Because we have rehearsed it so often. We have already gone down a hundred times in imagination, and the real thing is only the hundred and first. We have weakened ourselves shadow-boxing in an empty ring. We cannot train for trouble by worrying about trouble.

Worry multiplies and magnifies. Hundreds of carbon copies are made out of a single problem; ant hills become Alpine obstacles. Call it anxiety, call it fretting, or call it fear, worry is the victrola needle of the mind caught in the groove of a cracked record, going round and round, over the same ground, whimpering under the same whining tune, and getting nowhere. If we can see this, then we must realize that there can be such a thing as too much thinking and too much brooding. It is a waste of mental energy for it channels all our energy into discouragement and alarm. Such anticipated fear never lessens the evil when it comes; it lessens only our strength to meet it.

It is very hard to make progress, to solve problems, to meet challenges, to overcome difficulties, and even to get interested in doing good, when worry is allowed to grind and fray our peace and hope, our courage and happiness.

Instead of wasting time by worrying, how much better off we would be, if we would use that same time in learning to leave the past to God's mercy, the future to God's providence, and to live the present in God's grace and love.



Join the "NBMT" Club

Resolution

WHEREAS, on April one, nineteen hundred sixty, A.D., RUFUS CARROLLTON HARRIS, at the unanimous invitation of the Board of Trustees of the Corporation of Mercer University, did assume the active presidency of said Mercer University following thirty-seven years as a distinguished leader in American higher education, twenty-three of which were spent as the President of Tulane University, ten of which were spent as Professor of Law and Dean of the School of Law of Tulane University, and four of which were spent as Professor of Law and Dean of the School of Law of Mercer University, and

WHEREAS, in the years since 1960, Rufus Carrollton Harris has given to Mercer University wise, able, and distinguished leadership as a result of his rich background of experience and of his unbounded energies and solemn dedication to the building of a dream for Mercer University to become a gem of a college, and

WHEREAS, the evidences of his leadership are manifested by many tangibles which may be in part measured by the extensive growth and improvements in physical facilities, the enlargement of campus properties, and the growth of the University's endowment corpus, and

WHEREAS, the more subtle effects of his leadership may be measured by a greatly improved faculty, by a more sophisticated and able student body, and by an effective organizational structure, and

WHEREAS, this Board of Trustees wishes to express to Rufus Carrollton Harris their personal appreciation for his able and constant leadership,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That this Board of Trustees does express to Rufus Carrollton Harris their abiding sense of appreciation in recognition of his distinguished leadership in university education in the nation, and especially to Mercer University where his leadership continues unabated and undiminished, fuller and richer through accumulated experiences, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Secretary of this Board cause this resolution to be spread upon the permanent minutes of the proceedings of this Board of Trustees and that a copy of said resolution be given to President Harris.

Pep Pills

(Editor's note: Two weeks ago, the Cluster featured "Pep Pills — Pro or Con," an article reprinted from the Emory Wheel.)

This is the day of the pill. In modern America today, each age group has its own special type of pill — youngsters take vitamins; teenagers swear by some pills, young marrieds rely on birth control pills; middle aged people hold prescriptions for young blood formulas; and elderly citizens find themselves younger looking with multi-purpose hormones. And that special, independent animal — the college student — has his own unique substitute for sleep: the pep pill. It comes in varied shapes and sizes, and is known on campuses by many names: No-Doz, Verve, Tenuate, Dexamil, and the King pill itself — Dexadrine — for the more progressive, experienced scholar.

The first two pills, No-Doz and Verve, are sold without prescription over any drugstore counter. They can also be found in college snack bars, right between the Herahey Bars and chewing gum. More potent pills like Tenuate and Dex are obtained by a doctor's prescription — not for staying awake purposes but for various other reasons. (To avoid being sued by four drug

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Last Spring quarter, the chapter of People-to-People program was organized at Mercer University by a group of American and International Students and a faculty advisor of Mercer. Several meetings were held, a constitution of the chapter was made and election of the officers were held. Since then the progress of the chapter seems to have died out.

The organization which presupposes to promote a better understanding between American students and the International students on cultural, social, and spiritual areas of understanding and giving every student the opportunity to travel outside his country and observe how people live in other parts of the world is dying out on the campus. Or is it? Is it because due to the fact that aside from sororities and fraternities and social clubs here on campus, the student of Mercer is interested in nothing else? Is it because due to the indifference of the American and International student toward the organization? My answer to this is, "No." As a matter of fact I've known and talked to a number of students in and outside of the University who are interested in this program. There are also a number of faculty and citizens of Macon who are interested in it.

Ironically, the indifference comes from those who are responsible for making it active and alive in the mainstreams of campus life. They totally show their lack of concern and lack of responsibility. The president couldn't care less whether the organization is active or not so long as he holds the president's title to add to the glories of his extra-curricular activities. He has not even called a meeting a month (in fact, nothing has been done!). Neither is he the only one to blame, but the rest of the officers as well. The attitude is "It is just one of those old cliches of promoting peace and international-relationships-type-of-stuff and I couldn't care less about it."

True, it is one of this sort, but it can be more than that. It can be a fellowship, battleground of ideas, discussions, entertainment, and learning outside the books. I want to see People-to-People alive on this campus and I'm willing to do my part. The answer remains in the hands of those people concerned whether they are going to take the responsibility of it or not. If they do, I'm sure others will follow.

Respectfully,
Mila Lassala

'Wishing and Hoping' Homecoming's Here

The Mercer Cluster

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