

THE MERCER CLUSTER

Society Day Speakers In Two Contests Today

ORATIONS COME AT CHAPEL HOUR

Inter-Society Basketball Game Scheduled For Afternoon; Debate Tonight

Following the precedent set many years ago, Mercer students will observe George Washington's birthday as Society Day, beginning this morning at ten-thirty with orations in chapel, followed by a basketball game at three-thirty this afternoon between teams representing the Phi Delta and Ciceronian literary societies, and concluded by a debate between the same organizations tonight.

Four speeches will be made in the exercises this morning, two by each of the societies participating. John Gilbert, a member of the Ciceronian society, will open the program with a talk on "Tomorrow, What?" He will be followed by a representative of the Phi Delta Society, Hugh Kelley, who will speak on "Washington and Lincoln." "The Dreamer" is the subject of the oration to be delivered by John Joyner. He is a member of the Ciceronian organization. Concluding the program will be a speech by Henry Stokes, a Phi Delta man, on "Loyal to a Trust."

On the athletic association court, located in rear of Tryon hall, will be played a basketball game between the two societies, beginning at three-thirty. The game gives promise of being a hotly contested affair. The two teams have held practices in preparing for this clash to settle the feud that has so long existed between these rivals in silver tongued speech.

The third event on the day's program will be the debate in the chapel tonight at eight o'clock between representatives of the two societies. The subject will be, Resolved, "That Georgia Should Provide a Bond Issue for Paving of State Highways." The Phi Deltas will uphold the affirmative side, and are represented by W. L. Morton, and Archie Grimalds. Charles M. Cox, and Julian Webb, have the negative side of the argument.

The judges for this occasion will be members of the faculty; Professor Karl Stecher, Dean W. D. Smalley, and Doctor Fred Jones.

GREEKS REJECT PEDGING RULES

Opposition Based on "Conditions At Mercer and Strictness of Rules"

A new system of "deferred" pledging was rejected by the fraternities when it failed to receive a two-thirds favorable vote at a meeting of the Pan Hellenic Council held at the Phi Delta Theta house Sunday afternoon, according to J. A. Curry, Secretary of the inter-fraternity organization.

Opposition to the rules is said to have been based on "conditions at Mercer and strictness of the rules." No further action was taken on the question at this time although it is probable that the various fraternities will consider the matter further, officials of the council said.

The annual inter-fraternity basketball tournament will be held at the Riverside Arena, March 4, 5, and 6. (Continued on page six)

CHAPEL MONDAY

W. A. Wommack, president of the student body, has asked The Cluster to make the following announcement.

"There will be a call meeting of the student body Monday at 10:30 A. M. in the chapel for the purpose of continuing the adoption of the proposed 'open politics' plan. The chapel will be heated as adequately as possible. Discussion will begin promptly at 10:30 and anyone coming late will not be permitted to call for a rereading of any section or sections read in their absence."

Players Announce College Program

Mercer Students Have Important Roles in Scott-Mansfield Presentation

FRATERNITIES INVITED

Announcement was made this week by the Scott-Mansfield Players that College Night will be observed next Thursday evening at the Grand Theatre. The various fraternities at Mercer are planning to hold theatre parties and to occupy boxes decorated in their respective colors. The management believes that in "What Every Woman Wants" they have a play that will meet with the approval of all Mercer men and expect a large attendance.

Of special interest to Mercer students is the fact that three of their number have important places in the cast. Miss Jennie Daughtry, a graduate of a Boston dramatic art school, and who is at present a member of the Mercer student body, is taking the part of a spinster in the production. Archie Grimalds, president of the Mercer dramatic club, and who was a member of the company during its previous engagement here, will return to the stage as second lead in next week's presentation. Henry Stokes, also a member of the dramatic club, will make his debut on the professional stage as Joe, the chauffeur.

The play, one of many complications, has its opening scene at the ancestral home of Patience, Pride, and Mercy Worthington, three old maids, the oldest of whom has kept her younger sisters in a restraint under which they chafe. Their placid existence is broken up when a young mother and her child are run down in front of the spinsters' home, and a setting is laid which leads to many interesting situations.

The management is extremely desirous of remaining here in Macon for another month, and the college patronage will prove a potent factor in determining the length of the company's stay. Performances are given every night, with matinees on Wednesdays and Fridays. The show this week is "The Patsy." It will be presented by the company in the final performance of the week at matinee and night shows tomorrow.

MARCH 6 DATE NAMED FOR BIG TRUSTEE MEET

Many Important Matters To Be Passed On By Governing Body

PROGRAM IS ARRANGED

Fraternity Row, Endowment Drive, and Finance Chairman Will Be Considered

It was announced this week by Dr. Spright Dowell that the Mercer board of trustees will convene at the university on Wednesday, March 6. This meeting, at which many important questions will be discussed, will be one of the most important of the year since much depends on the decisions made at this time. Dr. Dowell stated in making the announcement. A full program has been arranged for the day. Besides the regular business session a special chapel service will be held. Later in the day the entire board will be guests of the Macon Rotary Club.

During the chapel period, Mr. L. M. Lowry of Macon, will present a picture of Dr. Battle, one of the founders of Mercer and a colleague of Jesse Mercer. Dr. Hugh Willet, chairman of the board, will accept the picture in behalf of the faculty and students.

At the Rotarian luncheon to which the trustees have been invited as honor guests, an effort will be made to form some plan by which the support of Macon people might be enlisted in backing the school. Dr. Walter Binns of LaGrange will be the principal speaker of the day while Dr. M. A. Clark, of Macon and Dr. Willet are to make short talks.

At the business meeting many prominent issues will be discussed and acted upon. The trustees will take some definite action on Mercer's new law building. It is imperative that a quota of \$50,000 be raised and the board will try to formulate plans whereby this might be done. A scheme by which the fraternities on the campus will be aided in raising funds to be used in building their houses on the proposed fraternity row, is also pending.

Mercer's endowment fund will again be discussed. A capable full time man, whose name is being withheld until the board has confirmed his appointment, will be placed in charge of the endowment drive.

(Continued on page six)

W. G. BLEYER, FAMOUS JOURNALIST, SPEAKS



DR. WILLARD G. BLEYER
—Courtesy, Macon Telegraph

LOCAL TEACHERS AT ATHENS MEET

Two Mercer professors, Mrs. Mark Ethridge and Prof. John D. Allen of the journalism school are teaching at the Georgia Press Institute this week in Athens. Mrs. Ethridge is instructing the newspaper people in writing feature articles while Mr. Allen is giving courses in editorial writing.

This is the second annual session of schooling the Georgia newspaper men and women have had. Last year the institute was held at Mercer, and all attending agreed it was one of the most beneficial meetings of the Georgia Press Association. It was unanimously voted to hold a similar session this year at Athens.

At the institute regular classes are held, including reportorial, editorial, make-up, advertising and the copy desk. Last year several prominent men in the journalism profession were present and made talks and lectures to the newspaper men and women. This year the program is even more ambitious. Plans were laid well in advance of the meeting, with the result that a number of the best newspaper men of the south and of the nation are present.

Bill Key and Sam Kendrick are representing the Newspaper club and Mercer at the institute.

NEWSPAPER MEN ARE ADDRESSED

Club Entertains Visitor at Smoker Given Here Tuesday Night

Dr. W. G. Bleyer, nationally known teacher of journalism at the University of Wisconsin, and the author of several texts on newspaper writing in use by the Mercer journalism students, was the guest of honor at a smoker given by the Mercer newspaper club Tuesday night.

Besides the members of the club, Dr. Spright Dowell, president of Mercer, Prof. John D. Allen and Prof. Hugh Awtrey were present.

After an informal talk on newspapers throughout the world, Dr. Bleyer outlined the general tendencies of American journalism.

"I am not pessimistic regarding the present or the future state of the American press," he said, "for I feel that the papers of today are far better than they ever were in the history of the world."

He told of the so-called golden age of American journalism, when papers were supposed to be clean and to wield tremendous influence for the betterment of the American public. But this is a mere myth, he said, for one has only to glance back at the old files of these great papers to see just how far this belief is from the truth. Some of the nastiest and the crudest things were published in those days, he asserted.

Regarding the danger that chain newspapers would soon monopolize the whole newspaper field, he took the attitude that even if this were the case it was not so dreadful as it might appear.

He said, in effect, that one of the chief troubles facing the papers of today was their inability to carry on crusades which they believed were for the benefit of the community served by the paper. The carrying on of such a crusade means that many of the large advertisers and some of the smaller ones, are going to be alienated by the paper's policy; that they will likely withdraw their advertising, and therefore force the papers to stop the movement or go to the wall. Had they the money to carry on even while they were losing money they would soon bring the advertisers to terms; but this they were too poor to do.

On the other hand, he said, the chain organization is wealthy enough to support one of their papers in such financial difficulties. This paper may draw upon the resources of the chain until the fight is won and the advertisers naturally fall back into line.

(Continued on page six)

FRATERNITY ROW TO BE DISCUSSED

Definite plans looking toward the laying out of Mercer's proposed fraternity row are to be formulated at a meeting of the trustees on Wednesday, March 6, it was announced this week by Dr. Spright Dowell. At this time the board of trustees will decide on some plan by which the various fraternities on the campus will be enabled to secure money for the erection of their permanent homes.

(Continued on page six)

Shaw Modestly Recites A Few Pages of His Life

By Huling Armstrong

"Women are charming playmates." Thus spoke Fred. H. Shaw, the brilliant Mercer student, who was recently chosen to play opposite Pola Negri in her new film, "Passionate Paupers," as he stood before the cheerful blaze in his luxurious bachelor apartments in the P. K. A. house.

I had encountered him "en dishabille," but with his customary good humor he had invited me in, and was graciously and interestingly answering the queries put to him about his recent good fortune in being chosen by Miss Negri as her leading man.

"Mr. Shaw, how did Miss Negri discover you?" I ventured. "Well, the circumstances were rather unusual," he began in the well modulated voice that bespeaks refinement. A thoughtful smile flitted over his handsome face, and he reached in the pocket of his purple silk

dressing gown, tastefully figured with red roses, for his pipe and lit it. "Sometime ago, my picture was used in the Atlanta Journal in connection with a story about my having offered my blood when Lee Battle was in dire need of it. Miss Negri was, at that time, searching the country for the particular type she wished to play opposite her, and seeing my picture in the Journal, she was so struck by it that she immediately wired me, asking if I'd consider playing the part of Paul in 'Passionate Paupers.' I've always admired Miss Negri, besides being extremely interested in the drama from an artistic standpoint, so I accepted."

And Miss Negri? "When will you start work on the picture, Mr. Shaw?"

"Sometimes in April, I expect. Miss Negri expected me to come to Holly-

(Continued on page six)