

THE MERCER CLUSTER

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THE NEW REFORM GROUP

Mercer already has as many dead organizations as she can exist with comfortably—the almost universal verdict of those concerned. Has the Students' League for Progressive Political Action any room or justification on the campus?

The answer to this pertinent question must be left to future developments, but this much can be said in defense at this time. Unlike many of our groups, the new body has a definite, tangible field to work in. The state of Georgia ranks near the bottom, politically and socially speaking, in the United States, and it is foolishness to say that college students are incapable of doing decent study and exerting an influence toward reform.

The new group has already sponsored two addresses on the campus by the foremost authority on Georgia in the State. If its plans toward expansion to other colleges are successful, The Students' League for Progressive Political Action will offer a needed chance for college men and women to enter actively into the fight for a greater Georgia.

SAVING OUR SOLES

Three cheers (with plush coverings) for the Ladies' Auxiliary, three more for the donors of the brick and other materials, a couple for Mr. Price, and one or two at random for the workers who have gone overtime to get the walks on the campus into decent condition for the first time in the memory of man.

Aside from the very definite advantage of increased beauty and convenience which these "little gray ribbons" furnish, the economic saving is not to be pish-tushed. A slide down an unnoticed gully will take a day's wear off a shoe sole, and a thimbleful of sand used to the best advantage will make holes and more holes in your sox, my sox, our

sox, their sox, his sox, and yet, even the silken hose worn by our most fastidious co-eds. Of course, the saving to the individual will be almost negligible, but it takes pennies to make dollars.

And, following its age-old policy of rank optimism, the Cluster proceeds to suggest that the Ladies' Auxiliary get the highway department to donate a little second-hand Tarvia and pave the drive which winds gracefully albeit dustily across the campus. And while we're on the subject, the railroad shops in Macon throw away miles of old chain every year, which would admirably replace the varied assortment of cables, haywire, and wrapping string now strung through the posts which designate where we shall and shall not strut (no offense).

Go to it, Ladies! If the students had half your enthusiasm and energy they'd be twice as more so than they are, by crackie!

DIRT

By HOMER ZILCH

Your correspondent wants to acknowledge the embarrassment suffered by him when he took a Wesleyan girl to the show on "hush money" in the form of two phony passes to the Capitol. And was my face pink when the lady informed me that they were no good. I surrender. Ask London why she frequents the College Hill Apartments. And reports have it that she won't stay in the same room with anyone else when on a date. I like privacy too, London. The Glee Club came back with reports of their usual big time. "Softy" Dawson got stuck in the ditch in Albany. I hear that he didn't even try to get out till morning. And he also got a special every day from a femme at Wesleyan. Eighty-eight cents wasted, Martha. And John Harrison seems to be holding his own down at Waycross. Those boxing lessons came in handy, eh, John. And how is "Josephine" getting along, Thad. Four women at Waycross had a fight to see who was going to have a date with Charlie Thompson. After beating the other three up, I don't suppose Charlie could offer much resistance to her. And was Bailey lucky? Having a date with a girl, who had a new Ford and a twenty-dollar bill. I'll bet he borrowed five before he left. And I'll bet Davino looked "tarzanish" without any clothes on. On the way back from Sparta Red Camp and Bob Smith ran out of gas. But good luck came along in the shape of a drunk, who bought them enough gas to get to Macon. And say Bob, was Marion sore when you broke those two dates with her last week when Margaret came to town? We had three visitors from Cordele last week, and did they pitch a party last Saturday night. Ben Smith was the head man in it. You had better start going out of town to do your carousing, Ben. Cotton's knock-knees are receiving treatment. "Horsey-back" riding is being tried, in order to make him look like a sho-nuff cowboy

And these birle paths are lovely in April. And are the co-eds peeved when they don't break into the column every week. They act like they don't like it, but just leave 'em out, they boil over. Ahem! Everyone of 'em comes to me with some news about the others. Cheer up, girls, you may get in again soon when news is scarce. Has Betty convinced you that she loves you, Earl? She told me that she did, but that you were slightly wary of her. And she looked mighty good at the Junior Prom Saturday nite. A silver-plated beer mug will be awarded to the person who finds out why Red Bailey is always scratching. I have been trying to find out for three years. Its beyond me. Signing off, folks. See you next week if I come out from under the ether. Maybe there are some who hope I won't. Adois, Snooping Hopier.

THREE DEANSHIPS ARE ABOLISHED BY TRUSTEES

(Continued from Page 1) chemistry, physics, and mathematics.

In confining the work offered to the requirements for three degrees, a resolution of the board declares: "The course given should be such as to appeal primarily to youth of high religious and social purposes rather to those who are thinking first of all in terms of financial success."

It is not the function of the church to train men in the technique of building railroads, developing irrigation projects, or constructing power plants. It is not primarily the business of the church to train men to win cases in court, or to sit as judges, but rather to give them an insight into the social values which should be conserved through such service.

The resolution offered had for its basis figures from an education survey of 1927, made at the instigation and under the direction of the board.

Further cuts of the faculty and the salaries was not gone into, but it was understood that the faculty will remain at substantially the same number, and salaries will not be cut further.

Hugh M. Willet, Atlanta, former chairman of the board of trustees, presided with J. C. Shelburne, registrar, acting as secretary. The other members who attended were: Dr. W. G. Lee, Macon; Robt. M. Hitch, Savannah; T. E. Ryals, Macon; Arthur Jackson, Savannah; L. A. Henderson, Columbus; H. D. Chapman, Macon; William Murphy, Savannah; J. Clay Murphy, Macon; F. R. Martin, Macon; J. Fred Eden, Jr., Macon; Julian Harrison, Atlanta; A. B. Conger, Bainbridge; Bryan Blackburn, Newnan; John B. Guerry, Montezuma; Dr. J. E. Simmons, Macon; E. H. Scott, Milledgeville.

OOPS SORRY DEPT.

Some time ago the Cluster announced the appearance of Dr. Dowell as "Our Cub Columnist," and lo! careful perusal found no trace of the column. Someone had blundered—the printer sez it wasn't he, the copy boy ("Red") sez it wasn't he, the staff sez it wasn't we, and surely you don't think it was me! Apologetically,

THE EDITOR.

PREXY'S PARAGRAPHS

Resourcefulness in revision and in readjustment in the interest of efficiency and economy is a problem of intelligence. Just how well our Board of Trustees served the members of the student body and faculty may be gathered by the changes they authorized, which are in harmony with the policies of some of our best known educational and commercial organizations, and look directly toward:

(1) The strengthening of the college of arts and sciences, which admittedly constitutes the keystone of the university.

(2) The reorganization, enrichment and articulation of the offerings along lines followed by leading American universities.

(3) The improvement of administrative functions through the closer coordination and integration of the units.

(4) The practice of sound economies in finances.

The improved program for the college of liberal arts, which has been made possible by the consolidation of overlapping activities, has been accomplished in such a manner that the efficiency of none has been impaired while the quality of the whole has been enriched.

Be it said to the credit of the Board, Mercer has been able to adopt this constructive policy in the face of unfavorable economic conditions which have caused many other institutions to abandon certain well-nigh essential functions. Far from implying the destructive dismemberment of the university through discontinuance of any essential part of its activities, the decisions of the board have been received with considerable gratification by reason of the very element of progress in the face of national financial stress.

The change of the status of the school of commerce to that of a department will modify only slightly the program of students in business administration. The only subject matter discontinued will be shorthand and typewriting, which have no primary credit relationship to higher education. No fundamental subject will be omitted, while on the contrary, Mercer will offer more courses in business administration with a larger percentage of instructional force than any like institution in the South. Experience will show that the changes approved will result in direct economies and corresponding advantages to our students.

The continuance of the school of law is to be made possible by aid of financial support independent of the general income of the

university, and contrary to the fear expressed in some quarters, the high standards of this school will not be impaired by our inability to make adequate provision for it in the general budget. For some two or three years our law school has maintained the high quality of its work and its superior rating by the A. B. A. and the A. A. L. S., and it will undoubtedly continue to do so with the financial assistance of loyal alumni and other friends, a distinction which only the law school of two of our Baptist institutions of higher learning, Mercer University and the University of Richmond, now enjoy.

In the changes authorized Mercer has endeavored to fall in line with the policy of virtually every organization and individual in effecting economies wherever possible. But in doing so, careful study has been made to retain through the approved processes of coordination, consolidation, and integration, the best Mercer has to offer in the way of subject matter and instructional staff.

SPRIGT DOWELL, President

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