

THE MERCER CLUSTER

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SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

The Social Security Act seems to be a matter of much controversy which very few people understand. The following is an account of what we have found as the best to our understanding.

The Social Security Act does not establish any compensation systems. The states are invited to enact laws for the compensation of their unemployed. The Federal Government does not require or seek to force them to enact laws of any particular type. Their freedom to pass those laws best suited to their local conditions and problems is protected.

The provisions of the Social Security Act relating to unemployment are very simple. A payment amounting to 1% of pay roll for 1936, 2% for 1937, and 3% for 1938 and thereafter, is levied on all employers of eight or more persons for 20 weeks or more. Agricultural labor, domestic service in a private home, certain maritime employment, service in the employ of the United States Government or government of the states, or their instrumentalities or political subdivisions, service performed for certain very close relatives, and for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, and educational institutions of a non-profit nature are excepted from this tax. Each employer may credit against this tax up to 90%, his contribution to a state unemployment compensation fund established in accordance with a state unemployment compensation law which has been approved by the Social Security Board. The Federal tax will bring money into the General Treasury, for the general purposes of the Federal Government.

This means that a state which passes an unemployment compensation law will be able to withdraw nine tenths of this pay roll tax for its own unemployed, by collecting it as contributions under its own laws, rather than letting the Federal Government collect it as a tax. The administration of the State law will not cost the State anything, if such administration is efficient, for under the Social Security Act the Federal Government stands ready to grant to the States sufficient amounts to pay all proper administrative expenses. Nor will the State which acts promptly be at any competitive disadvantages with other States, for the pay rolls of employers in States which do not act will be subject to the full Federal tax.

The difference between a State which passes an approved unemployment compensation law and those which do not is that the State which has such a law will enable its employers to get the benefit of the credit against the Federal tax.

On March 31 1936, eight states and the District of Columbia, whose employers provide a third of the entire taxable pay roll of the country, had unemployment compensation laws which had been approved by the Board. In several other States, bills proposing such laws are being introduced in the legislature now convening. The success of the Federal Social Security Act as a means of reducing the economic and social disturbances of unemployment will be dependent on the States. No unemployment compensation will be assured to the commercial or industrial worker until his State has an approved bill.

Just consider this and think over carefully the meaning of the two words: democracy and socialism and see how closely the two border without being the same.

KUDOS

By Ledford Carter

Two important air routes cross almost directly above the Mercer campus. Eastern Air Lines planes cruise above our heads on their regular trips between Chicago and Miami. The other route is between Columbia, S. C., Augusta, Columbia, Montgomery, and Dallas. The dirigible, Macon, flew this route on its way to the west coast about two years ago. The freshmen who were on their way to their eight-thirty classes on that day saw something to write their mamas about.

According to Bishop Warren A. Candler, there have been only four Methodist ministers to come out of Mercer University.

Mr. James Porter who has given large donations for building the new campus gymnasium bearing his name is a member of the Methodist church.

Quite a number of Mercerians have been known to seek the Mercer campus by driving their cars through Tattnell Square park after catching their first glimpse of the campus from the corner of Oglethorpe and College streets. One such person is one of our recent transfer students.

The first annuals were published by the fraternities. They were the "Mercerian" of the 80's and the "Mephtophilean" of the 90's. The first "Cauldron" was published in 1911 and was dedicated to Miss Sally Boone.

Our first newspaper was the Orange and Black which began about 1910 and continued until the entrance into the World War. After the war the "Cluster" was the name given to the publication of the fourteen schools and colleges of the Mercer system. These schools contributed until the late 20's.

The "Mercerian" was the name of a monthly literary magazine published by the two literary societies until 1912. We see that the name, Mercerian, has been used for an annual, a literary magazine, and recently for an alumni magazine.

Letter

"America has decisively spoken," came from the booming voices of radio announcers the world over. Immediately vociferous responses began arriving from collectivistic nations—Germany, Russia, Italy, France and others—voicing their approvals of America's choice for President of the United States. Why should these nations send their exuberant congratulations, and what is the meaning of the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt for a second term? It means first of all that America has distinctly turned toward the left in government, which is symbolic of radicalism. Nothing can stop this trend, it is here to stay. We can sugar coat it by saying to ourselves that it can't be true; but as a matter of fact, socialism is here, and here to stay!

What is the basis for this dynamic assertion? It emulates from President Roosevelt's speeches during the last campaign. On Saturday night before the election on the following Tuesday, he made a most astounding declaration when he shouted, "Wall Street hates me. I accept their hatred. And I want it to be said of my present administration that we met the power of Wall Street; and I want it to be said of my future administration, that we not only met the power of Wall Street, but that we shall master the power of Wall Street." Reduced to every day language this declaration

(Continued on Page Four)

IN THE THROES OF—

CLUSTERPHOBIA

WITH CUTTS

TEN YEARS AFTER—

Parke Cummings, in the December Coronet, gives a satirical yet truthful examination to the college graduate a decade after he has been awarded the coveted sheep skin.

Q: Do you consider that in the ten years since you were graduated you have made the most of your time and opportunities?

A: Sure. I have done all right—everything considered.

Q: Have you contributed anything of real importance to humanity?

A: Certainly, I've—oh, well, not everybody can set the world on fire.

Q: When you were graduated you promised yourself not to let your cultural life stagnate. You resolved to pursue your reading in history, art, and philosophy. Have you done so?

A: Absolutely—only of course I don't have much time for those things. Anyhow I go to a musical comedy every once in a while.

Q: You also resolved to look after your physical welfare—to exercise, keep trim and hard. Have you?

A: Well, I only weigh one-hundred-fifty. When people say I'm flabby, they don't realize it's all muscle.

Q: You made a promise you wouldn't write letters back to college about the football team. Have you kept it?

A: Yes.—Well, practically, but with that moron who's coaching now, what can you expect?

Q: Ten years out of college you should be cultured, fairly prosperous, broad-minded, interested in the finer things. Are you?

A: Well I should hope to kiss a pig. Hey, whadaya say we get up a crap game?

CONFLAGRATION—

New York's reporter to A.P. sheets, Don O'Malley, tells a story of the pickled gentleman who wandered into a hostelry late one night to face a sleepy clerk.

"Give me the best room in the house," mumbled the guest, "and send up a bottle of Scotch, right away."

The guest was escorted to his room, and nothing more was heard of him until late the next morning, when he phoned down for the

manager. That official hurried upstairs, bowed low and asked solicitously:

"How was everything, sir—how was the Scotch?"

"The Scotch was fine," came the reply. "But this soda syphon was so strong it knocked the glass out of my hand every time I tried to use it. Send up another bottle of Scotch, but take this darned syphon away!"

"Very good, sir," stammered the perplexed manager as he walked out with the fire extinguisher under his arm.

SNICKS—

After the demonstration at the Atlanta terminal last Sunday evening, we suspect that the gridiron stars will gyp the Glee Club out of its tours this year. . . . J. W. is one popular girl, too. . . . wonder if she would like to be sponsor for the singers. . . . J. Eubanks, an old idle roomer of mine, let loose a fast one when told to be sure to see Madison Square Garden when in New York. Jack, between burps, replied that he had no interest in horticulture. . . . Bill Harbin has been selected by the Pi Kappa Phi's to act as legal advisor during their bridge sessions—sort of a contract lawyer, we take it.

One thing can usually be said of a person with an inferiority complex. More than likely he has a true sense of values. . . . Definition of Life: Brain child of an idiot. . . . Spelling Americana: \$UCCE\$\$. . . Buddy Rogers and Mary Pickford have promised to "love, honor, and obey"—Barrymore and Barrie have had the knot tied—Any day we expect to see an announcement about George B. Shaw and Shirley Temple. . . .

Bon Mot by Olin Miller: The first thing I'm going to do resurrection morning is to read my tombstone and have a good laugh. In the words of Bertrand Russell, "It is the fate of idealists to obtain what they have struggled for in a form which destroys their ideals."

Would I were in an alehouse in London!
I would give all my fame for a pot of ale and safety.

—A soldier boy at the battle of Harfleur, Henry the Fifth, iii, 2.

FOLDEROL

By KENNETH HARRIS

News shorts by the Intercollegiate Press.

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—The Philippine Islands and the Territory of Hawaii vie in housing the greatest number of graduates of San Jose State College, who have left the mainland of the United States.

Twenty-one live in the Philippines while twenty-four have established homes or are teaching in the Hawaiian Islands.

HANOVER, N. H.—A non-credit course on the cause, cost, and consequences of war, led by prominent members of the faculty, is now offered to undergraduates at Dartmouth College.

The nature of modern warfare will be carefully examined, and the obstacles which must be removed before international peace may rest on a solid foundation will be studied. The class will consist of weekly two hour sessions with lectures followed by general discussion.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.—Members of the We-Live-On-Campus Club have inaugurated a Daily

Walking contest at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Blindens have been purchased for all members so that cars whizzing by in the morning on the way to classes will not interfere with the performances registered by the pedestrian-athletes.

UNIVERSITY, VA.—Dr. Lyndon F. Small of the University of Virginia, searching for a non-habit forming morphine, has prepared and patented a morphine more powerful and safer than the morphine now used by physicians to combat suffering.

Tests on animals show that the compounds of the newly discovered morphine are less poisonous than ordinary morphine. This is another step forward in the research on narcotic substitutes.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Brown University is furthering plans for the forthcoming Intercollegiate Panel Discussion on "National Security."

The panel will take place at the University about the first of December.

BEAR FAX

By OSWOLD

Your correspondent is very cold at the moment, in fact he is near freezing. And I forgot and left my wooly-woolies at home. I hope you all had some good eats for a change while at home for the holidays. Some folks were optimistic enough to take their books home with them.

Little Anthony has the cutest "D.B." I've seen in many a day. In technical terms that is the part of the anatomy half way between the nape of the neck and the heels. Statisticians say that the perfect Callipigian is one which is absolutely horizontal, but I prefer the curves any day.

Dora Bell has a certain young faculty member's favorable eye, seems. . . . Irma has a new hat dress and is it a wow (Hiding the scar, Irma). . . . What well-known co-ed has a rendezvous every afternoon at the gym with a future basketball star. . . . What high school doll was ditched cold for that same new blonde co-ed? . . . Who is the big attraction for "Chuck" Harris on Hardeman Ave. . . . Wonder why Don Lockart, former Mercer student came all the way from Ohio to work here? . . .

They say Art Barrow likes to collect girls pictures. . . . What T. O. spends a lot of time out of Buford Place. . . . Lucile Balke just loves to moo in the Dean's history class. . . . I wonder why Helen did for amusement last week-end since Jimmie went to Jackson. . . . A typical romance can be seen when Charlie and Mary are together. Boy, it's great to be in love. . . .

Oswold and all the stooges find it very convenient to leave off our affairs from Dec. 1 to 28—it's more economical. A card in his hand is worth about five bucks in our pocket.

INTERVIEWS

(Continued from Page One) either appoint student speakers to give students who wanted to tell of their experiences an opportunity to do so. The results would be educational to the speaker at least and probably even more entertaining to the student body.

OSWOLD: "They could put cushions."

ELBERT JENKINS replies: "Variety is the spice of life, variety is the would be life of chapel programs. What we need is a larger variety of programs, speakers from more various fields. By the way, what's happened to our alma mater?"

LIBRARIAN LAMENTS

(Continued from Page One) within the next week and not let it until the night before examinations.

Here are a few new statistics on "Gone with the Wind" which may find of interest. The average daily sales according to the Macmillan Co., the publishers, is 762. The total printing to date 894,000 copies. The company expects to engage in some extensive Christmas advertising for the book, in fact expects to reach a market of 20,000,000 readers. There is someone in Georgia who hasn't read it I think of no better Christmas gift for you to get them.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIF.—A survey taken on campus at Stanford University shows that there are enough available dating men who don't go home or don't go on stag parties to take out every Stanford co-ed. More than one-third of the Stanford men date women on Friday and Saturday nights.