

## THE CLUSTER PLATFORM

FOR COMPLETION IN 1938

1. Construct a concrete walk to the Penfield student center building.
2. Establish a student book exchange to be run entirely for the benefit of the students.

FOR FUTURE COMPLETION

1. Add typing and shorthand courses, for which credit toward degrees is allowed, to the Mercer curriculum.
2. Establish a separate publicity department for Mercer.

## Shortened Rush Period

Pan-Hellenic council took wise action recently when it voted to shorten the fraternity rushing period from eight weeks, experimented with this year, to three weeks. There is no doubt that the deferred system of pledging freshmen and the supervised system of limited rushing is an improvement over the old hap-hazard, cut-throat systems formerly used. That is why it was essential for Pan-Hellenic to continue the present set-up—essential at least to the good of fraternities at Mercer.

A three weeks rush period is still a further improvement in the pledging arrangement. Most freshmen are usually fairly well oriented on the college campus within a week following their registration, and two additional weeks should allow them sufficient time to make acquaintances and decisions about particular fraternities as well as fraternities in general. During the eight weeks period the freshman's time was so much in demand by upperclassmen representing fraternities that he had little time or energy left to devote to regular college work. This may have given some of the present freshmen a false but lasting impression of college life and attitude toward studies. Although no class averages are available at present, other facts indicate that the scholarship average of the freshman class for the fall quarter of this year was probably lower than that for the corresponding quarter in any recent year. The eight weeks rushing would have a considerable effect on this average.

Besides the advantage of having only three weeks rushing next year and thus getting the procedure over with before it causes scholastic difficulties, there remains ample time for extensive training of the freshmen pledges by upperclassmen. This training should be of a type that will not interfere with studies, but instead will aid the first-year student in his new college life. Scholarship as well as all-round participation in college activities should be fostered by the training. Even a five-weeks period of extensive training would not be too long. When the fraternity supplies something which actually cannot be supplied by any other campus organization, it is then that freshmen will see the advantages of joining a greek-letter group. And this training period is an excellent opportunity for fraternities to make themselves mean something to freshmen.

Next Sunday Pan-Hellenic will decide how many social functions can be given by each fraternity during the three weeks period. These functions will be classified into major and minor events and the number to be allowed for each group limited. Thus a flexible limitation will be placed on the expense fraternities have to bear in rushing.

Another forward step which can be made by Pan-Hellenic is the enactment of a rule—or the enforcement of such a rule if one exists—that no freshman will be allowed to be initiated into a fraternity unless he has a scholastic average of C or better. This would in no way tend to make scholarship fraternities out of the social fraternities, but would be, in truth, a protection for the fraternities themselves against low group averages. This rule would also help refute the criticism that fraternities cause low grades.

All in all, Pan-Hellenic this year has made commendable strides toward better Mercer fraternity life and James Fitzpatrick as president and other greek representatives deserve due credit.

## AROUND WASHINGTON

By MARVIN COX

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The U. S. Office of Education in the current issue of its publication, "School Life," reviews two types of colleges that are exerting a significant influence on modern day higher education. "Cooperative Colleges" is the title of a piece by Walton C. John and "Self Help Colleges" is the name of an article by Ella B. Ratcliff.

A small group of colleges, largely situated in the South, require all students, regardless of financial ability, to assist in the work of operating the colleges. Kitchens are operated by the students; cleaning is done by them; farms, in many cases, are worked by students; dairies are maintained; and, when work around the college is insufficient to supply jobs for all the students, laundries, bakeries, ice plants, and other industries are set up.

Social life in the self-help colleges, such as Berea College in Kentucky, and Berry College in Georgia, is minimized. The required dress at Berry, for example, is overalls for boys and chambray dresses and sunbonnets for girls. For dress occasions the boys have one dark, solid color suit and the girls a blue serge dress for winter and a white dress for summer.

Work takes the place of athletics in these schools and there are no football games, house parties and dances.

The idea of working and studying at the same time results in fine training, according to those who have studied the operation of these colleges and the students, upon graduation, are well equipped to fill positions in the outside world. However, the idea of getting up before daylight to milk cows and then proceeding to classes would not tempt this writer unduly.



COX

## Collegiate World

By R. C. Souder  
Frat Facts

Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
Active Chapters—108  
Alumni Clubs—110  
Total Membership—40,298  
Founded—March 9, 1856.

Paul Whiteman and Hal Kemp will furnish the music up at North Carolina State University, June 3 and 4, for the final dances. Recently the students there, in protest to a faculty ruling that a dance could not be given on a Monday night of exam week, gave a mass demonstration of their indignation and after some smooth diplomacy got the faculty to change their ruling.

Eleanor Block, freshman from Macon, Georgia at the University of Alabama, writes as rapidly with her left hand and backward as she does right handed and forward.

Freshmen of Texas Technological Institute, at a special meeting, agreed that hazing was beneficial to them.

"You look sweet enough to eat." He whispered soft and low.  
"I am," said she quite hungrily.  
"Where do you want to go?"

I shall be a bachelor—  
Live a life of peace.  
Never have love turn cold;  
See a romance cease.  
Dog and pipe, a fireplace,  
Smoking jacket frayed—  
Still I must say this, Helen,  
Thanks, for all your aid.

A Univ. of Alabama professor of economics recently told his class that the national debt was \$37,558,369,968. An industrious student stayed up one night and found out that if the debt were in one dollar bills and if they were placed end to end, they would encircle the earth at the equator 145 times, or could be used to make a bridge to the moon \$15 wide.

—Davidsonian.

The Honorable Daniel C. Roper, United States Secretary of Commerce, will deliver the commencement address at the final graduation ceremonies, May 30 at Loyola University in New Orleans. They do things up in a big way out there, don't they?

I'm through with all women,  
They cheat and they lie,  
They prey on us males;  
We go with them—why?  
They tease us, torment us  
And drive us to sin.  
Say, who was that blonde  
That just walked in?  
—Mississippi Collegian.

Did you hear about the absent-minded professor who stood in front of the wrong side of the mirror and when he failed to see his reflection, he figured he must have already gone to class, so he went back to bed!

## BIG PROBLEM

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runs about 56 per cent from advertising, 18 per cent from circulation, 25 per cent from job printing, and one per cent from other sources.

## CAMPUS CAMERA



## PROMOTE GEORGIA

Georgia needs someone to tell her story to the thousands of manufacturers who are looking Southward, and to the millions of tourists who are on the move seeking diversion.

As matters stand, about two dozen of the Cities in the State have Chambers of Commerce with full time officials. The budgets of these run from \$2000 to, perhaps \$50,000 per annum. Each is trying to do a job for its own, with neither means nor time to give to the promotion of the State as a whole.

State after state adopts a program of promotion. Advertising on a national scale is gaining favor. Pictorial highway maps showing points of scenic and historic interest are issued by the more progressive. State Chambers of Commerce, set up to present the whole unit are in operation in Virginia, Florida, Ohio and others.

Georgia has a lot to offer but has no agency to tell her story, or to present her good points. With some planning and cooperative effort, a receiving line could be

formed whereby the visitor would be taken in hand as the state line is crossed. When the first host city had done all it could for him, the next city or point in the line could be notified, and through conspiracy, keep every tourist in Georgia as long as possible.

There are homes that we like to visit over and over again. There is a great art in entertaining guests so they will be made to enjoy themselves.

While we do not have the capital to develop all the natural resources of interest just now, we do have the people with the native ability to be good hosts, to realize on this opportunity. Every city can set up official hosts, hostesses and guides. In many cases volunteers would enlist to serve.

There is enough prospect for profit in this field to justify the effort. Georgia needs new resources of revenue and here is one that has only to be realized upon. The travellers that are constantly passing through the state are willing to be cultivated, diverted and entertained, but we must make the overtures.

## THE MERCER CLUSTER

Bert Struby, Editor; Hunter Hurst, Managing Editor; Herbert Bailey, Associate Editor; Billy Gealin, News Editor; George Brown, Business Manager; Charles Hearn, Advertising Manager.

Board of Control: Bert Struby, Herbert Bailey, George Brown, Charles Hearn

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## AT MACON THEATRES

By Olin Morgan

The Grand shows for the last times today and tomorrow "Jezebel" starring Bette Davis, Henry Fonda and George Brent. Watch Bette Davis make a battle field out of a man's heart, in a great romance story of the old South.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Ginger Rogers and James Stewart in "Vivacious Lady" with James Ellison and Beulah Bondi. Ginger goes through college like a streak of perfumed lightning and she blasts the mossy stones in the temple of higher yearning. Thursday, Friday and Saturday the greatest stars of the screen in a picture that is predicted to be the most outstanding hit since "San Francisco." Clark Gable, Myrna Loy and Spencer Tracy in "Test Pilot."

The Capitol shows today and tomorrow a light musical comedy "Love and Hisses" with Walter Winchell, Ben Bernie and Simone Simon. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday "Love Is A Headache" starring Gladys George and Francho Tene. Here's hoping that the picture is as good as the title. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Frederic March, Franciska Gaal and Akim Tamiroff in "The Buccaneer."

At the Rialto today and tomorrow "Dangerous To Know" with Anna May Wong and Akim Tamiroff. Monday and Tuesday, Irene Dunne and Cary Grant in one of the seasons best comedy hits "The Awful Truth." Wednesday and Thursday see the thrilling experiences of the "Nurse From Brooklyn" featuring Sally Eilers and Paul Kelly. Friday and Saturday, Chester Morris and Anne Shirley in "Law of the Underworld."

The Ritz shows today Joan Bennett and Henry Fonda in "I Met My Love Again," and tomorrow Fred Scott in "Melody of the Plains." Monday and Tuesday, Victor Moore and Vicki Lester in "This Marriage Business."

## HONOR DAY

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reportorial staff of the Cluster. Those awarded keys were Billy Gealin, Howard Laney, and Clyde Calhoun.

Professor Smalley made a brief speech outlining the purpose of Honors Day at Mercer and then introduced Dr. Akers. Professor R. N. Cook of the Mercer law school made the debate presentations. Bert Struby gave the Cluster keys.

All students selected for Sigma Mu have made the high scholastic average and are active in student affairs. Miss Hawthorne is a member of Cardinal Key, a charter member of Sigma Epsilon educational sorority, past vice-president of the Ciceronian literary society, member of the Alembic club, and the Alpha Delta Pi social sorority. Marshall is president of the Kappa Phi Kappa educational fraternity, a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Blue Key honor fraternities and a member of Mercer cross-country team.

Besides being a varsity debater, Patton is a member of Blue Key, the International Relations club, varsity tennis team, and Alpha Tau Omega social fraternity.

Struby is editor of the Cluster, member of Blue Key, and of Phi Eta Sigma, president of the newspaper club and a member of the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity.

Dr. Askew has been outstanding for his research work on historical subjects. "He is a scholar in every sense of the word." Dr. Clark said, "and since graduation has been active in teaching and writing." A number of his articles have been published in historical journals.