

**The Mercer Cluster**

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**Toward Greater Freedom**

Mercer at the present time is undergoing vast physical changes; new buildings are springing up it would seem almost overnight and many are the contemplated improvements which are practically sure of realization.

In athletics, too, Mercer is not lagging behind. Backed now with sufficient money for some time to come, the Bears are expected to have—and no doubt will have—a winning football team. No longer will they limp home with the old sad story "Not enough reserves or manpower." The Orange and Black seems destined for a place in the gridiron sun in the not-too-distant future.

Every Friday afternoon The Cluster Program and every Thursday afternoon The Mercer University Program is received into thousands of homes, not only in this immediate vicinity, but in many places over the entire state. As a result of these, and various other publicity methods, Mercer will inevitably attract many more students to become a part of her big happy family in the future.

All this is good news to loyal Mercer men and women who would like to see "Mercer March On" become a reality—not just a song to be sung in the chapel exercises occasionally.

However, quite naturally enough, there are certain "hangovers" which carry faint suggestions of illiberality in some administrative phases of the University. Among these, The Cluster sincerely believes should be placed the present method of forced class attendance. The present system with supposedly "no cuts allowed" is a part of the old "school master" system which is rapidly becoming passe in the better and more progressive colleges. For one thing (among many others) it actively encourages and promotes lying on the part of the students. This is a fact pure and unvarnished at the core and no amount of subterfuge can adequately cover it up.

The Cluster, respectfully, in the name of progress, sanity, and better educative methods, calls upon the authorities to take note of this discrepancy, and take the proper steps immediately toward a sound correction. Action should be taken soon and a new experiment launched, especially with Senior College students; caution should be exercised in removing restrictions from the lower classmen. No petitions or other student actions need necessarily be introduced if those in control can feel the enormous weight of progressive opinion in this matter.

Actual experiments prove that students under the new scientific system not only made better grades than students under our present system, but showed more intelligent knowledge of the subjects studied.

All of which bears out our old truism, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink."  
Our old system must go.

**And Now... Un-Americanism**

Holt Gewinner—Guest Editorial Writer for this issue and Newscaster for Macon Telegraph, News and WMAZ

Do you, the Mercer student, resent the intrusion of foreign propaganda in the United States? Do you, as the thinking American citizen, feel that active oppression of Nazi-Fascist and Communistic elements in this country would result in extinction of subversive influences, said to be endangering our democratic institutions?

A pronounced thought-trend at present indicates a growing demand on the part of the American public for active measures to prevent the further spread of un-Americanism in their homeland. Suggested action includes closing the door to immigration and deportation of aliens.

However, if immigration is stopped and some undesirable aliens deported, what then? Is it not true that the ranks of worshippers of Hitler and Mussolini include Americans—natural or naturalized? What steps can be taken to convince our fellow-citizens that life in America—though not perfect—is far and away to be desired over life under totalitarian states?

(Continued in Columns 4 and 5)

**Collegiate World**

By JOHN COURIC

Locally True

Contributes the freshman: Seniors may be dignified, Sophomores may be smart, But it takes a little freshman To break a fellow's heart.  
—GSCW Colonnade.

Dean Hudson, who played at the Little Commencement dances here last year, is now heard from WLW in Cincinnati. Hudson recently dedicated his half hour Wednesday night program to his alma mater, the University of Florida. Incidentally he is making quite a hit up North.

Tech High students and their parents in a recent poll voted 795 to 219 against co-education. The Atlanta Board of Education is considering combining Boys High, Tech High, and Girls High into one school to be known as the Henry Grady School.

Kay Kyser, famed University of North Carolina alumnus and former cheer leader, has been invited to lead the cheering at the Tulane Carolina Homecoming game. All ex-lettermen will be admitted free to this game.

Walter B. Pitkin in the Columbia Alumni News says that 450 of the 745 listed colleges in the United States will be out of existence by 1960. We will have to be around to see it before we will agree with Mr. Pitkin.

Sigma Chi fraternity of the University of Georgia will hold its annual derby tomorrow. Fourteen cups will be awarded to the sorority pledges who win the various races and contests. "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" and "Modern Venus" will also be selected. Kappa Delta sorority has won the grand trophy for the last two years.

Eighty-three pledged twelve fraternities at the University of South Carolina this year. Sigma Chi led with fourteen pledges.

The diphtheria plague has struck the University of North Carolina according to the University Health Service and eighteen are confined to the hospital.

**The Perfect Girl**

Does all her homework;  
Does not cut classes;  
Does not care for boys;  
Does not pet;  
Does not come home late;  
Does not exist.  
—GSCW Colonnade.

Jack Wardlaw, popular maestro now playing at the Tavern Nite Club here, was a classmate of Kay Kayser and Hal Kemp at the University of North Carolina. Wardlaw is a composer of popular songs and expects to have some published very soon.

**DR. JOHNSON**

(Continued from Page 1)  
international brotherhood of understanding among the people.

According to a statement by Dr. Dowell, "He puts this philosophy across with sincerity and zeal that holds his audience's interest and stimulates real thought." If any question should arise in the mind of the student, Dr. Johnson will be available for a discussion period any afternoon next week in the chapel building.

Dr. Johnson is also editor of "The Next Step," a monthly commentary magazine on world affairs. He is an avid student of Greek, all of his Bible quotations being taken directly from the Greek volumes.

**CAMPUS CAMERA**



THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON OFFERED A SPECIAL JANITORIAL COURSE DURING THE LAST SUMMER SCHOOL SESSION!

**Views of the Day's News**

By CLOUD MORGAN

France and Germany seem to be making nice, friendly overtures toward each other for a Franco-German peace-pact, whereby Germany would guarantee the safety of the French frontiers. France has only to return Togo and Camerouns, West African colonies taken from Germany after the World War, assure Germany a free hand in Central and Eastern Europe, renounce the Franco-Russian mutual assistance pact, and recognize that Germany should have numerical superiority to her in war planes. But after France complies who is going to guarantee Hitler's word? Don't we remember something about another similar guarantee to Belgium turning into just a "scrap of paper" along in August of 1914?

Uncle Sam has just discovered that he's been going around for several years with Hitler's hand in one of his pockets. . . . Johannes Hofmann, the German hairdresser, with her confederates, sat calmly chewing her gum while Gustave Rumrich, army deserter and confessed Nazi spy, revealed their whole fantastic espionage plot. Typical of America—a spy can calmly chew her gum while on trial, secure in the knowledge that she'll receive fair treatment. Now if this were Germany, lady, you'd

be swapping yarns with Saint Peter by this time! . . . We can all understand Germany's howl of outraged sense of justice upon the announcement from the United States that this country had at last decided to bring its army and navy up to par, though. With that, gal and her pals in the can she probably hadn't had any advance notice.

Young Bussey, star Louisiana State University halfback, received his walking papers the other day; his scholarship was cancelled, presumably because he broke training rules. Bussey, however, declares it was because of his activity in trying to form a union of football players, such as the CIO. Whatever the reason was, it is not primarily important to us, but what we are interested in is Young's statement that he couldn't study and play football, too. When a story like that hits the front page it's time the colleges took cognizance of the situation. Why should football players be expected to work on a practice field from three to six hours a day, be absent on trips for at least two weeks during the season, and still carry a full academic load with no more consideration in their classes than any of the rest of the students who have only their school work to do?

(Continued from Columns 1 and 2)

Intolerant oppression might serve only to deeper imbed his convictions, as proved by a recent statement by the wife of a German-American bund official. When several hundred men broke up the bund meeting after threatening the official's life and police guarded the bund leader's hasty exit, his wife said something like "so this is life under a democracy."

How can the wayward American be re-converted to democracy? How can his faith be restored?

Barring immigration and deporting aliens might not be too hard. Pulling our straying fellow Americans back into the fold would not be so simple. Efforts to convince them through tolerant and educative methods that America is a paradise compared with totalitarian states may be the answer. National recovery will further allay American misgivings resulting from economic stress.

Indiscriminate governmental oppression of Nazi-Fascist and Communistic groups would be more un-American than those groups are now said to be. Unless it were proved that those groups were taking definite steps to undermine the United States government, such action would place Americans in the position of violating their own Democratic principles.

At any rate, there may be some consolation in the passive attitude that, so long as the threatening minorities remain in the minority, there is little danger responsible Americans will be over-ridden—and should the germ of un-Americanism find sufficient nourishment in national conditions and individual tendencies, its triumph is inevitable.

**The Cluster Lends An Ear**

By CAROLINE ADAMS

At long last the Alma Mater's air-minded offsprings have gathered themselves together to present the first in a series of weekly broadcasts which we are proud to say will originate from the campus this year.

Thursday afternoon at 5:45 o'clock Cloud Morgan turned loose a group of Mercer amateurs in the new chapel building studio which fortunately is well equipped with a gong. Nathan Nolan, Lamar Sizemore, Bayne Barfield and your own columnist were saved by the bell from complete disgrace while Harold Beatty was quite accidentally interrupted by the gong. Whenever Mr. Beatty gets the gong you can be sure it is an accident.

For rather obvious reasons there will be little comment on this program other than a sincere hope that it will not prove typical of this year's broadcasts.

The voice of the Cluster was heard for the second time on the air from the studios of WMAZ last Friday at 4:45 o'clock, this time for ten minutes. The broadcast was an elaboration of last week's general theme. The Cluster's news program should be well grooved today with the additional time grant already tested and proven.

Today, however, The Cluster Newscast is scheduled for 5:07 p. m. instead of 4:45 as originally announced.

**At Macon Theatres**

By HARRY HUDSON

Feature of the week:

Music Corporation of America presents Little Jack Little and his orchestra at the Grand Monday only. Little, known as "Radio's Cheerful Little Earful," has won a wide following of radio fans. His style is particularly pleasing to college students in that his orchestra plays well both the "jitterbug" rhythms and the soft, smooth, romantic ballads. Known the nation over, it is fortunate that Mercer students will have an opportunity to see him in person. Schedule:

**Grand**  
Friday and Saturday: "Stablemates," with Wallace Beery and Mickey Rooney.

Monday: Screen, "Swing That Cheer," with Tom Brown and Andy Devine. Stage, Little Jack Little.

Tuesday and Wednesday: "The Amazing Mr. Chatterhouse," with Edward G. Robinson.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "The Arkansas Traveler," with Bob Burns and Irwin S. Cobb.

**Capitol**  
Friday and Saturday: "Letter of Introduction," with Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: "Boy Meets Girl," with James Cagney and Pat O'Brien.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "Tropic Holiday," with Dorothy Lamour and Ray Milland.

**Rialto**  
Friday and Saturday: "King of Alcatraz," with Lloyd Nolan and Gail Patrick.

Monday and Tuesday: "Holiday," with Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn.

Wednesday and Thursday: "Vacation from Love," with Dennis O'Keefe and Florence Rice.

Friday and Saturday: "In Old Mexico," with William Boyd.

**Ritz**  
Friday: "Hawaii Calls," with Bobby Breen.

Saturday: "Boots and Saddles," with Gene Autry.

Monday and Tuesday: "Personal Secretary," with William Gargan and Joy Hodges.

Wednesday and Thursday: "The Hurricane," with Jon Hall and Dorothy Lamour.

Friday: "Treasure Island," with Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper. Saturday: "Mysterious Rider," with Douglas Dumbrille.