

## Latta Is 'Ham'

### Amateur Radio Operator Has Unseen Friends Over World

By BILLY KRENSON

Bill Latta, Mercer student, has friends all over the world, but he never sees them. He is an amateur radio operator, a "ham," and he has contacted fellow hams in nearly every country.

Formerly Bill carried on code conversations with hams in European countries, but when the war began the government banned contact with any foreign nation. There was a boy in what is now German-occupied France with whom he corresponded, frequently, both on his radio and by mail. "Now he may even be dead," said Latta.

#### Government Checks Amateurs

Since the war began, the government has been keeping close check on the amateurs. Last summer fingerprints of each one—and there are 60,000 of them in the United States alone—were taken and placed on file in Washington. And "monitoring" stations have been set up to check on any foreign broadcasts. "But it's still fun," says Bill.

In 1939 Latta established contact with a fellow in Syria, which was then under the control of France. Soon after he began getting letters and questionnaires from the U. S. government, and it was with difficulty that he convinced the authorities that he was not connected with a spy ring.

#### Conveyed New Year's Message

On New Year's Eve, 1939, Bill was "working" two hams, one in Uruguay and one in Argentina. These two, who lived 100 miles apart, wanted to wish each other a Happy New Year, but due to technical reasons were unable to establish contact. Bill acted as mutual friend, transferring the message between them. That message travelled 7,000 miles.

To Latta, amateur radio-ing is a hobby, not a business. "The thing about this that interests me most is the friends I make," he says, "and you can make a lot of them easily."

In recent years there have been several Mercer hams, among whom are Jimmy Caldwell, who is now with WMAZ, Compton Mitchell and Wyman Priester. Several years ago there was a student, whose name was unavailable, who set up his transmitter in Sherwood hall. Bill's is in the Phi Delta Theta fraternity house, in case you want to say hello to your friends in South Africa.

## Oratory

### Farinholt Injured By Religious Zeal

Have you noticed the limp that Prof. L. W. Farinholt has been wearing lately? It was caused by his wife—she kicked him.

It all began when the Farinholt's, being recently moved from the North, decided they wanted to attend a Negro church service. This they did last Sunday evening.

Now it is the custom in Negro churches to ask if there is anyone in the congregation who wishes to add anything to the sermon, especially if "white folks" are present. The good professor assented readily to this request, and the trouble started. Mrs. Farinholt, not liking the idea at all, kicked him in the shin, but he went bravely on, it being too late to back out.

He came out very well, he says, drawing several "amens" and "praise de Lords" from the congregation.

## Henry Spira Talks to IRC On Germany

"The whole war situation in Germany will break down as soon as the German people get tired of fighting," Henry Spira, Austrian refugee student, said Tuesday night in a speech to the International Relations club.

Spira spoke on the war events of both the past and present in Germany, the spirit of the German people, and the history of Germany.

"The German people did not want to go to war," he declared. "The power policy of Hitler drew them into war, and once they were in it, they were obedient," he went on.

Spira pointed out that the result of the war depended entirely upon the spirit of the German people. He also told of the German attitude toward Hitler. In conclusion Spira gave some of his own observations of the outcome of the war.

Dr. Fritz Redlich, head of Mercer's economic department, will speak before members of the club on Feb. 24, Carroll Hendrick, president of the organization, said.

## Honor Fraternity Puts off Initiation

Phi Eta Sigma's have postponed the initiation of Frederic Marshall until spring quarter.

Marshall was the only freshman who made three A's last quarter, thereby being the only man eligible for induction into the honorary freshman scholastic fraternity.

Owing to the possibility that more men may become eligible for Phi Eta Sigma at the end of winter quarter, the members of the fraternity agreed last Tuesday night that Marshall's initiation be put off until the next Dean's list is posted.

## Drop in College Attendance Seen

CINCINNATI, OHIO—(ACP)—In spite of a slight increase in total enrollments in the nation's colleges and universities during 1940, Dr. Raymond Walters, president of the University of Cincinnati, predicts a marked attendance drop in future years.

Dr. Walters, a recognized leader in the field of college attendance statistics, bases his forecast on the fact that freshman enrollments decreased 2 per cent in 1940. He feels this decrease is the forerunner of a trend.

The freshman enrollment decrease, says Dr. Walters, should warn educators that universities in the future will have fewer prospective students because of more stringent immigration regulations and a decline in the nation's birth rate.

A reporter estimates Dartmouth pin-ball players shoot 8,000,000 balls a year.

## Dramatic Frat At Last Will Present Wilde Play

An Ideal Husband, by Oscar Wilde, is the play selected for production early in the spring quarter by Alpha Psi Omega, dramatic fraternity. It is a smart, witty, sometimes cynical comedy of society, placed in England.

The selection was made by a committee composed of John Couric, Lamar Sizemore, and Mary Emma Benton, honorary member.

The casting committee, composed of John Couric, chairman, and Cloud Morgan, Bill Latta, Marjorie Hughes, Albert Henderson and Virginia Fincher, plan to call upon experienced people, both for acting parts and production duties.

#### Some-Non-Alpha Psi Roles

The play calls for more than 12 acting parts, and occasionally need will arise, for which there is no Alpha Psi Omega talent. Students for these parts will be selected by a talent committee headed by Nat Kaderly, president of the fraternity.

Stage-craft has already been started by a committee headed by Harold Hollingsworth, with John Couric, Ed Dorsey, Hillis Hollingsworth and Nat Kaderly.

Expense of the production has been taken over by a finance committee, headed by Bill Latta, secretary-treasurer of the organization, with Florence Abel, Jeanette Blanks and Nelloise Johnson assisting.

Dr. Wilbur Stout, dramatics director, will be in charge of the production.

Playbooks have been distributed, and rehearsals will begin early next week.

## Venom Costly, Alembics Hear

Snake venom, more precious than gold, costs approximately \$84 an ounce, according to Dan Reed, speaker at last Tuesday's meeting of the Alembic club.

Reed, a pre-med student, spoke about poisonous snakes, their living habits and methods of attack. He also gave some pointers on the treatment of snake bites.

The speaker has for the past year been engaged in laboratory research with poisonous reptiles.

President Carter Hill announced that the next meeting of the club would be presented by the Physics department.

Tuesday's meeting was attended by some 20 members.

## Dr. Tribble . . .

Continued from page 1  
forum type in which all students may participate. From 7:30 to 8:30 Dr. Tribble will conduct the forums in Willingham chapel.

#### Students May Talk Privately

In addition to the regular program, Dr. Tribble will hold private discussions with students every morning from 11:30 to 1:30 in the Theology building. Appointments may be made with the speaker if the hours are too crowded for convenience, it was explained.

The object of Religious Emphasis week is to prove that religion is practical in everyday life, according to Gainer Bryan, BSU president.

During the week, full cooperation is expected of both the students and faculty in the effort to carry the benefits of the week to everyone, officials in charge said.

## Long Sought Walk Is Finally Begun

Eldridge Durcan's brick-laying project has brought results. Yesterday morning campus workmen broke the ground around the student-erected sidewalk from Roberts hall to the Co-op, preparatory to removing the bricks already laid and grading the foundation of the walk.

The sidewalk, which has been in the process of getting started for the last four years, is about to become a reality sponsored by the administration.

## Co-eds Hear Miss Crowder

Color tests in clothing featured Miss Louise Crowder's talk last night at the co-ed Personal Relations forum.

Miss Crowder of GSCW is in charge of the Vinson Home Management house at the Milledgeville normal college.

The forum, sponsored by Kappa Delta Epsilon and Cardinal Key, was held in the Ciceronian society room. Ruth Smith, president of both sororities, announced that in the future meetings would be held in the Ciceronian room instead of the parlors of Mary Porter hall.

## Social Fraternities Aid Polio Fund

Response from Mercer's social fraternities to the March of Dimes infantile paralysis fund was fairly good, according to Prof. L. W. Farinholt. All fraternities except two answered letters.

"All fraternities except Kappa Alpha and Pi Kappa Alpha responded to the drive," said Prof. Farinholt. "These did not respond to letters, prayers or requests for information."

"I am frightfully disappointed that the polio campaign was received so poorly by the student body as represented by these two organizations," he added.

## Forestry Students Help Produce School Paper

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (ACP)—Forestry and journalism students cooperated in producing a recent issue of the Daily Orange, undergraduate newspaper at Syracuse university.

The paper stock was made from pine trees planted 25 years ago by students of a New York school.

For Hose, Shoes, Bags  
TRY  
Burns Boot Shoppe  
"On The Footwear Corner"  
Third and Cherry

CLOTHES  
Devoted to the Whims of the Smart  
MERCER CO-ED  
GOLDMAN'S  
572 Cherry Street

"fresh up" 7UP  
with

## Debaters Will Begin Season With Dayton

Mercer debaters will begin their season March 3 when they meet the University of Dayton in Willingham chapel.

Other big debates scheduled on the campus include New York university and Tulane. Nine debates will be held here, and the only out of town engagement will be in Atlanta with Emory university.

The following schedule has been announced by Dean Clark: University of Dayton, March 3; Emory at Oxford, March 6; New York university, the first or second week in March; Tulane university, March 11; GSCW, March 22; Emory University, May 3; and Emory Junior college, May 7.

Dates for the engagements with Middle Georgia college and Oglethorpe university have not been set.

## Pome Fruit

### Honor Apples Are On Sale at Co-op

Nice big red apples for sale—honor apples!

Mercer's Blue Key men have inaugurated a novel method of making money—as far as this campus is concerned—and, at the same time, are putting Mercer students on their honor.

Conspicuous at the student Co-op this week is the box of fleshy, red, edible pome fruit; and the price of each apple is five cents, one-twentieth of a dollar.

The purchases are transacted as follows: members of the Mercer family walk up to the box of apples, after being attracted in that direction by a sign advertising the "honor apples." Selecting one, the student digs into his jeans and drops a nickel into a cigar box—the cash register. And he is completely honor bound not to walk away with the apple unless the necessary five cents has been deposited.

By Co-op closing time on the first day of the sale, every single apple had been bought, and the previously mentioned cigar box was jingling pleasantly.

Rensselaer Polytechnic institute is planning to build an astronomical observatory.

GOOD FOOD  
FROSTED MALTEDS  
SUNSHINE GRILL AND  
CREAMERY  
Forsyth Street