

THE MERCER CLUSTER

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EDITORIAL

Get the Most Out of Your Stay at Mercer, Freshmen

To you who have chosen to make Mercer your Alma Mater this year, the university offers opportunities in varied fields outside the classroom. Obviously your intention in coming here is to get an education, but it is a narrow-minded individual indeed who confines his broadening to his books.

Those students who get the most out of campus life are those who put the most into it; even in college one soon learns that only rarely does anybody get something for nothing.

So if you can sing, why not join the glee club? Your enthusiasm and support can make the club an organization from which enjoyment and instruction can be derived, and a paying advertisement for the school. In the International Relations club, you can keep abreast of what's going on off the campus by hearing qualified speakers on those subjects on which any wide-awake person wants to be informed, and entering discussions from which you are bound to benefit intellectually.

The Ciceronian Literary society offers opportunities for extemporaneous debates on serious and comic questions, and the Debaters club gives a splendid chance to develop forensic abilities. The religious organizations can fill the spiritual needs the college student is all too likely to ignore.

Of course, these organizations will not function unless you want them to; they are of the students and by the students, and it is your responsibility to give them a purpose, as well as your privilege to benefit from them.

Get into the swing of things as soon as possible. Those who have been here before want to help you to become a part of Mercer. Speak to everybody and make liberal use of your smile, and you'll find that every member of the student body is your friend.

Best of luck!

New Physical Education Set-up to Benefit Students

Mercer's much-laughed-at physical education department will be no laughing matter this year. Apparatus has been set up in the gym and a definite program is arranged.

In order to explain more fully the set-up and the benefits to be derived from the new program, Dr. Dowell has asked Jim Barfield to write a number of articles explaining the system. His first article entitled Healthful Living With Jim Barfield will be found on this page.

The exact number of articles Jim will write is not known yet, but for several weeks his column will be found on the editorial page of The Cluster. It will pay every student to read these articles and determine how the program will best benefit him. Incidentally, two quarters of physical education are required for graduation.

Editor Will be Appointed Next Week to Run Cluster

The staff of The Cluster once again asks the student body to be patient and not criticize too severely. Our editor, Mary Halliburton, failed to return to school this quarter and we had to put out the paper this week with very little help.

A new editor will be appointed in a few days and when the staff is set, we will put out a good paper again. Until then all we can do is ask you to be patient and you will soon have an improved paper. We promise you that.

Filling Up Space With the Editor

Mercer opened for business again this week at the same old stand, but with many new faces noticeable. The most welcome new faces were those of the new girl students, while there were also a few new members of the faculty. Many and varied were the comments on the new crop of freshmen. The same old comments such as "they don't look good to me," "wonder if any of them are worth rushing?" and "the freshman class gets worse every year" were to be heard as usual. Many of the boys wanted to know "where are all those cute girls I have heard about?" If they will just look around they will see that there are a number of "cute" girls available. All in all the start of school this year was much the same as in former years with a number of new girls added for good measure.

ALL DAY AFFAIR

One of the most frequent gripes heard at the beginning of any quarter is the fact that it takes so long to get registered. One has to stand in line all morning or all afternoon in order to get the privilege of paying the school some money. It seems that something could be done to speed up the process of registering.

POOR GIRLS

Loud squawks are being heard from sorority girls who are complaining that the fraternities completely ignored them when they prepared their rules for rushing. This resulted in a couple of conflicts which seem to be worrying the sorority girls more than the boys. The girls complain that six fraternities cannot ignore two sororities in planning rushing, to which the boys reply "Oh Yeah?"

CONGRATS

Congratulations are in order for Dean Knight who succeeds Dean Clark as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Dr. Clark resigned in order to devote more time to his teaching duties. Dr. Wilbur Stout has left to go to Virginia Polytechnic Institute. This seems to leave the Mercer players holding the bag so to speak. We sincerely hope the administration will get someone to take over the promotion of plays at Mercer. This is one feature that definitely should not be dropped.

Healthful Living With Jim Barfield

Everyone who attended the inauguration of Mercer's new athletic set-up last year well remembers much talk about a new emphasis on physical education for the average student who, for one reason or another, wished to exercise, but not through the channels of football and basketball. This step was destined to begin a new era to all branches of athletics at Mercer.

Due to poor school spirit and much faulty propaganda, many students were led to believe our new physical education program was just a joke and would prove to be of no avail. Therefore, I am taking this opportunity to refute any thought or action which would tend to belittle our athletic set-up.

Beginning Monday, every freshman and sophomore will have the chance to attend physical education classes in a well equipped, up-to-date gymnasium, so arranged as to take care of every type of physique. Also, a special afternoon class will begin for all students who wish individual consultation and remedial exercises. (More details concerning the afternoon class will be given later).

Coaches Hooks, Smith, and I have had much experience in body-building work, plus considerable study of the human body. Our program will be so arranged as to let each student, regardless of size or condition, participate in the type of exercise which is best suited for his or her physique. Every human body is different, thus should be treated in the light of the difference. Common sense will tell us that it is futile to throw twenty-five or fifty students together, regardless of physical differences, give them the same type of exercise, and expect ideal results. It just doesn't come that easy. This system was tried in the past and failed miserably.

Realizing that full cooperation is necessary in order for our program to successfully achieve its purpose, we are asking for the full support of each student and faculty member at Mercer. Walk by the gym and take a look at the muscle-building apparatus in our down stairs health club. Row on the rowing machine and feel those back and arm muscles grow. Let's not only make Mercer the greatest school, but also the **HEALTHIEST** school in America.

KNeeling at The Keyhole

WITH EVELYN

Hello, Freshmen, and all newcomers. Glad to have you with us, and want you to meet your new folks. Freshmen—and all newcomers—I give you Papa Dowell, and Mother Hubbard. Be polite to your papa, and tactful to your mother. "She" wears the financial pants in this family—also the cute hats.

Rules for Freshmen (and all newcomers)

1. Watch out for politicians
2. Girls are rushed by Sororities
3. Boys are rushed by Fraternities
4. Watch out for politicians

As for fraternities, (and incidentally sororities. Yes, boys, there are still girls on this campus—though Ed Dorsey and a few of his cohorts don't seem to realize this. Afraid of losing some of those summer rushees?), suffice it to say that they are all having parties, FOOD; rushees, and evil and suspicious thoughts about one another.

The sororities are finally installed (after much pleading, cajoling, and sitting on Mother Hubbard's knee) in their new suites, from which they thumb their noses at each other. And the fraternities are installed in everything from a filling station to an antique shoppe.

By the way, we're glad to see the SAE's intend to carry on in spite of Ickes.

Congratulations, Jim Barfield, and welcome to the Mrs. Her hair certainly gives a glorious touch of color to Hubbard's Emporium.

Now for the topic that should be uppermost in everyone's mind; a topic that, even at this point, should be competing with that of rushing.

One week from tomorrow the University of Georgia, in a benign spirit of patronage (and possibly for the gate receipts) has consented to come and show Mercer how to play football. Sort of a practice game, understand?

Now yours truly admits to knowing nothing about the technicalities of football, not ever having really played the game seriously.

But just suppose, in a spirit of conjecture, that Sinkwitch (?) were to be called to defend his native country; that a couple of other members of the Georgia team were to get too overconfident; that the Mercer team, in a sudden burst of energy, speed, or whatever it takes, were to—Well suppose we beat Georgia by one point.

Think of the consequences! Picture Macon! Imagine Athens!!

Some of you don't remember Georgia's Stop-Watch Formation of a couple of years back. Nor have you had one of the Bulldogs smile condescendingly and say "Mercer never has beat Georgia. It never will."

But we have. And if we thought it would help, we would gather up a few of our huskier friends and go out for cheer-leading.

So go watch the boys practice. Let them know they have your support. And when next Saturday comes, don't, don't feel that it's "high-schoolish" to yell like—the dickens.

Val Sheridan, one of the freshmen, was considered the best cheerleader at Lanier last year. And Doris McCamey—female freshman—was the drum majorette in the Mercer-P. C. game at Albany last year.

Couldn't these two be used in the forthcoming game?

By the way, we understand there's to be a big dance Saturday night after the game. Did someone say Charlie Spivak's orchestra?

Dr. Dowell Welcomes the Freshman Class of 1941

A message from President Spright Dowell to the Freshmen:

"I would like for each freshman to feel that he is a welcome member of our Mercer family. I want him to feel free to come to any of us here for advice or assistance in getting adjusted and feeling at home.

"The first year is the most difficult. If you get off to a good start the other years flow by easily, but if you get a bad start, you may get all mixed up. So develop a friendly, wholesome attitude, and feel at ease as one of our Mercer family."