

Founders' Day Ceremonies Marked by Establishment New School of Christianity

**Dr. Dowell Announces New School
Will Be Ready to Operate by September**

Founders' Day exercises were held in Willingham Chapel on January 14, 1945. Dr. Spright Dowell, president of Mercer made the opening remarks and presented Dr. J. C. Wilkinson, pastor of The First Baptist Church of Athens and president of the Georgia Baptist Convention, who introduced the main speaker, Dr. Solon B. Cousins of the University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia.

William R. Curry Gives \$100,000 To Endowment Fund

A gift of \$100,000 to Mercer University's endowment fund by Mr. William Riley Curry of Shellman, Georgia, was announced recently by Dr. Spright Dowell.

The donation assures full success, Dr. Dowell said, of a campaign for one million dollars of new endowment begun last year. By decision of the Mercer board of trustees it will be used to establish a chair to be called the Curry Chair of Christianity.

A businessman, farmer, and bank president, Mr. Curry was reared near Shellman and has lived there since early manhood. He has made important gifts to the First Baptist Church of Shellman, of which he is a leading lay member, and to various religious and charitable enterprises in Shellman and Randolph county. In making the gift Mr. Curry said, "I am happy to make this gift in appreciation of the Lord's blessings to me, and because of my deep interest in Mercer University and its program of Christian education for laymen and ministers."

Receipt of the fund makes available the income from more than half a million dollars for use in developing a School of Christianity at Mercer, President Dowell pointed out.

Miss Mercer Judge Announced

The judge for Miss Mercer Contest, which is being sponsored by the Cauldron, was announced today. He is Theodore Hartley, editor of the Log, the official magazine publication of the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis. Jeanne Hendrix, Cauldron editor, said that Midshipman Hartley was selected as judge in keeping with the naval theme of the 1945 yearbook.

Tentative plans include the featuring of the beauties selected in an issue of the Log. Midshipman Hartley stated that in addition to photographs, there will also be a short writeup about each girl chosen.

All men on the campus are urged to submit pictures before the time expires. Due to the new plans, the deadline has been extended to February 10, 1945.

Dr. Cousins speaking on the subject "The Crisis of Christian Education", said that every denominational college is now facing a crisis of Christian Education; crisis caused by the lessening loyalties of denominations concerning their colleges. He continued by saying that financial problems have caused the funeral of many denominational colleges. Dr. Cousins stated in conclusion that Baptist schools in the South have suffered because Southern Baptists are not mindful enough of Christian Education.

In connection with Dr. Cousins' address and concerning Mercer Dr. Dowell made two important announcements. The first was that after all pledges were collected Mercer's Endowment Fund Campaign would be successfully completed. The second, was that Columbus Roberts, Sr., a great benefactor of Mercer, had given \$400,000 additional to Mercer with which to establish a School of Christianity. This \$400,000 will be used to endow four chairs in the school of Christianity; one each for Columbus Roberts, Sr., his wife, his father and his mother. The present Department of Christianity contains only three chairs, but the new School of Christianity will contain from six to eight chairs each endowed by \$100,000.

Dr. Hansford Johnson, present head of the Christianity Department will be the Dean of the School of Christianity which will begin operation in September 1945. Dr. Johnson is a graduate of Mercer and Newton Theological Seminary, Boston, Massachusetts. He was pastor of the Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky for ten years.

Under the able leadership of Dr. Johnson this School of Christianity should be a great success. In the words of Dr. Dowell it should be, "Fit to give the South a better Christian Minister."

Reading Room Dedication Planned

The opening date for the new reading room in the Hardman Library will be January 31 according to Mr. Charles H. Stone, Mercer librarian. Mr. Stone said that in honor of the occasion a reception will be held in the new room from 4:30 to 5:30.

The hours for the open shelf reading room were given as 10 o'clock to 11 o'clock in the morning. Afternoon hours will be from 3:30 to 4:30. It was said that a schedule will be arranged later for night work.

Mr. Stone expressed the hope
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Blue Key Initiates Five New Members

The Mercer University chapter of Blue Key honor fraternity recently held initiation ceremonies for four outstanding Mercerians. Lt. R. G. Matheson, Bill Robison, Nathan Byrd and Sanford Mullen were the men honored. Lt. Matheson, commanding officer of the local V-12 unit, became an honorary member, while the other three, members of the student body, joined the active ranks of the organization.

The initiation was followed by a banquet at the New Yorker restaurant. Dr. Josiah Crudup, faculty advisor for Blue Key and professor of physics, was speaker for the evening. Dr. Crudup stressed the important part that leaders, such as Blue Key men, must play if the United States is going to do its share in keeping the world free.

Malcolm Lester, president of the fraternity, introduced the faculty members of Blue Key and welcomed their wives and the dates of the active members.

Blue Key fraternity is popularly conceded to be the outstanding organization on the campus. The prime object of the fraternity is service and only those men who have proved themselves to be willing to work for the good of Mercer are considered for membership.

NEW DATE SET FOR ALPHA DELTA PI'S WINTER CARNIVAL

February 9 has been chosen as the new date for the presentation of the Alpha Delta Pi Winter Carnival, according to Jane Goolsby, director of the program. The Carnival will be staged in the co-op and will begin at 8 o'clock. Tickets for the occasion may be secured from any member of the sorority.

Phi Eta Sigma Initiates Outstanding Freshmen

The first formal initiation of the academic year for the Mercer chapter of Phi Eta Sigma, National Freshman Honor Scholastic Fraternity, took place in the Administration Building on Tuesday night, January 16, 1945. The four freshmen initiated were Stanley Stinson, Thomas Frank, Stephen Profilet and Ralph Newton. Stinson and Newton are both from Macon, while Frank and Profilet are assigned to the Navy Unit here, both hailing from Illinois. Following the initiation the members were treated to a banquet at the New Yorker Cafe with Dr. John Carter Mathews, newly elected history department head, as principal speaker.

The old members who attended the initiation and banquet are David Griffin, current president, Malcolm Lester, and Hubert Blakey. Also present was Dean Knight, honorary member and faculty advisor. Those active
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Chester E. Swor Leads Observance of Religious Emphasis Week Here

**Noted Lecturer and Religious Leader
Secured to Conduct Week's Program**

Mercer students this week are fortunate in having on the campus Mr. Chester Swor, one of the outstanding personalities in religious circles of the southeast, to lead the school in the observance of Religious Emphasis week. Based on the theme "Since Christ is Lord," the program is so designed that every one can, if he so

desires, meet with discussion and conference groups to discuss specific problems.

Chester Swor received his academic training at Mississippi College, University of North Carolina, Columbia University and New York University. He has also traveled and studied abroad. From 1929 to 1930 he was Professor of Latin and Spanish at Sunflower Junior College. From 1930 to 1942 he was Associate Professor of English and Dean of Men at Mississippi College. He is now engaged in full time lecture work in Churches, schools, and colleges. Mr. Swor is a layman.

The Week's program began Monday in chapel. Beginning this morning from 6:45 to 7:05 morning watch will be held in the Faculty-Trustee room of the Theology Building. Services will be held in the chapel from 12:00 until 12:45. The evening service is from 7:00 to 7:45. A question and answer period will be held each night from 7:45 to 8:15. At 8:30 forums and group conferences will be held. All speaking services will be held in the chapel.

Personal interviews can be had with Mr Swor each morning and afternoon. If you desire an interview contact Bill Smith. The interviews will be held in the Faculty-Trustee room of the Theology Building. The program will end Friday at the chapel period.



CHESTER E. SWOR

Dolores Ward To Play Lead In "Junior Miss"

Rehearsing now for the leading role in the Macon Little Theater's presentation of "Junior Miss", Miss Dolores Ward, Mercer student, will be seen as Judy, an adolescent with a particular knack for getting into difficulties. Although this is the first major part that Miss Ward played, she has been appearing in local dramatic productions for several years, and has played roles in Philadelphia Story, Night Must Fall, Antique Corn, and Echoes.

Miss Margaret Rigby, also a student at Mercer, will do the part of Fluffy, another teen-ager who is Judy's "best friend".

One of the numerous "boy-friends" in the play is to be acted by Troy Ellis, Mercer instructor in Modern languages.

"Junior Miss", a three act comedy, has been a Broadway hit for several seasons. It will be presented in Macon February 6, 7 and 9th at the Little Theater on Ocmulgee Street.

Comic Opera To Be Presented By Mercer Group

The comic opera, "Trial by Jury," by Gilbert and Sullivan, will be presented in a joint production by the Mercer Glee Club and the Mercer Players. A definite date has not been set, but the comic-opera will be given in the latter part of the trimester.

The production will be under the direction of Mrs. Riley B. Plymale, member of the English department, Dr. Arthur Rich, head of the music department and Mr. Charles H. Stone, librarian. After
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Mercer Players Present Play To Large Audience

Friday evening, Feb. 19, in the Willingham Chapel, the Mercer Players presented "Mr. Pim Passes By," a three act play, to an audience of over three hundred people.

The play was under the direction of Mr. Charles Stone, librarian at Mercer University, and Mrs. Riley B. Plymale, faculty advisors of the dramatic club. Miss Anne Giddings of Macon was stage manager of the production.

Charles Evans, a junior from College Park, Georgia gave a splendid performance in the leading role of George Marden. Playing opposite Mr. Evans in the part of Olivia, his wife, was Eleanor Locklin, a freshman of Macon.

Jane Goolsby, a junior of Cuthbert, Georgia, and Howard Womack, a member of the Navy V-12 Unit from Du Quoin, Illinois, furnished the young love interest in the roles of Dinah and Brian Strange.

Lulu Stanford, of Butler, Georgia, enacted the part of George's aunt, Lady Marden. The title role, Mr. Pim, was played by Dupre Jordan of Thomaston, Georgia and Gene Burnette of Camilla, Georgia, played the part of the maid.