

# The Mercer Cluster

Mirror of Students' Thought and Action

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## Dramatic Club Presents 'Our Town' Thursday

### TRUSTEES VOTE TO POSTPONE DECISION ON FOOTBALL QUESTION

With half the student body in attendance as outside observers, the Mercer Board of Trustees met on February 26. An overwhelming majority of the students voted to support, in person, the alumni program of controlled subsidization of Mercer's athletics.

After a brief wait the student committee composed of Student Body President Forrest Lanier, Burt Derieux, Vallusia Anchors, Pat Stockton, Emily Sell, and Irving Hall, was invited into the meeting along with press representatives.

A complete report on all investigations of the football situation at schools, comparable to Mercer, in surrounding states was made. This report was the findings of the special athletic committee headed by Mr. Hugh Hill, prominent and well-liked Macon athletic supporter. As a result of these reports it was clearly shown that, for at least the beginning, subsidized football cost from five to ten thousand dollars over normal football earnings.

After this committee's report the student committee spokesman, Forrest Lanier, explained the students' point of view and desires. Burt Derieux, speaking from the players' standpoint, gave a brief outline of past commitments, to the players and their part in the situation.

At this point a brief intermission was called to invite Coach Bobby Hooks into the meeting to get the coach's point of view. Coach Hook's confirmed his stand for subsidized football as "the only basis for keeping athletics with Mercer tradition and spirit."

The Alumni made its report with Mr. John Bell, former Major in the South Pacific, as the spokesman. Mr. Bell gave a very complete proposal from the Alumni for support of controlled subsidization. He proposed an athletic board composed of twelve men suitable to the Board of Trustees and the administration. This board, working under the leadership of Major General John Hester, U. S. Army retired, would be under the scrutiny of the president of the Institution.

Major General Hester was formerly at Camp Wheeler and went overseas with his division. After much service with this division he returned to the United States and was retired. General Hester holds a law degree from Mercer.

The athletic board would be in charge of organizing and obtaining the cooperation of the entire Mercer Alumni and financing athletics.

Mercer, in return and in support

of this program is requested to offer thirty-three tuition scholarships and its spiritual support in the undertaking.

Mr. Bell stressed the point that not one cent that was not available would be spent.

In the final minutes of the meeting Coach Hooks gave a "coach's view" of the situation and called on a member of the board to give a financial statement of the situation.

Vallusia Anchors then proposed that the student body be asked to pay \$5 to \$10 a year extra to help support football and that the alumni be incorporated or bonded to insure backing of the program.

The visitors were invited to leave at this time and the Trustees proceeded with the voting.

The outcome, though it seemed disappointing shows improvement. The final decision on the situation was postponed until the next Board of Trustees meeting in March or April.

### CARVER EXPLAINS ACTIVITIES FEE

In response to recent inquiries of the students after the fate of their student activity fee, Professor G. L. Carver last week made an announcement and statement concerning this matter.

This fee is included in tuition fees and partially supports student activities. There have been many requests for these figures and they are as follows:

Cauldron	\$1.96%
Cluster	.36%
Medical fee	1.50
Athletics	4.00
Band	.33%
Glee Club	.43%
Literary Societies	.04
Debating	.10
Reserve	.26
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9.00</b>

In the line of general reserve Dramatic Club work is financed and other student activity. Some of these activities are not active at the present time and the money allotted to these organizations is shifted as the committee ascertains its need elsewhere.

### Intra-Mural Basketball



The above picture was taken during the recent intra-mural basketball games. Many students attended each game and supported their respective teams. Many of these games proved exciting, and countless times the spectators were overwhelmed with outstanding playing on the part of several teams. Bill Nee and Andy McKenna were highly praised for their superior officiating of the games. Softball and Ping-pong games are scheduled next for intra-mural competition. Although definite rules and plans have not yet been drawn up, many students have expressed their interest in the future games. Practice has already begun for the ping-pong tournament, several students have shown that real competition will be seen in this series of games.

### Students Begin Life-Saving Course

Wednesday, February 27, eighteen Mercer students began the Red Cross Senior life-saving course at the Wesleyan College pool. Under the direction of Mr. W. G. Taylor, Wesleyan pool and swimming activities supervisor, and instructors, Clifford White and Irving Hall. The swimmers were shown the correct method of strokes and kicks. After successfully performing these basic fundamentals of swimming the students will then progress to other phases of the course, including artificial respiration, proper holds and carries of persons stricken in water, and protection against frantic actions of a drowning person.

To receive the Senior Life Saving certificate, the swimmers must receive sixteen hours instruction, and successfully complete a written examination.

Following the completion of the Senior course will be the Instructor's Preliminary Course which also requires sixteen hours instruction. Tommy Costello, National representative of the Red Cross, will be in Macon from May 5 to the 11 to examine those taking this course. A certificate of Water Safety Instructor is awarded to swimmers who successfully complete this course. The swimmer is then qualified to instruct all classes of swimmers and all phases of Water Safety.

Adequate transportation is furnished by the Red Cross from the Mercer campus to Wesleyan.

The students who are helping themselves and others by becoming better swimmers are "Dubba" Pickron, E. B. Collins, Claudia Lee, Betty Bowen, Betty Allen, Jim Ivey, Hugh Andrews, Pal Skinner, Virginia Howell, Russell McMillan, James Dillard, Mrs. James Wood, Jimmy Wood, Anne Rabun, Sarah Henson, Betty Lewis, Aaron Baker, and Tom Stewart.

### JIM IVEY HEADS NEW B.S.U. COUNCIL

Officers for the B.S.U. Council were elected by all the members of the B.S.U. this past Wednesday afternoon. Some 118 students participated in the election. The new officers are as follows: President, Jim Ivey; 1st Vice-President, Pearl Holmes; 2nd Vice-President, Mary Arnold; 3rd Vice-President, Margaret Garrison, Secretary, Sara Henson; Treasurer, Albert Henry; Extension Director, Paul McCordel; Publicity Director, Dupree Jordan; Chorister, Lewis Smith; Non-Baptist Representative, Hazlehurst Haron; Bus Driver, Ray Tynes; Editor of the Paper, Catherine Holmes; Faculty Adviser, Miss Bates. The vote for pianist was deadlocked between Pal Skinner and Betty Bradley.

All students are urged to attend the Youth Week services now being held at the Vineville Baptist Church and led by Chester Swor. These services will continue through Friday of this week.

Students are also reminded to be preparing for Ridgecrest, June 5-12. The Georgia group will stay at the Boys' Camp and the expenses will not be more than \$13.50 for the week plus transportation. This is probably the most important activity of the B.S.U. during the year and should be well attended by Georgia students, especially those from Mercer.

### EXAMINATION SCHEDULE FOR WINTER QUARTER 1945-'46

Tuesday, March 12th	
8:00 A.M.	Classes meeting at 8:00 A.M.
1:30 A.M.	Classes meeting at 1:30 P.M.
Wednesday, March 13th	
8:00 A.M.	Classes meeting at 9:00 A.M.
1:30 P.M.	Classes meeting at 2:30 P.M.
Thursday, March 14th	
8:00 A.M.	Classes meeting at 10:00 A.M.
1:30 P.M.	Classes meeting at 11:00 A.M.
Lab. Exams to be arranged by instructors.	

### Different Casts Star On Successive Nights

Alpha Psi Omega, in conjunction with the Mercer Players, is sponsoring Thornton Wilder's play "Our Town" Thursday and Friday nights at 8:30 in the Willingham Chapel.

The play will be directed by Miss Burton, assisted by Cornelia Ashley. Different casts will appear on the different nights. The setting of the play is a small New Hampshire town, Grovers Corners, with the first act beginning in 1901. Act two moves from the daily life of the people to the love affair between George and Emily, and is set in 1904. The third act occurs in 1913 and is given in a very sentimental tone, contrasting sharply with the humor of the first two.

The entire play presents a very heart-warming story and should prove quite entertaining for everyone.

### Attics Ransacked For Costume Supply

Attics of students and faculty members have rained many articles of attire upon the costume department of the Dramatic Club during the last few weeks. All unique fashions from high top shoes dating back to the early 20th century donated by Fred Fields to dresses of the "flapper fashions" of the 1920's donated by Miss Pal Skinner have found their "Roosting place" in the Department. Mrs. Nickerson has increased the formal wearing apparel with an evening dress and shoes.

Miss Elizabeth Pickron, President of the Club, has given much time and effort to this clothes collecting campaign and the array is growing day by day. Many valuable articles have been obtained through the special efforts of Miss Nat Blossom and Miss Nancy Neal.

The increased interest in dramatics due largely to Miss Vivian Burton, head of the Speech department, is causing the club to show promising results. The future looks bright so if you want to get in the lime light, dust the cobwebs off those old trunks in the attic next time you are home and see how many old buttons, laces, or any variety of trimmings, hats, shoes, gloves... anything that is wearable... you can find, and help them find their way to the Green Room. No matter how minute the item, there'll be a place for them behind the footlights of the future.

### Dean Announces Refresher Class

After getting a good view and two quarters to study the serviceman college readjustment problems, Dean Otis Knight stated that Math seems to be the stumbling block for the average.

Those who spent five years learning to storm a beach head or fire a gun had little use for logarithms and mathematical functions.

In answer to these men's

queries on the subject, Dean Knight proposes to start a refresher class of basic mathematical functions for anyone needing it. This class will meet at a time convenient to its members and will be outside of regular class work.

Many have announced their intentions to attend such classes and all others interested are requested to see Dean Knight as soon as possible.