

# The Mercer Cluster

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## HELP OFFERED TO ALL VETERANS BY MERCER GUIDANCE CENTER WHY BE FAILURES!

By Abe Crosby

The world is full of illustrations of men who have defied the bogey of old age or lack of opportunities during early life. Cato mastered Greek at 65 or more. Gladstone died at 86 with his intellectual power unimpaired—actually more intelligent than most men at 36. A former student of the University of Kansas went back in 1923, fifty years after his graduation and received his diploma with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Plenty of men in middle life are out of jobs and become discouraged, because they have no idea or courage to try a new vocation. They say they are too old to help themselves out of the impasse. The plain truth is, they were never in their right vocation to begin with. And facts as now obtained in the various college and university Guidance Centers bear this out.

How often a woman untrained for business becomes discouraged with job hunting if her husband's death or some other catastrophe forces her to become self supporting at 40. She should apply for Vocational Counseling and train herself as the young woman of 20 does. She should, for example, determine what her aptitudes, abilities and interests are and take a course with real enthusiasm according to the Counselor's findings.

One outcome of World War II is, the experiments which led to the establishments of the university and college Guidance Centers. There are approximately 180 such centers throughout America.

Through the work of these centers we are learning that there is practically no course which the average person of intelligence cannot master, if he has the aptitudes and interests for such course. Our experiences obtained here at Mercer's Guidance Center—established August 1st, 1945, bear this statement to be very true. We are also of the opinion that too few students and GI's are taking the advantage before them to learn of their best opportunities and possibilities. Facts indicate that students are bewailing their lack of success because they haven't the moral fiber to pull their boot-strings out of their doldrums and take a turn-about face, as it were, and let a guidance procedure steer them into their right, and rightful training program.

Two few students realize that

success is like a prize contest; if you don't follow the rules, you cannot win; if you do follow them you may win. In addition to the rules there are intangibles, such as their own innate talents—interests, aptitudes—abilities, physical stamina, emotional balance, keenness of competition and countless other factors which the Personnel and Vocational Counselor will take into consideration when carrying you through the guidance procedure.

As concrete example, John Von Leimpd, now an Art student at Mercer, came to the Guidance Center last December. John came to America when still in his teens. His parents were college trained in their native country, Holland. But his father found little opportunities as an engineer, so came to Canada in search of wider fields of possibilities. John came along. As result he landed in the American forces during War II which entitled him to the guidance procedure.

John had problems confronting him on that December day, upon his arrival at Mercer. His age! His wife and baby! His 110 acre farm located at Lizelal. These had to be considered by his counselor.

Through the counseling procedure John learned that his greatest possibilities were not as a farmer, not as an Engineer, even though he had ideas of profiting through engineering courses and prospects of greater opportunities that his good father had missed. John's counselor found that he had artistic aptitudes and interests. He found that John had the abilities to succeed with college training for an artistic career. He found that, even though John had only completed the 8th grade in school, he had acquired considerable information and knowledge—possibly through reading and other sources. The counselor found that John's General Educational Development scores were far above those often made by high school graduates. Because of these findings John was advised to take a course at Mercer and prepare himself for the teaching of art.

He was told that in order to qualify for teaching he would have to complete certain courses in the sciences, English, history and other allied subjects along with his art courses. Now that John has completed his first quarter—having entered last January—his grades are B average. He likes his professors.

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## ELECTED TO HEAD MERCER STUDENTS



CLOUD MORGAN

## Football Attitude Aired by School

The chorus of protests by the student body and people of Macon in outright denunciation of the "no football" policy of the university has long begged an explanation. The Cluster has gathered the facts and presents them in the hope that they will serve to clarify the situation.

Mercer had a football team prior to 1942. Why has the game not been re-instated since the ending of the war? With this question the administration pointed to the record. Here is a picture of the football situation. (Figures quoted were taken from the 1933-1941 issues of the Telegraph, 1933-42 editions of the Cauldron, and from figures released by the administration to the Cluster for publication.)

In 1933 Lake Russell was head coach. Joe Popeko, "Swede" Olson, "Red" Camp and Tom Porter—all importations from Ohio and Texas—played on a team that had as its opponents: Army, Navy and Georgia. (Just for the record, Army won 19-6; Navy, 25-6, and Georgia, 13-12.) A "big time" schedule like that costs money; \$30,000 was pledged to subsidize the team for a year, \$19,000 was collected. The \$11,000 deficit was paid out of university funds.

Game attendance and gate receipts were low; they remained so even in 1941. Bobby Norris, sports editor of the Telegraph, had this to say about the poor support Mercer teams received in his column of November 4, 1934: "As a result of the poor crowd Friday—(Mercer had defeated Washington and Jefferson of Washington, Pa., 30-7) 920 paid admissions—Macon might lose the Mercer football team. The expenses of the game ran above \$3,000; the gate receipts totaled precisely \$726. It doesn't take a mental marvel to figure that out."

"I have it on good authority that the burned-up (and they've got a right to be burned-up!) members of the athletic board will assemble in secret session this afternoon. At this time the matter will be settled—whether Macon will see the Bears once at home (Mercer played about 3 home games a season—Ed.), or not at all. The team cannot be maintained with everything going out and nothing coming in."

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## NAVAL RESERVES OPEN TO ALL MERCER VETS

### Pay Equal to That Of Discharge Rate

Mercer students may add to their funds or to their subsistence under the "GI Bill" without affecting any of their privileges by becoming a member of Macon's Organized Naval Reserve. Mercer graduates may apply for commissions as officers in the Inactive Naval Reserve.

The Naval Reserve is open to veterans and non-veterans between the ages of 17 and 40. Navy and Coast Guard veterans will be enrolled at the rating held when discharged. Veterans of the other armed services, in certain groups, will be enrolled in a Navy rating equivalent to that held at time of their discharge.

Building 106—a splendid brick and steel structure—entirely air-conditioned—at the Naval Ordnance Plant has been designated, U. S. Naval Reserve Armory, Macon, Georgia. Here, instruction in the maintenance, repair and operation of radar, radio electrical equipment, machine tools, and Diesel engines will be given on modern operational equipment. Local Reservists will have access to the swimming pool, tennis courts, and many other types of athletic equipment.

Meetings are scheduled one evening each week to last about one hour and a half and will consist of classroom lectures and practical instruction on the various equipment installed at the Armory.

For attendance at each meeting of the Organized Reserve members will receive one full day's pay of their respective Navy rating. The pay scale per meeting will range from \$2.50, for students with no previous military experience, to \$5.50 for those with considerable experience. In addition, once each year each member is entitled to re-

quest, at a time most convenient for himself, a two weeks training cruise on board a Naval ship or shore station with full pay and all allowances to which his rating is entitled. All time in the Naval Reserve, whether active or inactive, will count for longevity and retirement in the event of future service.

Regular attendance at weekly training meetings, annual participation in a cruise, and demonstration of practical proficiency in the various types of specialized training offered make all members eligible for advancement in rating up to Chief Petty Officer.

Uniforms will be provided members of the Organized Reserve at Navy expense and an individual locker will be available for storage of clothing and personal effects. Uniforms will be worn only while at regular meetings.

Those unable to attend weekly meetings may enroll in the Inactive Naval Reserve. Inactive members will attend no meetings. Nevertheless, they will retain the highest rating held during the war and accrue longevity. They may request a two week training cruise annually.

Only a National Emergency or a War declared by Congress and the President can call a Reservist to Active duty in the Navy. Attendance at weekly meeting and participation in the annual cruise is entirely voluntary. A member may resign from the organized group or request a discharge from the entire Naval Reserve at any time.

Veterans bring Army discharge or Navy discharge and Notice of Separation. Others bring your birth certificate to Room 206, Post Office Building. Photostatic copies will be adequate.

There is a spot in Macon's Naval Reserve for you.

## NEW POINT SYSTEM IS BEING MADE AS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

The following is a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Mercer Student Body, to wit:

### Point System

Part I—Restriction of students participation in extra-curricular activities.

1. Each student at Mercer University is urged to select from the various campus organizations one activity which is of special interest to him (or her).

2. No student may actively participate in more than five organizations at any time or in any scholastic year.

3. No student may hold more than one major office and two minor offices at any one time.

4. A major office shall be defined as the Presidency or head of any organization or activity and the position of Business Manager of any of the campus publications.

A minor office shall be defined as any other office in any organization or activity not classified as a major office.

5. Any student not maintaining an average grade of "C" for any quarter may be compelled to withdraw

from all extra-curricular activity and at the same time resign any or all offices held until such time as his (or her) scholastic average shall be raised to "C" or better.

Part II—Tabulation of Individual Activity

1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Student Body to keep a file containing an activity card for each student in a centrally located place. On these cards shall appear the current activities of each student with the offices held, if any.

2. No organization may elect officers without first submitting a list of nominations to the Secretary of the Student Body in order that the nominees may be approved as eligible to hold office (refer to part I sub-head 3).

3. Should any person at any time be participating in more than the maximum number of activities or should any person at any time hold more than the maximum number of offices, it shall be the duty of the Student Government to see that adjustment is made (refer to Part I, sub-heads 2 and 3).

## 'M' CLUB TO REORGANIZE FOREIGN LETTERS BANNED

A meeting of the remaining members of the pre war "M" Club was attended Monday April 21, and plans were discussed for the immediate reactivation of the organization.

Harold Shepard, pre war president, bringing up the business that is pressing at the moment. One of the most prominent subjects discussed was the wearing of high school and other college letters on the Mercer Campus. This will stop immediately in all due respect to varsity members and the school. This practice will not be continued.

Friday morning has been set as the date to initiate the twelve new members of the basketball squad

into the organization. They will take the responsibility of promoting school spirit and interest in collegiate and intramural sports.

The old members are Harold Shepard, Speck Landrum, Elton Wall, Bill Nee, Clarence Boynton, Gene Brundage, Bob Holt and Johnny Mattox.

The initiates are Tom Dykes, Cochran; Bill Shiton, Macon; Bob Pender, Greenwood, Fla.; Glenn Wilkes, Eatonton; Jess Glodser, Saguas, Calif.; Bob Shuler, Griffin; Mays Dobbins, Savannah; Pete Stewart, Macon; Hugh Snow, Dodson, N. C.; Gidton Dial, Monroe; Raiford Flanders, Warner Robins; L. W. Parr, Damascus; and Mullis Whisart, Waverly Hall.