

# THE EDITORS SPEAK

## College Idealism!

The false idea that a college education is for the purpose of producing nimble feet in the race for material gain is still prevalent among many students.

Often we hear men say, "That's fine! Go to college. If I had a college degree, I could double my salary." This limited conception of the noble aim of college training is deeply rooted in far too many of us.

Yet, due to its insidious influence, many a student has had an otherwise broad outlook narrowed to the circumscribed area of a silver dollar. Earthly wealth—is that our goal? Even among some ministerial students, "souls, salvation, and salary" have been united into a single phrase.

Idealism—that is the objective in view. College training should enoble and elevate the yearnings of the human heart, purify the spirit of its desire for worldly possessions, and give each of us an impetus toward ultimate perfection.

Are college men to stoop for the golden apples, forgetting their ultimate goal? In our haste to master what is mercenary, are we to ignore the beautiful, the spiritual, the sublime?

Let us seek for that which will expand. Let commercialism, materialism and their allies be made subservient to the great college spirit of idealism.

## SAVE 'LUCY'

Challenging all students is the appeal being made by the B.S.U. in an effort to complete payments on "Lucy." Few people indeed would sit by and permit a young lady as indispensable and important to campus life as "Lucy" to cry and let this cry go unheeded. This is exactly why the B.S.U. feels confident that the students will wholeheartedly contribute to the "Lucy Drive" currently underway.

"Lucy," one of Mercer's most dependable gals, has taken students to retreats, to Ridgecrest, on deputations to the uttermost parts of Georgia, to socials, and on many other trips too numerous to mention. She symbolizes a spirit of willingness to do whatever her students wish. Moreover, she is still

available for all groups that wish to use her for religious purposes.

The purpose of the drive, which begins Feb. 1, according to Henry Durham, Director of the "Lucy" Drive, is to encourage each Mercerian to contribute a \$1.00 for this cause. If this debt of almost \$800 is paid now, the B.S.U. will be able to concentrate on more socials and religious events for the entire campus. Furthermore, a great deal of interest will be saved.

Plans are being made to burn the mortgage papers at the annual B.S.U. Sweetheart Banquet, February 13. When you are approached by one of the members of the Lucy Drive committee, please remember that you will be having a big part in the liquidation of this debt, if you contribute. Don't forget, spend a dollar; save LUCY!

## CHAPEL TALK

by Bob Gardner

Tuesday noon of last week there was a marriage held in the chapel—act one of a two-act drama. For many of the more intrepid ones, and their followers, the "I do's" and the "I pronounce thee..." were the end—the curtain fell and the last ten rows of the chapel left. No doubt the other rows were envious; they didn't have a chance to leave.

Now, that particular student performance was no more than a type of other such affairs; the responsible organization isn't being "cussed out." Nor is the chapel committee of the student government. The question of "who's to condemn" or "who's to commend" isn't being considered at all.

The question is, why put up with such stuff so consistently?

Week in and week out, 600 man hours are spent watching a thing that can't even be slept through.

Once in a while something clever is put on, but the space between has, to date, been mighty long and tiresome.

It is recognized, however, that some folks enjoy student chapel, and adverse criticism would therefore not be in order. To continue them would surely be profitable to some, and, consequently, advisable. But, I suspect, a great many consider the time well wasted.

And so—and now I'm merely thinking out loud, and probably vainly—why not leave off the seat checking for student chapel? To continue checking for faculty chapel seems all right; they have proved themselves generally beneficial. But if the powers have found it expedient to allow student-sponsored chapels, why won't they allow us to support them voluntarily—as we see fit? And as we see them fit?

## How Joe College Looks To . . .



JIM COWAN

## INTRA-MURAL BASKETBALL

One of the highlights of a Mercer student's campus life is intra-mural sports. The current intra-mural basketball tournament is drawing to the gymnasium each evening, Monday through Thursday, a number of rooters for each team and many purely objective sport lovers who come only to see the better team win. Most of us, however, have a team to pull for whether we are ministerial students, law students, fraternity men or non-frats.

The fact remains that no matter which team one is cheering, there are certain rules of good sportsmanlike conduct that should be observed as strictly in intra-murals as in varsity games.

One of the outstanding examples of poor sportsmanship among the spectators is the person who continually shouts obscenities at the officials of the game. Persistent practice of this can lead to the charging of a technical foul against the very team the heckler is supporting.

Just as undesirable is the unsavory individual in the stands who yells at a player on the opposing team as he is about to make a legal foul shot. Of course, the end

of causing the player to miss the goal is often accomplished, but the bad reflection thrown on the heckler's organization is costlier in the long run than the opponent's gained point would have been.

Few people seem to realize that the good or bad sportsmanship of a group is revealed, not by the number of games won by its official team, but by the relative support given to the team by the group as a whole and the conduct of the team's supporters.

As for the team members, it speaks well for them to say that, on the whole, they have conducted themselves on the court with good sportsmanship and a minimum of disagreements. It is only natural that, lacking the experience of varsity trained men, many of the players have been unduly rough in some instances. Efficient referees,

## THE MERCER SPIRIT

by L. Millard Hunt

It has been evident to me since I first came to this campus four months ago that the "Mercer Spirit" of which I have heard is not a very potent spirit. Just what is this spirit of which I have constantly heard since the very first day I was on the campus?

It appears to me that the Mercer campus is literally "split" from one end to the other. The factions are almost too numerous to mention: fraternity men against the Ministerial Association; another faction against BSU; still another against ROTC; against administration; fraternity against non-fraternity; the Law School against the Arts College; some against football; a group of ministers against the School of Christianity; and on and on we could go. Is this the way a family—and that is what a college group should be—should attempt to live together? What is it that is needed to recreate this Mercer Spirit which many talk of but no one seems to be able to find? Will the fielding of a football team, or the banning of fraternities, or the holding of campus dances, or the making of more stringent "ratting" rules or the other things proposed

from all sides—will these create a Mercer Spirit? It would seem to me that these things, although some of them are weighty matters, are rather superficial to the main issue.

To me the Mercer Spirit should be in evidence at a football game, at a fraternity party, or in a Vesper service. This spirit should exemplify the Holy Spirit working in the hearts of those at Mercer. Mercer was founded by Christian men and "committed to the ideal of Christian education." The catalogue states that attendance is a privilege that "may be forfeited by any student who does not conform to the traditions, environment, and regulations of the University." Where are these traditions, this environment? It is evident that there are students on the campus who are definitely, even violently, opposed to anything that is concerned with religion; and their voice is not only loud, but because of the lack of an answer, seems to be dominant. The prevailing attitude among a great group seems to be, "Let's create a new Mercer that will be liberal enough to destroy as many of these traditions as possible." However, to these I do not speak. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can

**RAMBLIN**  
with BILL TYSON

Mr. Sam Glassman said, "Let's forget about football at Mercer and devote our time to other issues where you have a 50-50 chance at least of winning." He said further, "It was a good fight fellows, but as I said before, either 'put up or shut up.' Let's shut up about football at Mercer and admit when we are licked."

Now, Mr. Glassman, is this the right attitude to take? After all the interest and fighting spirit you've shown, how can you make such statements? After the fire goes out, why pour water on it? The least we can do is keep the ashes warm; things are not always as bad as they seem. It looks pretty hopeless, I agree, but a lot of battles have been won in the last ditch. Of course, Mr. Glassman, we, here at Mercer, realize that you haven't been obligated anywhere along the way to put out the effort and assistance you have. We students, at least, have appreciated your interest greatly and have followed your viewpoints avidly and it's very discouraging now to see you ready to go to the bench as soon as the other team gets a few points ahead.

I suppose the situation at Mercer is quite like it is at Emory University, only no one will come right out and say it. It is common knowledge that when Emory was endowed by Mr. A. Chandler, probably its greatest single benefactor, the school was thereby barred by express agreement from participating in intercollegiate football. Perhaps no such express agreement has been made here, but it's quite obvious that the people with the money, or at least some of them, that keep Mercer going do not want football.

What we must do is clear up that warped philosophy of those people who are in the background and are, with their money, paying Mercer's way into oblivion. Perhaps this can be done; it's worth a try, isn't it? If the ship sinks we can always use a lifeboat, that is, if we can get one in time.

however, can prevent any real injury to the scoreboard or to the players.

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