

THE EDITOR SPEAKS

The Student Activities Fund

Elections for Student Government Officers are coming up in less than a week. At this time it is totally unpredictable whether "Bird-dog" Thornton or Ray Brewster will be successful in winning the plurality of the students' votes to replace Cloud Morgan as President of the Student Body. But whichever way the race turns out, it is to be strongly urged that the new Student Government administration do all in its power to help the students. The new officers must not forget that it is to the students that their first duty will lie.

One of the most important things toward which the new Student Government president and those in his cabinet should work is the placing of the Student Activities Fund in the hands of the Student Government as representatives of the students themselves, rather than allowing it to remain in the hands of University officials where it is at the present time. It seems and is unfair that students are required to pay \$11 each per quarter into this fund and then have no say whatsoever as to how their money shall be distributed. This can hardly be called democracy. On the other hand, any student who expresses dissatisfaction with the present distribution of the Fund is absolutely within his rights as a citizen of the Mercer campus.

If the Student Activities Fund were placed in the hands of the Student Government officials, who are elected by the popular vote of the students themselves, grievances of this kind would be eliminated so far as the Mercer University Administration would be concerned. The grievances would instead be taken to the Student Government administration where decisions on their validity would be made.

This would also be the most practical way of starting a movement toward getting the much discussed Student Activities Building. A fund for the erection of this building could very well be started by including it in the budget for the Student Activities Fund.

The new Student Government Administration should, as has been pointed out above, do all in its power to help the students. An attempt on its part to obtain Student Government control of the Student Activities Fund so that this money may be distributed as the students themselves wish should be the initial step in attaining the goal of helping the students.

—J.C.C.

The Challenge To Teachers

by Mrs. Helen B Plymale

Teaching has had a long and honorable history, yet today America is faced with a serious shortage of qualified teachers. From all sections comes the call for more and better teachers. The recruitment of teachers has not been greatly emphasized in the past; but if present demands are met there must be more vigorous enlistment of young people of high scholarship and potential leadership who will train themselves for this profession. These young people must see in teaching opportunities commensurate with other vocations, and they must be guided in the preparation of themselves for this important service to society.

What does teaching offer to you? To one who enjoys learning, teaching is satisfying because he has the opportunity to continue growing in knowledge. He can never feel entirely satisfied with his attainments but will always recognize the need for self-improvement along lines that are pleasurable to him and helpful in his work. Books and libraries are a challenge for research; people and institutions demand a continued growth to meet changing needs, and a real teacher finds joy in this struggle.

Teaching offers one the associations with many people, both young and old. The joys of friendships are

multiplied many times over. What teacher does not remember some pupils who have grown into warm friends because of common interests shared first in a classroom? And in what work is there greater opportunity to work with congenial groups for desirable attainments? The people with whom one is associated in teaching, are usually the ones who are most interested in the general improvement as well as the educational advancement of society. Thus teachers often find themselves in a position to meet and know other leaders in civic and religious circles, and friendships established under such fortunate auspices pay dividends repeatedly.

Without detracting from other agencies which must help build attitudes for peace, we can certainly say that teachers have a great responsibility in educating for peace. The preamble to the constitution of U. NESCO states "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed." This challenge is real and immediate. Teachers must face realistically this great need to make people desire peace for if this is neglected other accomplishments in the classrooms will be worse than useless.

This brief article cannot do justice to the great opportunities in

Know Your Professors!



DR. THERON D. PRICE

Dr. Theron Douglas Price has, in the time he has been a member of the Mercer faculty, endeared himself to the hearts of those who know him. His intelligence, his interesting lectures, and ready wit have made his courses among the most sought on the campus. The students are genuinely sorry to hear that after this quarter he will leave us to join the faculty of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mercer can ill afford to lose such a man, but he will be long remembered.

JOE GOSSETT

A Summer At Mercer

The general trend of thought concerning Summer school activities here seems to be: "there's so many things *not* to do, but where, oh where, is there anything *to* do." Most of us who are doomed to an educational existence this summer accept this belief with a great deal of foreboding, at the same time visualizing an empty co-op, no active clubs to speak of, no organized school recreation program, and many other evidences of the few students in attendance during the quarter following.

For those students who will be in school this summer blanks will be placed in post office boxes and will be available in **The Cluster** office, and we are asking you to fill in those activities of an extra-curricular nature you would most like to see instituted at Mercer this summer. It is only through projects such as this that we can accurately determine what **you**, the students want and need, and for this reason it is hoped you will cooperate fully by filling in these blanks and depositing them in a box which will be placed outside **The Cluster** office.

The results of the poll will be published and turned over to those who have authority to institute the

teaching, but it is hoped that it will serve to help our students to consider this "profession glorious" as Professor George Herbert Palmer has called it, and "to think on these things." Each profession has its rewards as well as its unattractive features and every one has to select the work in which he can render the best and most satisfying service, and to which he can give his loyalty. To do this is to find one's place in the world.

activities so desired by a majority of us students. Too long has the voice of the majority been docile and quiet. When it is asserted, it carries more weight than many of us realize. Let's do something about this long, hard summer ahead. Speak out through this poll, and we can do something.

Cast Your Vote

Next Tuesday is election day at Mercer. It is the day for you, as a good Mercer citizen, to go to the polls and cast your vote. As college students in a democratic nation, we hold the privilege of selecting our leaders as a right that no person, group, or organization can take away. It is the student's responsibility as well as his privilege to vote for the candidate he thinks best suited for, and most capable of, holding the office.

The CLUSTER does not want to, and does not intend to, influence your voting, as this would not be democratic of a newspaper for the whole student body, but it does intend to place major emphasis on the importance of your voting in order to make it a student body election with those selected who represent the whole student body's choice. Remember that it is your duty to go to the polls Tuesday.

—J.D.K.

GUESS WHO?

The name will be found at the end and upside down, but see if you can guess who.
 Height, five six.
 Hair of brown with beautiful eyes to match.
 A cheery "hello" for everyone.
 Member of Cardinal Key.
 Well known, especially in B.S.U.
 Symbolized by the Wise Ole Owl.
 First name suggests a jewel.
 A candidate for Miss Mercer—Guess Who?
 Pearl Holmes

AROUND MERCER

with DEXTER KIMSEY

What is more pleasant in the summer than a competitive game of horseshoes? I think that Mercer should have a horseshoe team and also support horseshoe teams between fraternities. This game may be played by girls as well as boys, in fact, there have been many noted girls' horseshoe teams in various colleges throughout the nation. It is a joyous feeling to hear the ring of the horseshoe on the metal pole.

Horseshoes, as you may know, is a game of skill and requires much practice for perfection. Whether you use a side or center grip for pitching horseshoes, it requires a steady arm and good judgment. The benefits received by Mercer as a whole would be entertainment and the raising of sportsmanship morale.

My Favorite Course

Tensely the students watch as the professor comes into the classroom and begins to call the roll. Then with a curt "close your books" he turns to the board and picks up a piece of chalk.

Johnny, who is sitting on the last row, can stand it no longer. With a strained voice he shouts: "Now professor, let's think this thing over: wait until tomorrow, huh? I have been rather busy this week playing knock rummy and have had a hard time trying to collect the money due me, so you can understand why I haven't studied!"

The professor turns back to the class and says "April Fool! Of course, I understand, Johnny, and to show that my heart is in the right place I am going to dismiss the class now."

BOB GARDNER

His Name Was—

While it isn't given to all of us the capacity to be original thinkers, it ought surely to behoove us to give attention to such creatures as do exist. Recently, according to a popular news-magazine, an income-tax expert was making his rounds, getting his clients big deductions on their tax forms, then signing as their adviser — with disappearing ink. Think, will you, of the marvelous vista of interesting and profitable endeavors opened up by such a man!

How much to our advantage would it be to borrow a thousand or so dollars from some loan agency, on our signature—only to have said signature come up missing. Or to cash checks which would fade away. Of course, these practices would border on the criminal, but others of a comparable stature need not.

We could compose a harsh and scathing letter to some disagreeable person, show it to our friends to receive their commendation for bravery and correct insight, and then mail it, safe in our knowledge that it'd blank out before receipt. Or, on equal terms, drop a note to the FBI, after first receiving the plaudits of our fellows, naturally, telling them of our plans to blow up all the atomic bomb plants in the country. Such a reputation for courage we'd have among our friends!

But one other idea particularly appeals to me: a chance to fool the teachers. We could enter test without having cracked a book; write it out in ten or eleven minutes, hand it over to him with an air of contempt for having given such a simple test, and stalk majestically out. Boy would he be surprised when he came to grade that test...

The MERCER CLUSTER

Mirror of Students' Thought and Action

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