

The Editors Speak

Vote On Toby Monday

The monstrosity still stands upon the campus—but perhaps not for much longer.

Students will have a chance to voice their opinions of Toby in chapel next Monday morning, and to vote for a recommendation to the administration for or against its removal. But how could anyone on the campus be in favor of keeping this statue? It is in such a condition that it could never be done over. And even before its mutilation it was so un-bear-like that the majority of the students hated it.

Mercer Spirit may be low, but it couldn't be low enough to say that this Toby which now stands is a symbol of our school spirit. Perhaps another group, or several groups, can some time in the future erect a real Toby Bear, a statue that will look like a bear and that will fulfill its purpose of symbolizing and encouraging Mercer spirit. This sort of Toby would cost around a thousand dollars, but if and when we ever get it, it will have been worth waiting for.

Right now we have to decide on what to do with the present statue. Neither the administration nor Student Government will take the authority of taking the bear down until the opinion of the entire student body is voiced. Major George B. Connell, vice-president of the school, will present the problem in chapel next Monday morning. After an open discussion, students will vote by standing.

There has been some question as to the whereabouts of the remaining sum of money that was received from last year's seniors for this project. This money, \$372.93, is still in the bank. The amount received was \$478, and the expenditure was \$105.07. This remaining sum was to have been spent for shrubbery, benches, and other beautification around the statue.

Now it will be returned to the seniors of last year, if they want it. A letter will be sent by Major Connell, the president of last year's senior class, and the chairman of the project committee of last year, to each senior who graduated last year. It will consist of the statement of Toby's present condition, an explanation of its removal, and a request that each one send notification of wanting the money refunded or a suggestion about what to do with it.

We hope that this statue will be taken down, and that sometime in the future, another be erected in its place, one of which we can be proud, and which will really enhance and symbolize the spirit of the school.

—S.H.

World Conditions Week

World Conditions Week, which Mercer is observing this week, is a very timely thing. World conditions today may have a more direct and immediate effect on the lives of the people of this country than ever before. In a world which has been brought very close together by modern means of transportation, it is of vital importance that college students, and others, keep up with the events that take place and the conditions that exist in all parts of the world.

The opening address of the week, by Dr. Roger Holmes, professor of Philosophy at Mt. Holyoke College, dealt with a phase of world conditions which is, though it may not be realized, of the utmost importance. That is the existent conditions in Asia and the attitudes of the Asiatic people toward the western world, particularly in the cold war with the Soviet Union. Dr. Holmes said that from his recent observation, the peoples of Asia do not trust us. He gave several of the reasons for this, and concluded that the only way to get them to see our side is to prove to them that we favor democratic government with equality for all the peoples of the earth. He said that this must be done through both solving of our domestic problems and proving our good intentions through the workings of our foreign policy.

Before we can begin to play even the smallest part in such an undertaking, we must be informed as to world conditions. To give us some understanding of the conditions of the world today and to impress upon us the realization of the importance of such understanding is the purpose of observing World Conditions Week at Mercer. We sincerely hope that this purpose will be met with a large measure of success.

—C.T.W.

The Mercer Cluster

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LOOKING AT THE SONNY SIDE

By Sonny Futch

I had the craziest dream the other night. I dreamed I was Aladdin—Alladin College to be exact—and I was the proud owner of a slightly used magic lamp. I rubbed my lamp three times, said the magic word—Dowellsaysno—and who should appear but a huge figure with a tan-colored rabbit. It was Geni with the light-brown hare. He salaamed me and I slammed him back.

"Geni," I said, "I wish to return in time to the days of King Arthur. This will be a night of knights."

"I'll send you there in a jiffy," Geni replied.

Then the jiffy arrived, I climbed in and was whisked away to King Arthur's court (tourist court, of course). Geni followed me in a trice, which is a jiffy with three wheels.

I found the jovial king and his knights playing their favorite card game—draw-bridge. "I'd put you on the knight shift if you had brought a knight shirt," said His Royal Drunkenness.

After eating, we went to see the annual Blood Bowl Tournament. There I met Sir Lancelot, so named because he has a reputation for using his lance a lot. He had a stainless reputation and a stainless steel suit to match. Lancelot was on a beautiful charger and evidently on a beaut of a bender, because he seemed pretty well charged himself.

As the tournament got under way, the King said, "My knights are in bum condition for this game. I wish more knights would stay in nights."

One knight was seen rubbing the exterior of his posterior. "Lance in the pants," His Royal Wittyness diagnosed. "A thing like that could worry a man if he let it go too long."

Suddenly, Sir Lancelot was knocked from his horse. "They occasionally take a knight off in their work," observed His Royal Cornyness. It looked as if Lancelot was out of the tournament, for his horse was dead. But then, a huge, magnificent dog came trotting out on the field. Lancelot grabbed up his lance and climbed upon the dog's back. As he prepared to charge out into the battle, His Royal Sportiness shouted, "Stop, I wouldn't put a knight out on a dog like this."

And so, if any of you girls want a knight in shining armor, take a trip to King Arthur's Court. The rates are two dollars per knight—I mean night.

PARLOR DATE

He was seated in the parlor
 And he said unto the light:
 "Either you or I, old fellow,
 Will be turned down tonight."

—Sonny Futch.

THAT'S ALL BROTHER

Gun Invented, Teachers Demented

By Jim Young

A rapid-fire, magazine-loading pea-shooter has just been patented. This new weapon ranks with the atomic bomb as a major menace to society.

In the eyes of teachers it may become even more terrible than bubble gum.

If teacher walks into class wearing a suit of armor, you can bet it won't be to illustrate a story about the Knights of the Round Table.

What Do YOU Think?

By L. John Stewart and Jack Landrum

Question: What about Toby?

Gloria Downs, junior, Lanier:
 "Not that I am very fond of this statue, but I don't believe it shows very much gentleman-like conduct to disfigure him in such a way as has been done."

George Chamlee, junior, Sparks:
 "Well, I don't think the painting was too bad. I guess it's one of our odd expressions of campus spirit. You know—like painting the statue that's on a certain fraternity lawn. You can put another coat on it and it is O.K.. Crushing Toby's head, however, is another matter. That was a rotten display of any sort of spirit! Even if individuals concerned wished to destroy the statue, they should have enough respect for both themselves and the school to repress their sentiments."

Martha Powell, graduate student, Macon (One who helped to pay for Toby in June):

"I will probably surprise you because I don't see a thing wrong with Toby except that if more time had been spent in planning he might have been made to look more authentic. I think that the spirit in which he was erected was fine and am sorry that so many of my fellow-students make so much fun of him. Since this idea of making fun of Toby by the entire student body has taken such a hold, it seems that the only thing to do is to take him down and admit that we are poor sports about it."

Joe H. Brown (law student), Sandersonville:

"In my opinion, the erection of Toby is typical of the way a great many things are done on the Mercer campus. It was done in a cheap and seemingly spiritless manner. A project of this type is supposedly a lasting symbol in honor of a great person, event, or in this case, of Mercer spirit. The materials used in the construction, and the unrecognizable mass which resulted from the not too evident serious

efforts on the parts of those involved, is, in my opinion, a mere hypocrisy and lasting shame on Mercer and the sympathetic majority of Mercer students. I think it very necessary that this monstrosity be removed at the earliest possible date and that a statue be erected in its place which the students, faculty, and university as a whole, can be justly proud."

Ruth Dunwoody, junior, Macon:

"If a poll were taken on the Mercer campus to see who was talked about the most, I am sure that Toby would be number one on the list. There have been many discussions about what 'it' looks like and how long it will stand there. I must say that I agree that it looks less like a bear than anything ever has. I often wonder where all the money went which was donated by the senior class of last year. Certainly it didn't go into construction of Toby, the symbol of Mercer spirit. I think the money which was left over should be taken to remodel Toby into a bear! I think that the person or persons who attempted to destroy the statue went about it in the wrong manner, but I agree that it should go or be done over."

C. G. Wiggins, junior, Edison:

"I think that Mercer should have some sort of a statue to symbolize Mercer spirit, and I think it did fairly well for its purpose. I do not believe in the vandalistic acts committed on the statue. Most colleges throughout the country have statues upon which tricks of many sorts are played, but I don't believe in taking things to an extreme."

Dot Hamilton, junior, Cordale:

"I feel that those who are responsible for Toby had the very best intentions, but they certainly missed the purpose. He is unlovely to say the least. He isn't funny to me, but pitiful. Whatever we do, we should do well. If Merccerians want a Toby, let's have a good one!"

Mixed Musings

Truman's Gag Ruling Hamstrings Un-American Activities Committee

By R. C. Odom

The House Committee on Un-American Activities, which was extremely active at one time in reporting infiltration of the government by communists, has almost dropped from public view since the Democrats took control last January.

It has been practically hamstrung by President Truman's gag ruling that reports of the F.B.I. concerning loyalty are not open to inspection by Congress.

In the records of congressional investigating agencies today are the names of 74 persons, holding key government jobs, who have been associated with communist fronts. These people are scattered throughout the government as follows: 26 in the Labor Department,

12 in the Commerce and Interior, six in the State Department, four in the United States Employment Service, two in the American military government in Austria, and others in the Department of Justice, the National Labor Relations Board, the National Mediation Board, the Office of International Information, the Federal Communications Commission, the President's Economic Advisory Board, and other key positions.

When one remembers that it is the communist practice to infiltrate and bring about a governmental downfall from within, these facts assume threatening proportions.

In view of the fact that 11 communist leaders have recently been convicted of advocating the violent overthrow of the American government it seems a matter of grave concern that 74 persons revealing extreme leftist sympathies and connections are holding high office in that same government.

It would appear of the utmost importance that any order or rule which tends to hide and protect such persons should be revoked, and the whole gang tossed out of their positions on their collective necks. If the President cannot be persuaded to rescind his order, Congress should use its power to force him to do so.

No such dangerous conditions should be allowed to continue to threaten the free people of America.