

THE EDITORS SPEAK

Hail Mighty Bears

Coach Jim Cowan and his Mercer basketball Bears deserve a hearty round of applause for the terrific job they have done this year. The climax to a successful season was their showing in the Dixie Conference Tournament. Although the Bears were handicapped by the injury of Nat Webb in the initial game of the tournament and the loss of Rudy Stewart earlier in the season due to recurrent knee injury, they came through with flying colors only to be upset in the finals by Florida Southern College on the Tallahassee court for the Dixie Conference Crown.

The determined spirit and hard work shown by the Mercer basketball team this year has given Mercer a record which gives her a boost in the eyes of the Macon and the southern public, as well as giving a tremendous boost to the school spirit of the Mercer student body. On the other hand, the enthusiastic support which most Mercurians have given the cagers cannot be discounted as a decisive factor in the winning of every home game but one.

Let's not be slow to let our team know that we are proud to have them as our representatives in one of the most popular of intercollegiate sports. We wholeheartedly extend a "well done" and "welcome home" to the Mercer Basketball Bears. —C.F.W.

Judge Not

"Did you hear—so and so broke up!" or "I just literally despise her!" or "He is so self-centered!" Familiar quotations—we hear them every day.

The human personality is so complicated and involved that it takes a great deal of intelligence and insight to weight our own conceptions. Every day we are confronted with new and more integrated ideas that we need to work into harmony with the ones which we have already ascertained. Yet, we spend the majority of our time talking and worrying about some *else's* business.

Our campus, as everywhere, there reigns a continuous abundance of unjust criticism and gossip. Too often we judge people before getting to really know them, stereotype them from what someone else has said, or criticize their actions without trying to find out the real reasons behind them. We should realize that this does not help anyone—in fact, it only breeds snobbery and unkindness which, in the long run, reflect back on our own personalities.

Let's give it some thought, fellow students. Let's strive to better our *own* selves rather than tear others down.—S.H.

'I Don't Know'

Professor Smith asks John Jones a question in class. Jones doesn't know the answer. But does Jones say "I don't know?"

He usually doesn't. He says, "Well, uh, uh, I think it was, uh—or probably the, uh, uh—." Then he either guesses at the answer, ending with "isn't it?" or drops off into silence waiting for Professor Smith to call on someone else.

We sometimes wonder if this isn't one of the instructors' greatest headaches—trying to get a student to admit that he doesn't know the answer. Usually there is a great sigh of relief in the classroom on the rare occasion when Jones does say, "I don't know." And the instructor will often give Jones an appreciative look when he does admit his defeat.

We once had an instructor who tackled this problem aggressively. He would say, "Well, do you know the answer or don't you?" when a student hedged and stumbled over elusive facts.

Maybe we need more such relentless pursuers of truth so that John Jones will be taught to say in clipped, forceful tones: "I don't know."

John Jones might even raise his grades by showing such a facility for quick and positive decision.—The Ohio State Lantern.

This is it, boys



"Doc" A. B. Anthony

Meet Your Faculty

By Martha Martin

Cluster Feature Editor

I could head this little personality portrait "Faculty Character" quite without naming its subject; those better informed students on the campus would immediately think "A.B. Anthony".

A great diversity of academic experience is not ordinarily considered to be part and parcel of that vague term "character." Nevertheless, Dr. Anthony has probably been a part of more American Colleges and Universities than any man we know.

The native Californian won his A.B. from Stanford University in 1919; his M.A. and Ph.D. were conferred by that same university in the years 1921 and 1927 respectively. The three degrees were all awarded in economics, but it might have been otherwise since in the course of his work he "accidentally" discharged the requirements for the degree in philosophy by the careless device of having taken too many electives in that field.

Those who have had the good fortune to have been in his classes, which are all catalogued as economics courses, but which are really delightfully refreshing mixtures of Anthonian philosophy, humor, political science, religion, humor, AND economics, are well acquainted with the rough and tumble school of experience in which Dr. Anthony developed, under the auspices of Libby No. 10, an undying affection for the corporation system in America.

Our itinerant philosopher has in the twenty-three years since he

left Stanford left a trail of didactic anecdotes from California to New York and from Washington State to Georgia, Butler University in Indianapolis, Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., Pittsburgh University in Pennsylvania, St. Louis University in Missouri, and Mercer have all had their curricula colored with his scholarly humor.

Have you ever groaned over the price of textbooks? How would you like to have to pay for one that you yourself had written? When Dr. Anthony's "Economic and Social Problems of the Machine Age" was made ready for publication, he had to forfeit all rights to the book in consideration of the University of Southern California's having assumed the responsibility of printing and publishing it. Recently the author lost his personal copy of the book and had to purchase, without discount, another copy.

During his college days at Stanford, "Doc" Anthony founded and was president of the Stanford University Philosophy Club and was captain of the chess team. Today his avocational interests are chess and music.

Mercer, in Dr. Anthony's opinion, is typical of most of the smaller institutions, academically and socially, where he has been.

From his studies in Economics and in other fields he has found that "Economics" is probably, all things considered, the most fundamental of the secular subjects taught today.

The Mercer Cluster

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CLARENCE'S COLYUM

Speech Course Prepares Students for Public Life

By Clarence Streetman

Speech ought to be a required course for everyone who goes through college, especially if he intends to get into public life. In Mercer speech classes, the student will meet—in concentrated form—virtually every type of pest imaginable.

Of course, I can only speak for the 51 course I had, but I think it must have been about average. For some strange reason, the sleepers seemed to choose the front table in the class room. Maybe it was softer, but it made the speaker talk to a row of scalps in various degrees of despair.

Right in the middle of the room, two hymnology majors studied their homework every day. With one finger, they would follow the notes in their books, while the other hand bobbed up and down to an imaginary choir. They made good grades in hymnology, but the poor student who happened to be talking made like a politician at a tennis match.

The back row was made up of as fine a bunch of mobsters as you could hire out of any Chicago gutter. When they weren't telling dirty jokes among themselves, they made horrible faces and grinned like little red demons. And to cap it off, Prar Shape came up with his famous alternating signs that spelled out a popular opinion.

But even after getting used to that kind of distraction I doubt if a speech student would be prepared for what happened to an Englishman recently. He was a Socialist, and at a political rally, he was expounding mightily on the benefits under the present administration: "Britain now has hundreds of bonnie babies," he shouted. "WHY?"

From the back of the room came the answer, loud and clear: "Private enterprise!"

MIXED MUSINGS

Firm Stand Called for Against Satellite Nations

By R. C. Odom

Diplomatic relations with Bulgaria have been broken off as a result of a "long series of intolerable restrictions and indignities" aimed at the American legation in Sofia. This indicates that the United States has finally taken a somewhat firmer attitude toward the satellite countries of Russia, who have been engaged in a series of unfriendly acts against us. Such a move has long been needed to act as a brake upon the sniping tactics of these countries and to save our own self respect.

Hungary is another serious offender. This country only recently convicted an American business man for "spying" and sentenced him to fifteen years in prison on what appears to be trumped charges. Of course the accused allegedly "confessed," but it is to be noticed that all accused persons in communist countries invariably "confess". One can imagine that communist police have various methods at their disposal to force recalcitrant prisoners to "confess". If the United States intends to demand no accounting for the lives and safety of its people, it should proclaim to the world that its citizens are fair game any time they are caught away from home with much the same status as outlawed men in medieval times.

Uncle Sam should make a clean sweep while he is about it and break off relations with all the satellite countries. This should be implemented by a total trade embargo against them. Also the example that France set when confronted with similar tactics on the part of Poland might well be studied with profit everytime the Poles arrested one Frenchman, France arrested two Poles.

After all these countries are not independent nations and do not rate diplomatic recognition as such. The central capital from which all orders on questions of importance emanate is Moscow, and our representatives in that city would at least be able to carry any problem between us and those countries directly to the real rulers—Stalin and the politburo.

THE CLUSTER PLATFORM

1. To promote a strong, self-governing student body.
2. To stimulate interest in worthwhile extra-curricular activities.
3. To maintain an editorial policy committed to the interests of the entire student body and to pull no punches.
4. To constructively criticize any campus irregularities after a complete investigation of the facts.