

# The Mercer Cluster

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MISS GLADYS SWARTHOUT

## Gladys Swarthout To Sing in Willingham Chapel Monday Night

Gladys Swarthout, glamorous mezzo-soprano who will be heard here on Oct. 23 at Willingham Chapel was largely responsible for upsetting the operatic tradition that high-voiced sopranos and coloraturas have been the artists who have most endeared themselves to the musical public and carried off the top billing and highest honors. She has established herself as one of the foremost and most popular stars of the Metropolitan, Chicago and San Francisco Opera Companies and earned fame in concerts, on the radio, records and screen through her altogether rare combination of voice, musical talent musicianship and outstanding beauty.

Born on Christmas Day, Miss Swarthout first saw the light of day in Deepwater, Missouri. When her family moved to Kansas City a few years later and playmates would ask Gladys where she came from, she would tell them the name of her birthplace and they would invariably squeal "Deepwater! Why didn't you get drowned?" As a result, Miss Swarthout has been mortally afraid to venture into a lake or ocean ever since, and has never learned to swim.

Support of the theory that musical talent runs in families is offered by the fact that the diva's sister, Roma, also gifted with a remarkable voice, is a highly successful teacher of singing in New York, while one cousin, Evelyn, is a concert pianist and two brothers, Donald and Max, hold the posts of dean of music in the University of Kansas and the University of California, respectively.

At a moment when there is much hue and cry about the American singer coming into his own for the first time, it may be forgotten that Miss Swarthout has had all of her training and professional experience entirely in this country and has made her fame entirely within its borders. She is known abroad through her records, movies and broadcasts.

Gladys embarked upon her singing career almost by accident. At the age of seven she took a dislike to the mannerism of the

soloist in her family's church, and vowed that some day she would show her how a singer should behave in public. By the time she was 13 she considered that she was ready to give the singer her lesson, so put her hair up, announced that she was 19, and got the position.

Friends were more ambitious for her than Gladys was for herself, at that time, they arranged an audition for her in Chicago, some years later. Not wanting to let them down, Gladys sang her audition, and discovered that she had sung herself right into a contract at the Chicago Opera. Unfortunately, she knew no operatic roles. However, during the summer before her debut she learned 23 roles, and proved herself such a valuable artist that in her first season with the Chicago Company she sang in 50% of the company's performances.

A Metropolitan contract followed, and the very young Miss Swarthout made her debut in the role of the very old mother in La Gioconda.

## Cast Selected For 'Dear Brutus'

The cast for the play, *Dear Brutus*, was selected Thursday, October 19. The characters are as follows: Matey, Jim Mount; Lou, Wade Hiltabidel; Purdie, David Jordan; Coade, James Henney; Dearth, Reese J. Vaughn; Lady Caroline, Betty Mayeo Mabel Purdie, Maribeth Ursery; Joanna Trout, Jauline Chakmakis.

Mrs. Dearth, Rheta White; Mrs. Coade, Lynn Banks; Margaret, Carrie Burns. The stage manager is Ed Lilly.

The play will be presented November 16-17. Miss Pat Peteler is director of the production.

## No Cluster Next Week

There will not be an issue of *The Cluster* next week due to Mid-Term examinations. All stories for the Nov. 3 issue are due in by Sunday, Oct. 29.

## Nominations Are Announced Today

Robert Mathews, Thomson, and Don Reves, Thomaston, were nominated last night for president of the Student Body.

The elections will be held on Monday, October 30 in the Co-op from 9 to 5.

Robert is manager of the choir, a member of the Glee Club and chairman of the finance committee of Alpha Tau Omega. Bob is a member of the Student Council this year.

Don is freshman adviser, a member of the BSU Greater Council, a member of Ciceronian Literary Society, the Ministerial Association and Blue Key. Also Don is vice-president of Kappa Sigma.

All students including freshman and transfer students are eligible to vote.

## Cauldron Pictures Reach Deadline

Wednesday, Oct. 25 is the last day for pictures to be taken for the Cauldron. Anyone who has not signed up to have their picture made are asked to sign up, immediately.

Everyone is asked to be on time for their appointment.

## Chi Alpha Omega Opens Season

Chi Alpha Omega, national honorary ministerial fellowship, began another as it met under its new leader, Furman Lewis.

This fellowship was begun on the Mercer Campus and now has another chapter at Howard College in Birmingham, Ala. At the last national convention in Birmingham, plans were made for an expansion program. It was at this convention that the organization changed its title from a fraternity to a fellowship. The fellowship has received several petitions from other colleges for the establishment of chapters on their campuses.

The fellowship, although small in its beginning, is strongly on its way to the campuses of Christian colleges all over the United States.

## Freedom Bell, Symbol Of Crusade For Freedom



**FREEDOM** Bell, symbol of **CRUSADE FOR FREEDOM**, cast in solid bronze, weighs 10 tons, stands nine feet high, measures 98 inches in diameter. In bas-relief, five figures represent the major races of man. On Oct. 24, United Nations Day, Freedom Bell will be installed behind the Iron Curtain in the Western Sector of Berlin, and will peal out daily thereafter the message of freedom to the world. Enshrined in its base will be signatures of millions of Americans who have signed the Declaration of Freedom.

## Dr. Franklin Owen BSU Convention Speaker



DR. FRANKLIN OWEN

## 25th Anniversary Of Dr. Nicholson To Be Observed

Dr. Franklin Owen, pastor, First Baptist Church, Gainesville, will be one of the featured speakers at the 25th session of the state BSU convention which meets here October 27-29.

Dr. Owen received his B.D. and Th.D. degrees from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and is one of the most popular young preachers in the state.

Other speakers scheduled to address the convention include Dr. William Borders, pastor, Wheat Street Baptist Church, Atlanta, and Dr. Samuel Maddox, personnel director, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond.

This convention will mark the 25th anniversary of "Brother Nick" Nicholson, state student secretary. He was the first state student secretary in the South and the entire program will be dedicated to him.

Mercer's Lewis Lowe, state BSU president, will preside and Henry Coffey, state chorister, will lead the singing.

## Dr. Bryant Heard By Life Service

Life Service Band resumed the regular schedule as last year, meeting every Thursday night at 9:30. The band consists of a group of students called to full-time Christian service.

Dr. Bryan of the Sociology Department on Oct. 12 brought an inspiring message on The Christian Calling. Due to difficulties beyond the control of the program committee the scheduled program for Oct. 19 had to be called off. Substituted at the last minute to the delight of everyone present was an inspiring picture on the conversion of Saul.

Everyone who is called for full-time Christian service in any field is cordially invited to attend the meetings every Thursday night on the second floor of Tatnall Square Baptist Church.

## Chi Alpha Omega Pledges Named

Musical selections and humorous readings will feature the banquet of Chi Alpha Omega, ministerial fellowship fraternity, tonight at the Sidney Lanier cottage.

The banquet will honor the new pledges of the fraternity who will be initiated on October 25, according to Furman Lewis, Hartwell, president.

Natalie Dyer, minister of music at First Baptist, will sing several numbers and Franklin Cheong, Hong Kong, will render some violin selections. They will be accompanied by Judson Moss.

Camille Spruce, Macon, will give several humorous readings during the evening's program.

Pledges of the fraternity include: Asa Blount, Roseir; Bob Burks, Atlanta; Georgia Fields, Atlanta; Justil Hill, Atlanta; Herbert Hyde, Macon; Julian LeRoy, Marietta; Warren Shields, Thomson; and Robert Trotman, Lumpkin.

## IMAGINE!

Boy buying empty box for a dollar.

Empty bottle being found in girls dormitory room.

Pledge being congratulated in unusual way.

Girls coming to dance stag.

## Law Review Presents Survey

For its fall issue, the Mercer Law Review is presenting an annual survey of decisions and statutes during the period between June 1, 1949, through June 1, 1950. This is the first survey to be made of Georgia law and should prove useful to the busy practitioners throughout the state.

Contributors for the survey consists of well-known authors, professors and practitioners who specialize in the various fields about which they write.

## Gipsy Smith To Hold Services

Gipsy Smith, Jr., son of the world-famous evangelist, will conduct a revival at Tatnall Square Baptist Church on October 22-29.

Mr. Smith is one of 14 children of Gipsy Senior. He is a graduate of the Baptist Seminary in Chester, Pa. He married in Scotland and became an American citizen in 1920.

He has preached in 40 states. His wife and 3 children will accompany him.

Topic of his first night's message will be "From Gipsy Camp to Pulpit".

## Sanford Speaks in Chapel Program

Dr. Henry Sanford, member of the Carnegie department of school grants in Atlanta, spoke to the Mercer student body on its Wednesday chapel program.

"Responsibility" was the subject of Dr. Sanford's talk as he spoke on three of its qualities. Dr. Sanford stressed the importance and qualities of mature judgement, regard to consequences and the regard of others needs.

Dr. Henry Sanford is the past president of Georgia Southwestern College in Americus, Georgia.