

The Mercer Cluster

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Alma Mater Changed

Mercer's co-eds, thanks to Harry Smith, have finally been accorded official recognition as rightful members of the Mercer family. Words in the Alma Mater and the Fight song were changed this summer to include MEP's residents.

"Cherished by sons forever" now is correctly sung, "cherished by thy sons and daughters". The opening words of the Fight song now read, "Come all you sons and daughters" instead of "Come all you sons of Mercer".

Our thanks go to the alumni secretary on behalf of the female population for this final step in acknowledging the rightful place of the co-eds in the life of the institution.

Not only should these official changes be duly noted by all upperclassmen, but we also think that a thorough review of Mercer's songs would be in order.

(Incidentally, we notice that "in football fame we place thy name above the very best" now appears in this fashion: "in sport-ing fame . . . We would like to hear an authoritative explanation for such an "uncalled for" alteration.)

Politics To Begin

Each Mercer student has a great responsibility on October 30 in selecting a president of The Student Body to fill the unexpired term of Ira Snyder, who was called to active duty in the Marines. It is no easy job to continue the fine work Ira began and the selection of a successor will not be an easy one.

A shift in alignment has been made by the ATO fraternity. They are now a part of the Merceterat party, which also includes MIMIX, MICA, Kappa Alpha, Phi Delta Theta, Alpha Delta Pi and Lambda Chi Alpha. The Representatives include Kappa Sigma, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Nu, Phi Mu, Chi Omega and Pi Kappa Phi.

The new president should be one who has shown his ability as a leader. He should be one who is active in campus life and who is acquainted with the "inner workings" of the school.

Above all he should be of outstanding personal character and ready to put interests of the students he shall serve above any petty selfish ambitions.

We believe both candidates—Bob Mathews and Don Reeves—are qualified for the position. It is not the policy of The Cluster to back any candidate, but we do urge each and every student to exercise his voting privilege—a solemn duty—on October 30.

Welcome BSU'ers

The state BSU convention will celebrate its silver anniversary next weekend when Mercer will again play hosts to this great gathering. We welcome the delegates from over the state and hope their stay will be both pleasant and rewarding.

We would pay tribute to "Broth Nick" Nickolson, who is synonymous with Georgia BSU work. He came as student secretary to the University 25 years ago and developed the large state organization which exists today. He has been a fruitful minister.

The Baptist Student Union is perhaps the largest religious youth movement in the world. It seeks to relate the student to the church and college and magnifies the ideals of Jesus Christ. Typical of this is this year's convention theme: "That I May Know Christ".

Many prominent and consecrated speakers will address the convention. Among them is Kerrie Keegan, who succeeds the late Dr. Frank Leavell as southwide BSU secretary. We trust that many Mercer students will hear these outstanding personalities from over the state and southland.

To you Georgia BSU'ers we welcome you to the Mercer campus.



RESULTS FROM MID-TERMS

Children of Light

By Robert Bone

This column in the treatment of the children of darkness might have seemed cynical with no hopes for the present generation. That opinion is false. True, we are living in the age of constant uncertainty. The world is filled with the children of darkness but there are some few children of light to save us yet. We pray.

There are those who realize the Christian interpretation of man. To them man is created in the image of God. With the creation we have the freedom of man. He has infinite powers, because he is in the image of God. That freedom implies the idea of transcendence. Man is trying to be God, he then in turn exercises his freedom. The freedom to make a choice. Also the fact of the creatureliness of man. He is a sinner always under the judgement of God. The children of light with these conceptions look to men in the web of society.

First in the field of economics. The prime motive of man should be service to his society. The Christian realizes the greed of man in the area of material gains. Therefore we cannot live in a laissez faire doctrine and insure justice for all people. Legislation must be passed to curb the activities of management and labor. Also we must realize that in our system people are exploited. Then it is our duty to see that the government has the power to aid these people. If not, American capitalism will destroy itself.

The children of light face the problem of communism. The atom bomb cannot destroy the idea. But the Christian doctrine of a redemptive society can meet and force Communism out of the picture. The world is tired of injustice, Communism steps in and promises to alleviate the suffering of mankind. The error is in the framework because we believe that a man is spiritual being instead of an economic animal. But we also believe in the brotherhood of man and the classless society. We have an alternative to Communism, it is our responsibility to set it in motion.

The Christian theology is aware that our morals and values have not kept pace with the scientific and technical developments. It is now time to take stock of our gods and forsake them for the divine things in life. Also education has proven itself as the big lie. It cannot bring about the stable society.

In the world of apparent despair lingering on the brink of destruction by the atom bomb we must turn to something vital and lasting. Lord Tweedsmuir expressed this opinion when he said, "I believe—and this is my crowning optimism—that the challenge with which we are now faced may restore to us that manly humility which alone gives power. It may bring us back to God. In that case our victory is assured. The faith is an anvil which has worn out many hammers."

Pledging Ended by Rushing

By Claude Vann

'Twas the night before pledging
And all through the suite,
Not a creature was stirring,
Especially rush chairman Pete.

All the boys wert lounging around
Each wishing he were elsewhere bound,
Each wanting to forget this trying week
When Frat rush season was at its peak

Books were scattered and lay where they fell
Those classes forgotten, in which we excel,
All of us thinking of the bids we sent out
Wondering how we stand in this inter-frat bout.

At long last, after an eternity of planning, waiting, rushing, various parties and other socials, we will be able to settle down to the humdrum life of attaining a college education. Books may again be opened and the uncut pages read. Fraternity men may again hold up their heads in class and look the professor in the eye with the feeling deep inside that they are fully prepared for anything that can come.

Actually, we all know that rush season is not this bad, but, I believe we are all glad we won't have to go through it again for another three months. Latest ob-

servations made in the different suites indicate that fingernails are not quite so long as they were this time last week.

This has been a very successful rush season for all fraternities. The many parties, and small socials added color and glamour to the campus, and did much to increase the inter-fraternity spirit.

There were many bids that were left in the care of the Dean after pledging. In the future the fraternities should be certain that all their rushees are informed of the proper procedure for obtaining their bid.

Dean Daughtrey New Faculty Man

By Joan Wilson

Mercer students returning to school this fall were greeted with a host of new faces—students and faculty members. Among the new faculty members is John Patrick Daughtrey of Norfolk, Va., who is acting dean of men. Mr. Daughtrey holds a B.S. degree in commerce from the University of Virginia, and an M.S. degree in personnel administration from the University of North Carolina.

Dean Daughtrey is a quiet, congenial man, and seems to be vitally interested in the problems of Mercer students. He is married (he met his wife at the University of Virginia, where they were both students) and has a family consisting of two small boys—sufficient to take up most of his leisure time. At the time I interviewed Mr. Daughtrey he was in the midst of giving comprehensive tests to graduating (?) seniors. When I asked him if that wasn't a rather hard job, he replied that it was, but added that it's easier to give tests than to take them.

Upon his graduation from the University of Virginia, Mr. Daughtrey worked for the General Electric Company in Bridgeport, Conn. He then spent a period of 3½ years with the Army, serving about 10 months overseas. When he returned to civilian life, Mr. Daughtrey became the personnel director at Mars Hill College.

According to the Dean, the Daughtrey family likes both Macon and Mercer so far. When asked about the future, he replied that he wants to do additional study sometime, and after that remains to be seen. Wherever he goes and whatever he does, I'm sure that all the Mercer students whom he has already helped and whom he will befriend in the future will wish him every success.

Draft Dodging

By JACK PERRY

Many people after the first world conflict, attempted to affix to that struggle the appellation, "The Great War." Since it was ostensively ridiculous to call the second conflict "The Greater War," some tried to label it "The Last War." This nomenclature proving to be somewhat cumbersome, a numerical system was evolved being "World War I" and "World War II." The advent of our new digladiation will make even this system questionable. Are we now entering "World War III," or merely "World War II-A"? Will it be proper to say "The Korean War", or, viewing that embolment in its prefatory function, should we say "World War II-A (1)"? As a possible solution, may I suggest that we exclude the word "peace" and its connotations completely from our vocabulary? By such emendation we will no longer be forced to differentiate between the various phases of our continuous war, and the pragmatically false concept of "peace" will no longer disturb our nomenclators and our history books.

Another question of names comes up when we attempt to find a suitable title for our decade, and our generation, after considerable research, I am now able to offer a solution to these vexing problems. Of course everyone knows of "The Gay Nineties" and "The Roaring Twenties"; what we must choose, are names that are attractive, yet contain the germ of truth. Realizing (from reading soap advertisements) the value of alliteration, I would offer, for the 1940's: "The Factious Forties," or even more direct, "The Fighting Forties." Even a short glimpse at the new decade will serve to affirm my selection for the 1950's: "The Futile Fifties." And will you (Continued on Page 4)