

The Mercer Cluster

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No. 1

Survey Shows Sherwood Hall Roof Leaks Badly

A Cluster survey this week revealed that at least seven rooms on the top floor of Sherwood Hall leaked generously during the rains of last Saturday and Monday nights.

Because of the crowded dormitory conditions this quarter there are three students living in most of the rooms. One room was so small that the bed had to be removed to the hall when the rain came Saturday night.

Conditions of the ceiling in most of the rooms that leaked showed that this was not the first occasion on which the rains have come in the rooms.

Students in at least one room in Sherwood reported large puddles that ran out of the room into the hall.

Willingham Gives New Grand Piano

Broadus Willingham, Jr., who gave Mercer the pipe organ and the Mason & Hamlin grand piano now being used in the Chapel, has now surpassed himself in the role of donor.

He recently has made a gift to this school of a beautiful and magnificent concert grand piano, larger than the first one he gave.

This custom-built instrument, a Steinway, is definitely the best piano in Macon and its vicinity, according to Professor Arthur L. Rich. Dr. Rich, head of the music department, further says that it is probably one of the half-dozen finest pianos in the South.

Some of today's greatest pianists have rendered musical scores on this instrument. These include such artists as Artur Rubenstein and Alec Templeton.

Professor and Mrs. Rich will present a program on the new Steinway in chapel Oct. 12. This program will feature a Rachmaninoff concerto, and will also include several solos and duets.

Dr. Rich states that this finest of Mercer's musical instruments is valued at \$6,900.

New Instructors Join Faculty; Several Return From Study

Several new instructors have joined the Mercer faculty and several have returned from leave of absences granted them for further study.

Richard Burts, dean of men, has returned after a year of study at Columbia University. Also returning from a year at Columbia is Miss Leone Bates who has been added to the education department.

Succeeding Miss Bates as resident counselor at MEP is Miss Ruth Cheves, Macon. She is a graduate of Mercer and holds a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Gordon S. Miller succeeds John Holding in the chemistry department. Holding was named business manager last spring. Miller is a graduate of Southeastern Louisiana College and holds the MA degree from LSU.

William Geren, a native Texan, is professor of church history in



RAT WEEK continues today and will be climaxed by Rat Court Monday night. These 'Rats' are shown in yesterday's regalia. They are, left to right, Tom Goddard, Bobby Baxter and Willard Baxter.

Dr. Newton Speaks at Opening Session; Education Drive Planned

Students Must File for Degree

Registrar Clark has announced that all students who plan to graduate during this school year should fill out an application for degree immediately.

Seniors should also check their permanent record card with Dean Taylor as soon as practicable.

Application for degree forms may be secured from the Registrar's office.

Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor, Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, was featured speaker in exercises held Wednesday in Chapel which marked the official opening of the Mercer school year.

Immediately after the chapel exercises the trustees met to make plans for the drive to endow the

The trustees have voted to name the proposed school of education the Spright Dowell School of Education in honor of the University's president.

proposed school of education. Goal of the campaign is \$600,000.

Dr. Newton is honorary chairman of the drive and the co-chairmen are Columbus Roberts, Jr., Columbus, and Howard Collier, Griffin.

After the trustees meeting the trustees and other guests were feted at a luncheon in the MEP dining hall.

the absence of Harold McManus. McManus has been granted a year's leave of absence on a Ford Foundation scholarship to work on his Ph.D. at Yale.

Geren, a former Navy chaplain, holds degrees from Ohio University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Recently he has been a student at the University of Chicago. While working on a doctorate degree there he served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Lake Geneva, Wis.

E. A. (Gus) Verdery is the new director of religious activities. He is a graduate of Mars Hill and Mercer. He has completed his thesis for the Th.D. degree from Southern Baptist Seminary. He has served as associate pastor in Memphis and at First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

L. O. Watson has joined the math department, succeeding C. W. Thomson who was granted a year's leave of absence. Watson comes from Barnesville.

275 Freshmen Face Trial At Rat Court Monday Night

By Reg Murphy

1,043 Enrolled For Fall Quarter

Latest registration figures released by the office of Registrar list 1043 students enrolled at Mercer this quarter. This is about the same total as that of last fall.

Only 180 veterans are enrolled this quarter, a decrease from Fall of last year. In the classes the freshmen lead with 275 students.

Sophomores are second in the classes with 250; juniors, 224; and seniors, 178. Law school enrollment is 83. 28 graduates are listed, 4 special and 3 irregular students.

The male-female ratio continues to improve with about one woman for every two men, there being 310 women and 733 men registered.

Church Parties Set for Students

Two Macon churches have planned activities for this Sunday afternoon especially for Mercer students, both old and new.

Centenary Methodist church has invited all who are interested to attend their young people's meeting Sunday afternoon at 6:30. The church is located across the street from Bartlett House.

First Presbyterian church, located on Mulberry street, is holding an informal Open House at the church Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

All Mercer students are cordially invited and cars will leave from in front of the Ad building at 3:45 Sunday afternoon for those wishing to attend.

Fellowship To Hear Cropper

The Westminster Fellowship of Students will meet at 8 p.m. Sunday at Tattnell Square Presbyterian Church to hear R. C. Cropper, Macon businessman and church officer.

"What of the Tithes?" is the subject for the discussion to be led by Cropper. Light supper will be served at 6 o'clock and the program will follow at 6:45.

All Presbyterians and other interested students are invited to attend. "Winkie" Harris, Eatonton, is acting president of the group.

Approximately 275 "Rats" face the Battle of the Sophomores Monday night as they come to trial for their deeds and misdeeds during the current Rat Week.

As the lowly freshmen writhe in front of the stern countenances of the sophomore "Court of Injustice," they will be sentenced to various and sundry punishments for their mutiny, Soph President Jamie Buckingham announced Tuesday.

These trials will conclude a week of what upperclassmen smilingly refer to as "teaching the frosh their proper place on the campus."

Already the newest additions to our institution of learning have been subjected to such maltreatment as carrying books to class in the casings of their nightly headrests, and wearing the traditional orange and black headpiece.

Yesterday they were required to attire themselves in dirty T-shirts, coat hangers dangling from belt loops, and greasy hair-dos. Barber pole legs were also the order of the day.

Ropes, ear bobs, and tooth brushes also were seen as part of the female regalia.

Monday afternoon the Rats will tour the cross-country route in an attempt to obtain for themselves some edibles.

Then comes the climactic event Monday night in the form of court. All freshmen will be required to attend, and they will face a stern sentence for their erroneous behavior.

Highlights of the Rat Court procedures will be the crowning of Miss Freshman, selected by a special sophomore judging crew. Bill Moss has been linked to the rumors as a judge.

One of the more gruesome aspects of the night's activities promises to be the ugly man's contest. However, people have been rather reluctant to act as judges.

Morning Watch Is Announced

BSU is now sponsoring two devotional services each day for all interested students.

Morning Watch is held each morning except Saturday and Sunday on the front steps of Chapel at 7 o'clock. In case of rain the service is in room 12, Theology. No planned program is given but the time is used for private devotions.

A program is presented each evening at vespers, held at 8:45 in Chapel each evening except Sunday. A variety of programs are presented and the service usually lasts 15 minutes.

Cluster Staff Will Meet Monday

All persons interested in working on the Cluster staff are asked to meet at 2:40 Monday afternoon in the Cluster office in the Co-op.

Students who are interested in writing news, sports features and in advertising and make-up are requested to be present for this important meeting.



FRED GIBSON is shown delivering the "sermon" at the Gypsy party given last week by BSU. This "church service" won first prize in the skit contest.

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