

## Keep Dreaming

*I like dreams of the future better than the history of the past.*

—THOMAS JEFFERSON

That is the attitude Mercer's graduating seniors should take in the next few days. They have almost culminated successful college careers. The important thing for them to do now is carry out their cherished dreams, whether they concern world affairs or individual advancement.

We challenge them to nourish the dreams, mold them into workable plans, and put them to use. They have remained in the embryo stage for a long time—maybe too long. But if they have been carefully thought out, they can be of service.

Many of the students have had great success at the university, not only in class, but also in positions of leadership and responsibility. This is no time to forsake the trust placed in them. Rather, it is time to step to the front and throw out a helping hand to world affairs.

And for the people who have tagged along, making themselves as inconspicuous as possible, the hour has approached to put their shoulders to the wheel. They must lift themselves from the lot of mediocrity and strive to help themselves, at the same time lending aid to others.

Opportunities lend themselves to the ambitious lot, but they will not track anybody down. They have to be met halfway. It is this group's business to do so, if they have the intestinal fortitude. We are confident that they do, but they have to prove it to themselves and to us.

By dreams, Jefferson did not mean those foolhardy pictures of a man living in plush grandeur. He was speaking of the sort of dreams this country was built on—the ones that made America grow into what it is today, the ones that made the people noted for their bravery, good judgment, and advancement.

The world is what one wants to make of it. If these graduates want a good, clean, healthful world, they must aid in its construction. Those dreams can make a lot of difference.

So, we admonish the Mercerians of 1952 to cling to their dreams and put them to work. If they will, the entire world will benefit.

## Spirit Looks Up

The Cluster was encouraged last week to see that some of the students on campus really have a touch of school spirit, after all. We are speaking of the turnout last Sunday afternoon to greet Mercer's returning tennis, track, and golf teams.

The gathering seemed rather abashed for a little while, but came around when the victorious warriors emerged from the bus. They circulated through the athletes, giving them a pat on the back and a smile of congratulations.

Not only did it point up a beginning of spirit. It was a tribute to a nice bunch of guys that had done themselves proud in winning every event the Dixie Conference has offered this year.

## The Mercer Cluster

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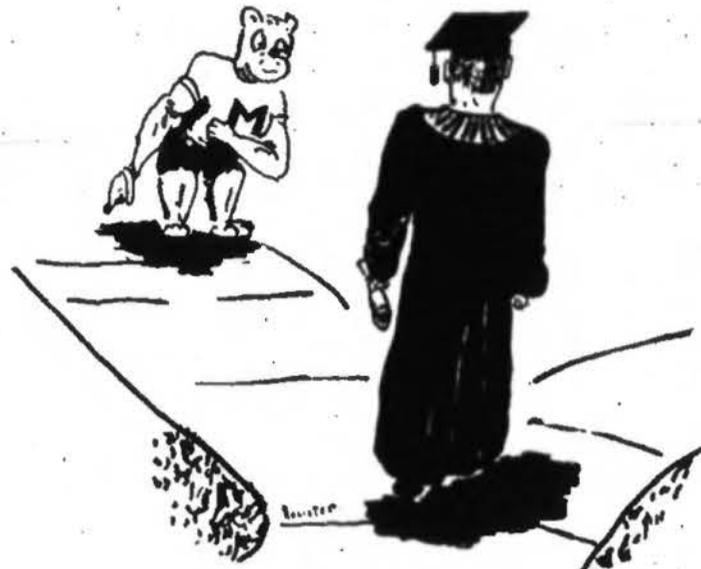
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HATS OFF TO A JOB WELL DONE

Seab Miller

## Master Mercerian

Engene Cook, the Attorney General of the state of Georgia, was the Master Mercerian for the Class of 1927. Now, you may ask, "What is this Master Mercerian?" and I, who have done some research on the matter, would be able to tell you.

This was a title conferred on a Mercer senior who possessed superlative qualities in personality; had a high record in scholarship; showed an active interest in athletics; possessed high character; was a leader; had definite qualities of patriotism, manliness, and righteous ambition. This was the highest honor that a Mercer student could attain.

Master Mercerian is not chosen anymore. In the early Thirties the student vote, which determined the recipient of this award, began to be influenced by minority blocs and campus politics. The voting was done in an assemblage of the whole students. Several deserving seniors would be nominated, and a vote would be taken. Those nominated, but backed by the fewest number of votes, were eliminated.

It is easy to see how this election could be influenced, and even railroaded by an efficient vote-getting group.

The Master Mercerian is a part of the Mercer tradition. It deserves a place on the campus now but not under any system as it was. There was some discussion last year as to a plan for selecting this superlative Mercer student and how it should be done. If a group could be assembled which would be representative of the various factions of campus life, plus a couple of faculty members for balance, I believe that this impartial committee could function adequately in determining the Master Mercerian.

In the past some of the persons selected for this honor were James Wesberry, who is now pastor of the Morningside Baptist Church in Atlanta; Robert L. Gunnels, manager of the eastern export division of Coca-Cola; Joseph McClain, the present Dean of the Duke University Law school, was Dean of the Mercer Law School when he was 24 years of age.

One of the better known former Master Mercerians is William A. Bootle, a partner in the firm of Carlisle and Bootle here in Macon. Mr. Bootle was former acting dean of The Walter F. George School of Law, and is now one of the trustees of Mercer.

These are some of the men which Mercer produced in recent years. These men, several of whom are included in "Who's Who In America" were former Master Mercerians during the 1920's. This is an honor which should be rightfully continued.

## The Editor's Mail Elsewhere

An open letter to Mercer Students and Cluster Editor

Dear Students:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the cooperation of the Mercer faculty and students who actively participated in the "Lucy-Missionary" campaign which was conducted last week.

Although the goal of \$1000 was not reached during the campaign, we feel that this drive served to provide a common goal for the campus as a whole to achieve.

The new "Lucy" WILL be purchased, even if your BSU has to borrow the money, for we realize the dire need which exists here on our campus. This bus will be available to every recognized organization at a minimum of cost as has been the policy in the past.

Thanking you for your assistance, we remain,

Sincerely,  
Lamar Willis,  
Promotional Director  
Bill Middlebrooks,  
Publicity Director

The Cluster welcomes letters from students, but they do not necessarily express our views on any issue. Letters should not exceed 200 words in length.

Reg Murphy

## Circus in Town

This columnist, in trying to tell you of some of the ancient humorous lore of the university, has done a lot of research, but last week we came up with the story that amused us most, and we will try to tell it briefly.

It seems that as the twentieth century was getting into full swing, Barnum and Bailey, the people who do business by hauling pachyderms from town to town, were also getting into the swing. They came to town, and the college was determined to see them.

One enterprising young sophomore figured out a way to get the lowly freshmen admitted free of charge, seeing as how they would like to see, but probably didn't have the long green. He talked to the manager, selling himself as a one-man delegate from the office of Dr. Jameson, the Mercer prexy at the time.

The soph informed the manager that Dr. Jameson would gladly redeem passes for their full purchase price. All the circus people had to do was to carry the passes, signed by one I. C. Smith, to the office of the president.

Like all men hustling for the fast buck, the manager thought he saw money in the pot. He was most cooperative, worrying only that all the passes were signed by I. C. Smith. A great mass of Mercer freshmen showed up, and business—or the cuff—was booming. Came the next day, and a delegation of medicine men showed up at the office, asking Jameson for the money.

Jameson, full of tact but somewhat taken aback, admitted them into his sanctuary, then threw up his hands in horror when he heard their mission—what college president doesn't rebel at an outlay of money—and told them that there was a mistake.

As soon as the group had wended its way out the front door, there was a mass meeting of the freshmen. None of them could come up with the idea as to how the misunderstanding occurred. Then one little, bespectacled youth in the back got the idea. He said, "Dr. Jameson, no junior or senior would have ever thought of that. It had to be a sophomore, since they are the smartest men in any man's college." I. C. Smith was not a sophomore, or at least he was not enrolled as one. Neither was any other man on the campus. Until this day, he remains, respectfully yours, The Unknown Soph.

Judson Moss

## Thirty

For my last Cluster column I hardly know what theme I should follow since there are so many things I would like to say before writing "30" to both the Cluster and Mercer U., both of which have meant a great deal to me.

The shooting war was over, but peace nowhere on the horizon when the class of '52 embarked on its collegiate career at Mercer and other schools from which they came here later. The spectre of war has increased during these four years and the tension is much greater today as these men and women prepare to depart this campus.

It's rather alarming to realize that, for many of us, the days of preparation are over and the time has finally come when we shall take our places in a world torn by bitterness and greed, ratted of one man for another. A feeling of total inadequacy comes over one as he realizes that he has been called the "hope of tomorrow."

Even so, I think that we who leave these halls can be thankful for what Mercer has done to prepare us for what lies ahead. I shall be forever grateful for many teachers and officials in this institution who have sought to give Christian direction to my path. Their true value can never be measured.

I am also appreciative of the many student friends I have known here and the contribution they have made to my life. Without their love and understanding, life here would not have held the same rich meaning for me that I have enjoyed.

Mercer stands today for much that is commendable and uplifting, and I would never overlook that. But there are also many things here which need changing and we can not be oblivious to them for we are all interested in making this a better institution of learning. Faculty members are often not chosen on merit, but more often as economic commodities whose services may be purchased cheaply. Once here it seems not to matter whether they work well with students or not, the axe is rarely used.

It seems to be the prevalent idea with some officials here that students cannot be trusted and that their opinions are not to be considered. These persons might well realize that it is for these same students that this university exists.

After all is said and done, Mercer is, for us, without par anywhere and a lump comes to our throats as we sing, "Round our hearts, O alma mater, Mercer, hail, all hail."

Robert Stein, author and editor, recently took a tour of 100 colleges and decided that today's college student is more mature, responsible and studious than his predecessors. He gives his report in an article on "How Wild Are College Students?" in this month's issue of U. S. A.

He says the big switch toward sobriety has gone practically unnoticed by the public. This is because "an account of several dozen brawling, rioting students makes more dramatic reading than the story of 2.5 million young men and women quietly and effectively going about the business of learning."

He says the old "rah-rah" exuberance is giving way to a quiet purposefulness and the hazing is being replaced by acts of community service. Students, he concludes, are solemnly preparing for the "grave responsibilities which will soon be theirs."

In all fairness to Mr. Stein, it should be explained that his statements were made before the current wave of widespread raids were set in motion.

His article will doubtless take on added significance in the face of recent developments.