

Brother Rat

Congratulations to the cast of "Brother Rat" and Dr. Thornton. The production is a credit to Mercer and to its dramatic department.

Due to the panelling on the stage in the auditorium, a new system of scenery had to be used. This brought extra work to the production staff.

The play was produced in less than four weeks, yet it has the polish and showmanship which one would not ordinarily expect south of Broadway.

The play is a good example of what can be done when Mercer students are willing to give their full support to a worthy act.

These students have given of their time, late into the night, to present this play for us.

But let's not forget the most important one. Dr. Thornton has given up all her spare time by spending literally day and night on the chapel stage, after a long day of classes.

A treat is in store for us tonight and tomorrow night. Let's not miss out on it.

Messiah Set

Before another issue of the Cluster comes out, the annual production of the Messiah will have been given.

We would like to encourage the students to attend this event on Dec. 2. The Messiah is beautifully written for it has thrilled audiences for centuries. It is an oratorio commemorating the greatest event in the lives of men.

Four brilliant soloists have been secured for the performance. The Mercer Choir has been working since the first of school for this event.

Don't forget the date—Dec. 2.

Spirit Lacking

The turn-out last Tuesday night for the Orange and Black Game, though encouraging, was not what it should have been.

The "M" club is seeking to promote school spirit by sponsoring these games. There was necessarily an admission charged, since the student activity fee does not cover such a contest.

Much can be added to the school spirit if we will support these games annually. It gives us a chance to get a preview of the basketball team for the coming year.

We of the Cluster would like to add our hope that these games will continue from year to year. Well done, Coach Nyimicz, both squads, and "M" club.

The Mercer Cluster

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Home Cooking



ONE WEEK TILL THANKSGIVING

CAROLYN McELVEEN

In the Big City

Fall is everywhere. Here in Georgia it is painted in mellow hues on every tree—flaming orange, deep yellow and golden brown. It is in the rosy sunset, the cheese-colored harvest moon and the dusky fields ripe with grain and fruit.

This season, "drowned with the fume of poppies," must be one of Nature's favorite cycles. Awestruck amid such autumn beauty, we pay homage to its Creator for harvest blessings which are ours at this Thanksgiving season.

Yes, it's fall everywhere—even in New York, and this is no autumn daydream. Four Mercer students testify that it is fall in New York. These students are Sonny Posey, Bobby Bonner, Joan Chastain, and Dixie Watson, who represented Mercer at a National Educational Convention held there last week.

However, they all agree that no one seems to notice whether it's fall or not. Sonny says this fact impressed him most. "The crowds of people are like machines that knock down anything in their way.

The view of the first floor of Macy's Department Store reminds me of swarms of ants fighting over a few crumbs," Joan was most impressed by Times Square with all of its brilliant lights and the illuminated news flashes continuously moving around the Times building.

All four delegates were im-

pressed by the sights, and, of course, they took them all in. They went to the top of the Empire State Building (102nd floor), visited Radio City, climbed to the top of the Statue of Liberty and viewed such internationally known places as Wall Street and the United Nations Building.

The convention itself was also highly successful. Mercer's chapter of Kappa Delta Epsilon, honorary educational fraternity for girls, is one of the 19 in the United States, and one of two in Georgia, the other being the Emory University Graduate School chapter. The boys' chapter, Kappa Phi Kappa, is one of 62 in the United States.

The two groups conducted business sessions and discussed educational problems, trends, and plans for future propulsion of education in America. All in all, they agree that it was a very educational experience.

GLENN JOYNER

Aw, Rats!

A famous old proverb goes: "A rat in the trap is worth two in a loaf of bread" (at least that's the general idea). This proverb is especially true when the loaf of bread happens to be your own.

My roommate and I have made it a habit to keep something to eat in our room. We find that between the two-legged rats and the four-legged variety we even went so far as to buy, or steal, as the case may be, a few rat traps.

The next day we caught two things. The first was my roommate's big toe. It seems that the rat had quietly placed a trap in my roommate's bedroom slipper during the night.

In the second trap was a little note which read, "Don't be discouraged, you dumb smoe, at least

you caught your roommate's toe." This was too much. Evidently, this rat wanted open warfare.

Then I thought of the fool-proof idea. The next week we bought all our food in cans.

However, we made one mistake. We left the can opener next to the cans. These Macon rats are the smartest I've ever seen.

I finally made a truce with the little monster though. I feed him every night, and he writes and takes the blame for this column. He's not so smart after all. A guy could get killed for this.

CLUSTER STAFF . . .

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

ALVIN SHACKLEFORD Live Forever

Science has at last developed a mechanical heart.

This is good since heart disease is the foremost killer of these people called humans. It is not uncommon to read in the paper that any number of people have departed from our cold, cruel world because the pump has blown a gasket.

If this is the answer to America's number one killer, then can people live forever? If it is possible to replace worn out parts of our bodies, then life would seemingly have no end.

But this leaves me to worry. If nobody ever died, where would we put all the people?

You can't deny that people are born every day by the thousands. Death is the only way by which the population may be depleted to make room for these new arrivals.

If no one does, it would not take long for the whole world to be overrun.

Since science, by the invention of the mechanical heart, iron lung, mechanical kidney, glass eye, etc., are hastening us to over population, I propose three answers.

First, build 100 story skyscrapers all over the earth. These buildings could be joined together so that their roofs would give us a new world of a greater diameter—hence, a greater surface area.

Second, explore all other planets, as well as stars, concerning the possibility of establishing colonies there. It seems that aeronautics is behind the age of medical science, so this might be impractical.

Lastly, I will unveil my answer to the problem. By using these spare parts, it would be possible to insure the life of a person up to any age. If we can insure their life, we can insure their death.

Say, for instance, that nobody would be allowed to live over 100 years of age. That would be a good number. The body could be geared in such a way that all the parts would wear out simultaneously, therefore, no waste parts.

By calculation this expiration date, a person on his 100th birthday would just disintegrate, since all the parts would wear out.

Think of the problem that would be solved in burying people. There wouldn't be anything left.

Of course, this type of life would have its faults. People would not start to do something that they would not be able to finish, hence, no initiative.

But the ones to suffer would be the lawyers. Imagine trying to sell life insurance.

REG MURPHY

Mr. President

OPEN LETTER TO "IKE"

Dear Sir,

I, along with many other young people voting for the first time in a national election, put my future in your hands.

That we trusted you to guide our destinies was evidenced by the tremendous majority of votes you received. Otherwise, your opponent would have been elected president, and would have had the influence you now enjoy.

We expect you to use that influence to restore sanity to our country and the world. We would like a life not marred with uncertainty and doubt. Everywhere we turn, we hear that we are the future of America, the men and women who will shape the world tomorrow. Doubtless that will be, but it won't be right if we are warped and broken by decisions of today.

Very few of us today can envision ourselves entering a chosen profession without first giving a few precious years of our lives to the defense of our country and our freedoms. We will do that gladly if we are to have a secure future when we return.

But the most important thing to us is that you, as President of the United States, restore some of the faith in our government that has waned in the parade of years. Once youngsters aspired to become the leader of this country. Today, they hesitate to enter the rotten mess of politics.

We believe you have the personal integrity and ability to give back some dignity to the position you hold. Heretofore, you have been a real leader in the midst of some rather mediocre fellow workers. We would like to see that remain as you step into the White House and assume the most powerful and most important position ever seen on the earth.

You see, Ike, faith in our country and ourselves is the first step toward building a life for us. If we can somehow get rid of the scandals that have plagued our government, then we can embark on our own lives with a feeling of cleanliness and well-being.

You are the man who holds the answers. We pray you will take the right stands.

Sincerely,
Reg Murphy