

This is to be the last issue of the Mercer Cluster published by these editors. Business Manager Homer Lassiter and your editor wish to thank all the staff and the Student Body for cooperation they have shown during the past year.

New editors will take over the paper for the next issue. The new editor is to be elected in Student Government elections to be held tomorrow.

Student elections are to be held tomorrow, Tuesday, April 13.

Polls will be found in the Co-op and will be opened from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m. Ballots will then be counted and results posted at regular intervals during the remainder of the evening until results are final.

We urge all students to take a part in the balloting tomorrow. . . . The Student Government is operated in your behalf and should therefore be elected by you . . . a majority in order to assure an accurate functioning government.

We wish to call your attention to the comedy being produced by the Alpha Omega dramatic fraternity and the Mercer Players on the night of April 15-16.

We understand this is to be a satire on the physicians of the seventeenth century, during the time of King Louis XIV of France.

This is a great play, written in 1683, considered one of Moliere's most delightful comedies.

We more especially urge you to back all activities such as this event which is produced and directed locally, using local talent. Your Student Activities Committee has had to fight to get more programs of complete student participation, waged for a long time. This is your chance to prove we need and want such programs as these.

Macon, Georgia  
April 7, 1954

Dear Mr. Editor:

Due to an oversight on my part during the chapel program on Wednesday Gene Bishop's name was not called and therefore he was not presented as a candidate for the coming election.

Many people have asked me why his name was not given along with the others who are candidates for student council, he being the Junior College representative. Therefore in order to clarify this matter, to assure members of both parties that it was not intentionally my aim, but simply an oversight I wish that you might publish this letter.

This is not a means of trying to influence votes for Gene, any more than the omission on Wednesday was an attempt to influence votes away from him. I am trying to be objective in this even as was my aim in presiding in chapel. So in justice to Gene and in answer to many inquiries this is submitted.

Sincerely,  
Wade D. Hillabidel

## The Mercer Cluster

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The Mercer Cluster is the official newspaper of Mercer University, published by the students weekly from September through May, except holidays and examination periods. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Macon, Georgia, April 6, 1948, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

## Vote Cooperative . . .

## Vote Progressive . . .

# BUT VOTE!

NANCY YATES

## I Pay Tribute

This column is unique in that it is written simply to pay a tribute to a not-to-often recognized department of our university. The department to which I refer is that of speech and dramatics.

Most of us attend a play (sponsored by Mercer Players and Alpha Psi Omega), enjoy it, and think no more about it.

There's more to a play than the stage performance, however. Having participated in dramatics at another school, I know the amount of work which goes into the presentation of a three-act play. The weeks of rehearsal, the precise timing of light and sound cues, the collection of properties, make-up difficulties—all these go into the making of a play.

For their next production, "The Imaginary Invalid", the Mercer Players and Alpha Psi have added another chore to the above list—this time they are making their own costumes. These costumes include men's suits of brocade-like material to suit the seventeenth century setting.

We think the Mercer dramatics department is to be commended for its fine productions this year and for its originality and initiative in making costumes for the next play.

"The Imaginary Invalid", by the way, is considered one of the French Moliere's most delightful comedies. Moliere himself played the lead role of Argan, which Julian Franklin of Gainesville will portray here.

### Debate Team

The second part of this tribute is directed toward the Mercer debate team, which has made an outstanding record this year. Next week four members of the team—

Jane Carol Adams, Carswell Hughes, Hilda Bell, and Sid Johnson—will participate in the Grand National Debate Tournament at Fredericksburg, Va.

Probably you will remember, too, that Mercer was the site this year of the annual southern Tau Kappa Alpha debate tournament. Representatives from about 30 different southern colleges and universities were here on our campus to debate the issue of free trade.

The Mercer debate team has been an able participant in tournaments at FSU, Hickory, West Georgia College, and the University of Alabama, among others.

Much credit is due Miss Audrey Needles and Dr. Helen Thornton for the fine work of the speech and dramatic departments of Mercer.

Mercer is becoming more and more of a real university as the arts divisions make greater progress. We are glad to note the accomplishments of departments other than that of the ministerial studies.

Realizing that Mercer is primarily a Baptist institution for the education of young men and women for Christian service, we should nevertheless encourage and support the development of these other important departments of our school.

The result will be a well rounded college environment and the greater enrichment of our education.

HOMER LASSITER

## Late Permission

It seems a shame one may have only one o'clock permission when a fraternity or sorority elects to have its formal dance on Saturday night. This dance is usually the highlight of the social calendar for any organization and each member of the organization looks forward to a big evening.

It is customary to schedule a breakfast as a highlight following the dance and as the dance always lasts until twelve, it is very hard to have this breakfast served before twelve-thirty. As you may see, it is impossible to carry through with the breakfast and program in the thirty minutes now allotted.

You may say that this may be remedied by having the functions on Friday night but I have stated this is the case one elects to have its dance on Saturday night. I am now proposing the writing of a petition for later permission on such occasions as I have stated above. The present situation seems to put a damper on a most enjoyable occasion and I believe it could and should be changed.

DONALD KING

## Looking at Education

The pros and cons of a liberal education versus specialized education are constantly being brought into the forefront of the teaching profession today.

Some people feel that education is a preparation for a vocation in order that a student may better make his living. This is, flatly stated, so that he may make more money. Some people come for college simply to learn to make money—faster and easier.

These people would like to study only those subjects that pertain to their chosen vocation and by which they would literally profit.

Others don't want to "waste their time" on subjects not directly connected with their vocational purpose. They want to put all their attention on the specialized courses.

The aims of a liberal education are to show students that there are other things in life in its various aspects of literature, art, philosophy, and religion.

The matter of concern today is whether or not liberal arts courses should be forced upon the specializing students. Should pre-med students, for example, be required to take literature courses and social studies? Or should they merely take the natural sciences pertaining to their profession?

Education is theoretically preparation for life, and life is the whole of existence. Therefore, it seems that any course would be valuable which would add to the student's appreciation of his surroundings, deepen his understanding of the world about him, and provide a foundation for his inmost thoughts and beliefs. The time spent on these extra courses would be regained in the many hours of pleasure and mental security in the future.

SOME STUDENTS WONDER . . .

## Value of Editorials

Is the value of the editorial page lessening today? In dealing with the editorial page, we must consider those who write the words and those who set the policy that must be followed—and followed it must be. In effect, the writers are no more than free slaves. The editorial page sets forth the policy of the owners of the newspaper. It cannot stray. The result, then, is a carefully controlled and slanted view of a many sided question. In a city of two newspapers with different policies, both sides may be given, but where there is only one paper, the editorial page must be considered a one track affair. With this situation, the reader knows what the editorial conclusion will be before reading it—the same two and two will give the same four.

The recent editorial controversy at the University of Georgia has brought to light some of the problems of college newspapers. Two editors went to extreme opposites of the segregation policy set down by the certain powers. Today they are no longer editors. Various reasons are given in their resignation, but the basic problem is this: did they err in going outside policy set down by their university? By all idealistic standards, the question at this point should be: was their segregation view well taken? Thus we have the question of whether an editorial's value lies in policy first, then reason, which is rather an odd sequence in a system of "higher education".

A STUDENT LAWYER SEES . . .

## Recent Cases

A meaningful phrase of a prominent automobile manufacturer uses "Worth its weight in prestige!"

to attract the customers of his high class auto . . . working for an education or whether they have "played" along through the four years, gradually getting by.

Professor Antony Standfield in a recent chapel program brought three major points to mind when he charged: Know Thyself; Maintain Thyself; Be Thyself!

Many of us on the Mercer campus never think of this way of living. We think of us as others see us (without ambition) and we maintain and live accordingly. Matthew Arnold using Socrates' phraseology once more said: "Resolve to be thyself and know that he who finds himself loses his misery."

We add all comments to conclude—if the students of Mercer would put more work into their grees the sheepskin would be worth much more than its price in prestige.

A walk into the library of the Walter F. George School of Law will give insight to the person seeking to be educated. These men know what they are after . . . so many of the younger liberal arts students cannot understand what they are at this institution for. But the fact remains there is the prestige the sheepskin received at graduation offers. Whether they have gone the route of actually