

The Mercer Cluster

Merger Diary

Sunday, October 3
Join-the Church Sunday, 11 a.m.
Pan Hellenic Preferential Bidding, 3:00 p.m.

Monday, October 4
I.F.C. Bids given out, 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Pledging 7:00 to 7:30

Tuesday, October 5
Ciceronian meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 7
Book Review, 3:30 p.m.
BSU Campuswide party, 7:30 p.m.

Faculty Includes Ten Newcomers

By Claranell Hobby
Ten names have been added to the list of faculty members at Mercer this fall. The additions have been made in various departments, including law, history, physics, biology, English, and R.O.T.C.

Dr. Henry N. Williams of Nashville, Tennessee, has been appointed to the faculty of the Walter F. George School of Law. Native of Tennessee and formerly a member of the House of Representatives in that state, Dr. Williams served in the U. S. Army during World War II, and after the war, taught in Vanderbilt University. He received his education at Middle Tennessee State College, the University of Tennessee, the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt, and Columbia University, and he holds his B.S., M.A., Ph.D., LL.B., and LL.M. Dr. Williams is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Sigma Alpha, Pi Gamma Mu, and has published articles in numerous law reviews and journals.

Dr. Ralph C. Boles, who came here from Albama State Teachers College, has been named as professor of mathematics. Dr. Boles received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Alabama Polytechnic Institute and his D.Ed. from the University of Florida. Previously he has taught in the public schools in Gadsden, Alabama, at Auburn, and at the University of Florida. Dr. Boles, a Baptist, is a member of the Lions Club, Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Delta Kappa, and Masons.

To replace Dr. R. I. Allen as head of the physics department is Dr. J. C. Hendricks, who comes here from Marion Institute, Marion, Alabama. Dr. Hendricks was educated in Indiana, at Franklin College where he received his A. B. and at Indiana University where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. He is a Mason, a member of Alpha Honor Society, Sigma Xi, and the American Physical Society. In addition to his work as a teacher, Dr. Hendricks has published several research reports and is the author of *Fundamentals of Physics*. Also he is co-owner of the Hendricks Construction Company.

Dr. David Johnson, brother to Dr. Edwin D. Johnston of the Christianity Department, has been selected to teach in the biology department. Dr. Johnson is the son of Mr. Pinckney Johnston, former editor of the Christian Index and the son-in-law of Dr. D. B. Nicholson, who for twenty-five years was secretary of the Baptist Student Union work in Georgia. He holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Georgia, and Ph.D. from the University of California, and is a member of Phi (Continued on Page 3)

Rossie C. Allen Publishes Novel

Mrs. Rossie C. Allen, wife of former Mercer physics professor Robert I. Allen, has written a new book called *Today We're Free!*, a compelling love story with the deep South as its background.

Throughout the book Mrs. Allen uses an unusual technique for leading the reader to an unforgettable climax.

Besides writing, the author has various talents and interests. She is a consummated musician and composer, having had musical compositions performed by the Macon, Miami, Jacksonville, and Tampa Symphony Orchestras. She has had her own radio program, "Melody Lady", over Florida's Station WDLF and has made numerous television appearances.

Mrs. Allen lives in Atlanta with her husband, who is now head of the physics department at the Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia.

(A review of Mrs. Allen's book and her picture will be found on page 4).

Freshmen Activities Continue; Rat Court, Beauty Contest On Tap For Next Week



REGISTRATION DAY—Shirley Crews and Gerry White, two of the more than 345 freshmen of fall quarter, 1954, go through the final stages of registration.

(Alumni Office Photo by Harry Smith)

Frosh Elections Set for Oct. 12

"Rat Week", a general campaign to make incoming freshmen aware of their low status on campus, will begin next week. Included on the schedule are a cake race and a frosh beauty contest.

Failure by a "rat" to wear his rat cap during this week will result in a penalty administered by the Rat Court, composed of sophomores.

Freshman elections are scheduled for chapel period October 12, according to Bill Middlebrooks, freshman adviser. Nomination will be entertained at that time and the freshman class, in call meeting, will then elect its officers.

The cake race during Rat Week is for freshman boys. It will be held Thursday afternoon. The freshman beauty queen will be selected at Rat Court Thursday night.

Final plans are to be worked out today by Gene Temple, president of the sophomore class; Bill Middlebrooks, and Dean Richard Burts.

BSU Council Has Planning Retreat At Joycliff, Maps Year's Program

By Spencer Ludlow

The executive council of Mercer's Baptist Student Union retreated to Camp Joycliff last Saturday morning for a planning session to replace the pre-school planning session.

At eight o'clock Saturday morning, September 25, "Lucy" left M.E.P. carrying seventeen of the twenty-one members of the executive council of the B.S.U. bound for Camp Joycliff. Shortly after arriving at the camp, coffee and doughnuts were served by the Social Chairman, and the session got under way.

Players Accept New Members

The university's dramatic group, The Mercer Players, had its first meeting of the new year this morning at 10:00 in the Green Room.

New members were welcomed to the fun and dramatic work that the club takes part in, and old members were welcomed back.

Miss Audrey Needles, director and drama department associate, announced that the fall production will be "My Three Angels", the comedy hit of Broadway last year. Cast try-outs will be held soon. Announcements are forthcoming as to the exact time.

Rehearsals will begin as soon as the copies of the play arrive, and the production will be presented two nights in early November.

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McCLAIN SPEAKS

Meeting Opens Year's Activities

Dr. Roy O. McClain, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta, was the principal speaker for Mercer's formal convocation held at Willingham Chapel Wednesday morning, September 29.

This annual event officially opened chapel services for the coming year.

"We are a generation of nuclear giants and moral infants," declared Dr. McClain as he spoke on the meaning of true greatness.

"Who rings the bells for you?" he asked and then showed how the criteria of things possessed, brute strength, and intellectualism all failed to measure true greatness. "Ignorance is the blight of the world," he stated.

Dr. McClain concluded by saying that the truly great are those nameless people who, by countless little acts, do the will of God and admonished the students to put "a premium of worth on something worth while."

The program began with the faculty, in full academic regalia entering in procession. Dr. P. Harris Anderson, Jr., gave the invocation and Dr. Hansford D. Johnson led the responsive reading.

The choir under the direction of Dr. Arthur L. Rich sang a number and President George B. Connell introduced Dr. McClain. Professor W. T. Smalley dismissed the student body with the benediction.

Dr. McClain graduated from Furman University and holds degrees from Carolina Commercial College and the Southern Baptist Seminary. He held pastorates in South Carolina and Indiana and served as chaplain in the U. S. Army. He also served as trustee of Furman University, Shorter College, and the Southern Baptist Seminary.

The honor committee regrets to announce that a case has been tried and the defendant found guilty of classroom cheating. This case was during the spring quarter.

The Cluster staff meets every Thursday afternoon at 3:30. All staff members are urged to attend these meetings.

ROTC Reformed Into 6 Companies

With 285 students enrolled, Mercer's ROTC unit has been reorganized into two battalions and six companies. Last year's unit was divided into three battalions and six companies.

The increased size of the companies has been made to allow the cadet officers to receive better training and experience. Approximately 100 freshmen have signed up for ROTC.

Included in the ROTC program for the year will be a band of about thirty-five members, the rifle team, and the annual Military Ball, tentatively set for December 3.

SGA To Decide Date for Election

A special date election to fill three student offices vacated by students who did not return to school this year will be announced soon, according to Student Body President Joe Hendricks. The Student Government Association will decide the date at their next meeting.

Merger Mimics

Three juniors, absorbed in small talk, walking up walk way and nearly meeting over lady meeting them. When one of them recognized her as Mrs. Connell, they all break into a run to the dormitory.

Labeled sign in learned library: "Ples do not opin this winder, ples."

Merger co-ed, disgusted with Fort Knox personnel unable to locate her brother, makes long distance person-to-person call to none other than Dwight Eisenhower in Washington (on theory that call to Washington is no more expensive than one to Fort Knox). She is informed, by Ike's perplexed secretary he is on vacation. Poor secretary's probably still wondering to are you, no doubt!