



## A Dedicated Profession

By WILLARD CLUTCHMYER

Ignomy and gloom was mine. Out of 165 seniors taking Senior Comprehensive Exams I was the only failure. I knew I was making a mistake in my freshman year when I let my faculty advisor, Symington C. Frump (often erroneously referred to as Pfsstron Liverkwestien, a great Irish birdwatcher) talk me into majoring in Chinese. What a comprehensive! Several people turned in blank papers and got better grades than I did.

Fear was mine when I opened the post office box and found a note from Dean Bosco Cecil Shaft on his official black bordered stationery requesting my immediate presence in his office.

I raced up to his office and ran to the desk of the kindly old receptionist. Trying to appear casual, I leaned on her desk and gasped, "Where is Dean Shaft?"

"Who am I, Inspector Keen . . . tracer of missing persons?" she countered, smashing my fingers with a sawed off fungo bat which she had cleverly concealed under her desk.

The bleeding had just about stopped when Dean Shaft opened the door to his chambers and beckoned me in. Dean Shaft is an impeccable dresser. Many think he was the first to bring the Ivy-League look to Mercer. This, however, is not quite true. He does wear Ivy League clothes but they are the same clothes he wore as an undergraduate at Slippery Rock State Teachers College in 1921—the style is just coming back.

I tipped quietly into his lavish office the walls of which were papered with threatening letters he had received during his tenure as Dean.

"Sit down lad," he said.

"Thank you," I said, making a low curtsy and seating myself on the spot indicated on the floor.

"Well it certainly is a lovely day."

"Indeed," I agreed, "12 inches of rain since lunch."

"Well enough of this pantheistic prattle," he screamed, slashing me across the face with his rubber hose.

"You know why you're here, Clutchmyer?"

"Yes, I lied, trying to appear nonchalant as I attempted to force my nose back into position.

"You are the only person in the history of this noble body of learning," he paused here to face Penfield and salaam thrice, "who has ever flunked a senior comprehensive exam."

"You will never," he continued, "be able to hold a regular, respectable position in the outside."

"Woe is me," I loudly lamented, attempting to slash my wrists on one of the many shafts which hung about his office.

"Here, here, child, I am your friend, don't do anything rash that would mess up your life . . . or my office."

"Yes," he went on, "there is another way . . ."

"Pray tell, what is that?" I asked.

"YOU CAN BE A COLLEGE PROFESSOR!!" he screamed, delighted at this prospect, "Think of it Willard . . . \$33 a month to start with and a nicker a week raise every time Armistice Day falls on Sunday."

"Not really," I exclaimed.

"Not only that," he added, "you can rent one of the faculty apartments for \$325 a month. Of course you will have to pay your own utilities, upkeep, and furnish doors and window panes."

"Gad," I mumbled, amazed at the good deal offered to the scholarly profs who I thought heretofore lived in rented rooms and old soldiers' homes. "I may consider it."

"There are of course certain rules that the University expects all faculty members to follow some of which are:

"Professors shall have no more than two suits. One must be tweed, baggy and at all times unpressed. It also speaks well for the teachers if this suit is spotted and stained. The other suit must be dark and shiny. This suit may be worn to Faculty-Trustee frolics and public executions. Also professors will not, I say will not, attend any chapel program."

"I don't mind telling you Willard," said the congenial Dean as he dusted his desktop with his peruke, "we catch a lot of professors violating the most fundamental rules. One person last year taught a course for three quarters without changing text books!!!"

"You don't mean it," I asked in obvious disbelief.

"Yes," he said, "and not only that, one undedicated instructor had the gall to pass over half of his class!!"

"You can do it Willard, think about it, and in the meantime practice mumbleing. You speak much too distinctly for a college professor."

My heart beat periodically as I raced out of Dean Shaft's office and down to the Salvation Army store to buy a toga suitable for teaching purposes.

## Spanish Students Join Fraternity

Eta Sigma Iota, Mercer's honorary Spanish fraternity, held its initiation of new members on Thursday night, Oct. 27. New members are: Connie Norwood, Richard Pridger, Elbia Coe, Ward Lowrance, Linda Jones, Maria Lopez, Rabun Roberts, Linda Lawson, Sandra Hutto, Gracelyn Hawkes, Bill Scarborough, Emily Carson, Clara Whitesides and June Craig.

Claude Britt of the Spanish department is the new advisor of the group, taking the place of Dr. Louise Sands.

Eta Sigma Iota hopes to secure the film "Don Quixote" to show sometime this quarter, and also hopes to sponsor several films this year to raise money for the group.

A Christmas party has been planned for December which will consist of Spanish food, songs and games.



—Photo by Ward Lowrance

After attending Brenau and Georgia, Emily Carson came to Mercer where she was elected pledge president of Phi Mu.

## Student Comments On Native Honduran Life

After attending the University of Georgia for almost two years, Emily Carson from La Lima, Honduras, decided to transfer to Mercer. Emily began her high school education in New Orleans and then completed her sophomore through senior years at Brenau Academy in Gainesville, Ga.

Her home town of La Lima is in the northeastern part of Honduras with a population of about 500. It's just a two hour drive from La Lima to the coast and the temperature there stays in the 80's. Honduras doesn't have Georgia's humidity and the heat there isn't as noticeable.

In La Lima Emily never wore winter clothes but dressed just as we do here in the summer. She says the stereotype of the full skirt and peasant blouse isn't typical at all because La Lima is like a small American town.

The American influence is largely because the United Fruit Company has a branch there and many Americans live in the town.

Emily's father, an Englishman, works for this company; her mother is a native Honduran.

The entertainment in La Lima is very much like ours, except they dance a great deal more. Emily said that the inhabitants are "very carefree and gay and don't worry about tomorrow."

Most of the churches in La Lima are Catholic but there is one Protestant church.



## Chas. Brownlee, Freshman Prexy, Views Mercer

Charles Brownlee, the president of the freshman class likes Mercer, its freedoms and its responsibilities.

At Mercer, the newly elected officer plans to study for the ministry. He has joined the Ministerial Association, BSU, Mercer Independent Men's Association, Christian Service Fellowship and is a member of the Tatnall Square Baptist Church.

Brownlee, a graduate of Southwest High, Atlanta said he was very happy with his slate of officers. He also said until now the freshman president has just been a figurehead; he wants to change this with the help of his officers and the members of the class.

He enjoyed going through rush but his only complaint was that the Mercer freshman girls can't date during rush week.

When asked about the honor system, he said, "I respect the honor system because I think a person is more apt not to cheat when put on his honor, than when he is being watched by someone else."

He thinks that at Mercer there is a place for everybody and there is opportunity for service for those who want to serve.

At fifteen he spent 6 weeks touring England, France, Germany, Holland, and Switzerland. This trip was financed by his parttime job, as a newspaper carrier.

When asked about the trip, he gave varied opinions. The scenery was beautiful and he enjoyed seeing the way those people lived, Charles said, but now he wishes he had been a little older when he made the trip. Brownlee also said, "My outlook on foreign life was changed by this trip."

## Holmes On Evangelism

A Mercer University official and Baptist minister Thursday night in Columbus scored "Madison Avenue" methods of salvation, saying that salvation ". . . belongs to God and to the people of God."

Legitimate concern for the salvation of fellow man can become "lost in a maze of promotional schemes," Thomas J. Holmes, director of university development and alumni affairs, told members of the Columbus Baptist Association.

"The dynamic force in Christian evangelism is the power of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's life," he reiterated in a discussion of the evangelistic philosophy as taught in the New Testament.

He decried "hit-and-run" evangelism, concerned only with an initial decision, as "inadequate" preparation of Christians for life in modern society.

Strongly committed to Christian education, Rev. Holmes teaches in the Christianity department in addition to his executive duties at Mercer, which includes public relations, university development and alumni affairs.

The meeting was at the Kendrick Memorial Baptist Church in Columbus.

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