

The Mercer Cluster

MERCER UNIVERSITY, MACON, GEORGIA

March 31, 1961

VOLUME XLI NO. 20

RALPH BASS, JR.
EDITOR



RITHIA McGLAUN
MANAGING EDITOR

Sports Editor Charlie Etheridge
 Associate Editor Nancy Minter
 Associate Editor John Weatherly
 Staff Photographer Ward Lowrance
 Social Editor Deryl Daugherty

Editorial staff: Nick Banks, Marjorie Beene, Mary Jane Carter, Bill English, Amy Garrison, Pope Hamrick, Lynn Holmes, Karen Kennedy, Loy Knight, Betsy Livingston, Elaine McLeod, Ron Newberry, Don Power, Jimmy Rachels, Bill Scarbrough, Dick Shiver, Margretta Wells.

Business staff: Dan Bradley, Sandy Bridges, Carole Rhodenhiser, Jean Smith, Patricia Smith, Holly Woodruff.

Sports staff: Jere Key, Hugh Lawson, Linda Smith.

Proof readers: Jimmy Jordan, Faye Bush.

The Cluster is published weekly during the regular academic year by the students of Mercer University. The opinion expressed within does not necessarily reflect the policy or opinion of the faculty, the administration or the trustees.

Letters to the editor are published if signed. Signer's name can be withheld for legitimate reasons.



Harris Will Lead Well

The Administration Building, which has seen ten presidents since the 1870's, saw Rufus Carrollton Harris inaugurated president of Mercer University, Wednesday morning.

But the Administration Building has been seeing the spirit of this Christian educator working on the Mercer campus. The physical side of the campus has been improved; more improvements are in the offing. The faculty will continue to be strengthened. Plans are in action for reaching other goals of the Harris administration.

Since Dr. Harris came last spring the campus has taken on a new dimension. We as students on the days after his inauguration are confident that we shall continue to be the recipients of benefits gained from Dr. Harris's fine leadership.

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Mercer University, a cultural institution of learning, has been in existence since 1833 and situated in the City of Macon since 1871, and

WHEREAS, Mercer is one of the South's finest institutions of learning, and its spirit and ideals are the highest, and

WHEREAS, this, the oldest Georgia Baptist College, has as its alumnus such noble statesmen as Congressman Carl Vinson, Walter Dowling, the present Ambassador to Germany, and the late Senator Walter F. George, and

WHEREAS, Mercer University has inaugurate its Sixteenth President, Dr. Rufus C. Harris, last week, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rufus C. Harris is a scholar of renown, a nationally recognized leader in the field of education, and a distinguished successor to the great men who have served as president of Mercer University, and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Macon are proud of the contributions Mercer University has made to this community and to the state and nation and wish to join in honoring Dr. Harris and Mercer University,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Wilson, Mayor of the City of Macon, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the week of March 26-31, 1961 as MERCER WEEK, and do further proclaim March 29, 1961 as DR. RUFUS C. HARRIS DAY in the City of Macon, and urge all citizens to take this opportunity to show their appreciation for Mercer University and her distinguished new president.

Ed Wilson
Mayor

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Tray - Leavers Condemned

Dear Sir:

May I offer my commendation to the student who was courteous enough to remind some of our fellow students of their very noticeable discourteousness in leaving their trays on the tables in the dining hall. Evidently these students have forgotten the good etiquette they were taught at home. However, it does seem that since they are college students they should be intelligent enough to look at the other 99% of the students who do return their trays and "catch on" to their good habits. Perhaps these discourteous students do not realize that other students are pointing the proverbial finger at them and that they are a discredit to the rest of the students who are thoughtful enough to clear the dining hall tables of their trays.

Again, I offer my support to the thoughtful student who reminded our thoughtless students of their bad etiquette.

Sincerely,
Lynne Bradley

Stephenson Continues

Ralph Bass Jr.
Editor, Mercer Cluster
Re. Communist Strategy

Dear Sir,

Although much emphasis has recently been placed on the need for patriotic Americans to interest themselves in Americanism and to take an active part in helping to defeat Communism, only a few have responded to the need. It is my contention that many of those who hold themselves aloof from this increasing struggle are not aware of the true nature of the Communist threat.

Indeed, looking at the rapid advance of world communism, the vast majority of our people have been unable to comprehend the factors inherent in its growth. To them the rise of Communist Russia has been "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma". Such an attitude clearly shows an ignorance of Communist writings, however, for the Communist have set forth their master plan for world conquest even more clearly and more emphatically than Hitler did in *Mein Kampf*.

Lenin stated the Communist master plan for world domination in these words:

First, we will take Eastern Europe, then the masses of Asia, then we will encircle the

JOHN WEATHERLY

Discourse On Buddha

Had Buddha stood among those witnessing the crucifixion, he might have responded as he did to the broken and twisted bodies he saw of the aged, the dead, and the diseased in his own homeland. He had been sheltered from human misery most of his life behind palace walls. Now out on his own he came to see man's identity as shot through and through with impermanence and suffering.

Life was fraught ultimately with frustration in a ceaseless process of painful becoming in which neither the phenomena of the world or even human personality evidently have any lasting or concrete reality. Grasping after such is a "striving after wind". The Hindu faith of his India explained it in this way: in the beginning, Brahma—the Absolute One—comes apart by an act of self-dismemberment to form the multiplicity of the phenomenal world. Individual persons are but roles which the Brahma plays by a sort of self-forgetting.

When one tired of the drama as did Gautama Buddha, liberation from the painful "fix" in which one finds himself could be had over a great period of time (through many lives) through a number of methods. At the end of such paths the individual found "oneness with Brahma" as Brahma remembers itself to be itself. Buddha set out with the tenacity of Paul to realize the Brahma within him, but only to fail and give up. Significantly enough for Zen and the Chinese religious tradition it was at this point when he stopped striving for liberation that Enlightenment or satori came to him under the Bodhi-tree.

Zenists sensitive to the charge made by some Western critics that Buddhism is a life-denying faith in which the worth and uniqueness of the individual and the world are lost in a dim "miasma of uniform oneness" are careful at this point to

Limited World's Resources

1116 S. Flower
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Editor:

This world does not have an unlimited amount of space for an unlimited amount of people. We do not even have an unlimited amount of fresh water. There are those who seem to think the answer lies in ignoring it.

William R. Sullivan

United States, which will be the last bastion of capitalism. We will not have to attack. It will fall like an overripe fruit into our hands.

The Communist philosophy of negotiation was stated all too clearly by Dmitri Z. Manulsky to the Lenin School of Political Warfare in 1931:

War to the hilt between communism and capitalism is inevitable. Today, of course, we are not strong enough to attack. Our time will come in 20 or 30 years (1961). To win we shall need the element of surprise. The bourgeoisie will have to be put to sleep. So we shall begin by launching the most spectacular peace movement on record. There will be electrifying overtures and unheard of concessions. The capitalistic countries, stupid and decadent, will rejoice to cooperate in their own destruction. They will leap at another chance to be friends. As soon as their guard is down, we will smash them with our clenched fist.

Mr. Manulsky, no doubt, had ample opportunity to offer "unheard concessions" to the capitalist countries while he was presiding as President of the United Nations Security Council in 1949.

Despite such pointed statements of Communist intentions, however, there are those who insist that the Communist have changed their policy now that Khrushchev runs the Soviet Union. Perhaps it would be wise to see what Mr. Khrushchev himself has to say about such illusory ideas.

On 17 September 1955, shortly after his "summit conference" with President Eisenhower, he warned us:

If anyone believes our smiles involve the abandonment of the teachings of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, he deceives himself poorly. Those who wait for that must wait until a shrimp learns to whistle.

He who has eyes to see, let him see.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Stephenson



the Buddhist doctrine of karuna. When form said to be void, this is to indicate the total elusiveness of the world not the reality of that world. Such elusiveness is depressing only to one who would grasp and freeze life. And such is doomed to the same frustration as Buddha's attempt to merge with Brahma.

When life is let to be life "void is form." Spontaneous life in all its natural "suchness" is affirmed. Unique events are seen to be 'one with nature' by virtue of their very distinctness and not at all by absorption into a featureless uniformity. So write the Buddhist apologists. After all, Buddha stays in the world to perform his passionate ministry. It is you Christian who look for another world. Your art loses itself in abstraction while ours stresses natural forms. "salvation" is within nature, within the sustaining Tao, while you strive after abstract abstraction and spin false dualities placing unreal ego over against nature. Thus your Western culture has molded a type of man estranged from himself. For man is not a thing but spontaneity which desires, loves, wills, and acts.

Where Judaeo-Christian tradition sees man's problem as exile from God and one another, Hindu-Buddhist-Taoian tradition of the East sees man's difficulty in his exile from nature from the Tao. And there is something to what they say. It has been the discovery of the depth psychology of Freud and Jung that the mind, less than the body, tends to compensate for illness and moves toward healing. Their technique of free association further seems to have similarities to the Eastern method of letting spontaneous activity of the organism work out its own solution in the fullness of intuition. "Tao loves and nourishes all things," says Chuang Tzu, "and it does not abandon them."