



Dr. Spright Dowell's portrait hangs in the Mercer chapel. He became president of the institution in 1928.

Mercer's And Dowell's Future Changed In 1928

When Dr. Spright Dowell came to Mercer in 1928, he reached a turning point in his career. Previously he had been an educator among church-related schools, but at Mercer he became an educator in a church-related Christian college.

Dr. Dowell served for a quarter of a century, the longest any president ever served the institution. During that span, the country suffered a major depression, entered a period that ended a world war.

When he arrived at the university he found a \$100,000 debt which he understood had been taken over by the Georgia Baptist Convention. He had this debt and other problems to cope with.

Also during his administration thirteen Mercer students caused a "heresy" trail with accusations against members of the Christiani-department. These students were assisted in the trail by their counsel several Macon ministers. The guilty members were found innocent of heresy, but in August following the June trial, Dr. John Freeman of the Christianity department tendered his resignation. The university provided a pension for the theology professor until his death in the 40's.

During the Dowell administration, football as an organized intercollegiate activity met its death. Intercollegiate football was discontinued in 1940 and efforts were unavailing to have it re-established after the war.

Dr. Dowell also led Mercer to revise its charter and by laws in 1928, which, when submitted to the Georgia Baptist Convention, were approved.

During that quarter of a century, the endowment funds rose from \$778,736 to \$3,391,834, a high quadruple.

In the exercises Wednesday, Dr. Harris, in presenting Dr. Dowell with the certificate, paid tribute to him, describing him as a "loving long adopted son, who at the same time is the established father, a blessing, of Mercer University; a man of time, but the courageous captain of the crises of time in Mercer's history; alive in the hearts of Mercerians always as her magnificent modern leader."

Harris In Mississippi

Dr. Harris, recently inaugurated as president, will attend a meeting of the Southern University Conference at Edgewater Gulf, Mississippi, April 6-7.

Honor Council Reports

In case number four of the winter quarter, 1961, the honor council found the accused student guilty of a violation of the honor code. The student was given a penalty of an "F" in the course, loss of 5 honor points and ineligibility to hold student government office, to receive scholarships and to participate in intercollegiate activities during the remainder of his tenure at Mercer.

Vance Receives Professional Award

Professor Zebulon Baird Vance, chairman of the physical education department and director of athletics at Mercer University, was one of three recipients of the Honor Award of the Southern District of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation at its annual convention in Atlanta.

Cited for "his untiring devotion and many contributions to the field of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation," Vance was presented with a plaque at a special session of the convention devoted to honoring members of the association who have rendered meritorious service to the association and to the field of health and physical education.

Vance has been a member of the association for more than 20 years and has served as an officer and as a member of the board of directors. He has been chairman of the division of health and physical education at Mercer since 1942.

Frank Twitty Speaks To ATO's On Anniversary

Frank Twitty, floor leader for Gov. Ernest Vandiver in the Georgia legislature and a representative from Mitchell County, spoke at the annual Founders' Day banquet of the Alpha Zeta chapter of Alpha Tau Omega, Wednesday night, March 29.

Approximately 125 chapter members, alumni and their guests attended the banquet held at the Davis House Restaurant in Macon.

Alpha Tau Omega was founded nationally on March 15, 1865 at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. Otis Allan Glazebrook, one of the three Confederate veterans who founded the fraternity, was instrumental in establishing the local chapter. He was rector of the Christ Episcopal Church at that time.

The founder's son, Larkin Glazebrook, was the first initiate of the chapter. The younger Glazebrook later became a well-known physician and at one-time served as national president of the fraternity.

Among the Alpha Zeta chapter's alumni are Georgia Attorney General Eugene Cook; Mercer faculty members Ben Griffith and Henry Warnock; Dr. Howard P. Giddens, former president of the Georgia Baptist Convention; Columbus Roberts, for whom Roberts Hall was named and James H. Porter for whom Porter gym and Porter stadium were named.

Senior Test Given

Departmental tests for seniors will be given on Tuesday, April 11 from 1:45 until 5:00 p.m. All seniors who expect to complete their studies by June, 1961 are required to take these tests.

Students are requested to register for the senior departmental tests at the guidance center in Penfield Hall by Friday, April 7.

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Honor Council Seeks Justices

Students interested in applying for a position on the 1961-62 honor council should contact any honor council member a questionnaire. The deadline is Tuesday, April 11, for the return of the questionnaires.

The SGA Constitution states that honor council members shall have "high principles and unquestioned moral and academic integrity in all their relations to fellows students, faculty and administrative officials, a minimum average of B for the preceding quarter and an over-all average of C plus and extra-curricular activity in at least two areas."

Members of the honor council are Hunt Sanders who is chief justice, Nancy Minter, Ward Lowrance, Lindsay Simpson, Lynne Bradley, John Black, Dolores Hightower, Tommy Hudson and Bill Williams.



David Howard



Robert Garrett

College Men For Smarter Clothes

VISIT

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Dr. Harris and Dr. Dowell are seen chatting during the interval before Dr. Harris assumed full responsibilities when Dr. Dowell as acting president. Dr. Harris left Mercer in 1927, one year before Dr. Dowell became president.

Harris In Second Position, Was Law Dean In 1927

Dr. Rufus Carrollton Harris, formally inaugurated as president of Mercer University, Wednesday, was really assuming his second position with the school. He served on the law faculty from 1923 until 1927 as professor of law and dean of the law school from 1925 until 1927.

It was after his resignation at Mercer that Dr. Harris went to Tulane University in New Orleans where he was first dean of its law school. Later he became president of that institution in 1937 when he was 40 years old. He served as president for 22 years there.

Tulane, under Harris's presidency, doubled its enrollment. Endowment rose from about 10 million in 1937 market values to about 50 million in present market values.

Dr. Harris accepted the presidency of Mercer in November 1959 and came here during the spring quarter of that academic year. At Mercer he succeeded Dr. George B. Connell who died suddenly on April 25, 1959, after having served as president of Mercer for six years.

Dr. Harris attended Mercer with Dr. Walter Pope Binns, president of William Jewell College, before the end of World War I. They were roommates, living in room 323 of Sherwood Hall. As a student here, Dr. Harris was a member of Phi Delta Theta.

After receiving his degree from Mercer in 1917, Dr. Harris became a first lieutenant in the infantry. He served with the U. S. Expeditionary Forces in France, was wounded and received the Purple Heart.

After the war he took the LL. B. degree from Yale University in 1923 and the doctor of jurisprudence degree there the next year.

While dean of the Tulane law school, Dr. Harris established the Tulane Law Review, now an internationally known legal publication. He was considered an excellent teacher of law, his subject being torts. He wrote, "Liability Without Fault," known to all legal scholars.

A son, Rufus Jr., followed the legal profession and is now a practicing attorney in New Orleans.

Dr. Harris has long been active in educational circles. He was president of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1958 and before then had served as chairman of the committee on institutions of higher education of that body from 1940-1946.

He served as president of the Southern University Conference from 1941-43. This is an association of over 50 universities from 13 Southern states and Washington, D. C. which considers matters pertaining to the upper division of college work and graduate work.

While serving as president of the Southern University Conference, he was also president of the Southeastern Conference, the governing body of the collegiate athletics of the 12 university members. In 1955 he was chairman of the Carnegie Foundation Board for the Advancement of Teaching, an educational foundation established by Andrew Carnegie, which makes gifts and grants for educational purposes.

Dr. Harris was chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta from 1956-1958. He had been a member of the board since 1936. He received the LL.D. degree from Mercer in 1931. He has honorary degrees from the University of Alabama, William Jewell College, Birmingham Southern University, the University of Hawaii, the University of Pueblo, the University of Chattanooga and the University of Maine.

King Represents Mercer

Dr. Spencer B. King, professor of history at Mercer University, represented Mercer at the inauguration of Dr. Gordon W. Blackwell as president of Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Dr. Blackwell was director of the Institute of Research in Social Science at the University of North Carolina when Dr. King was a research assistant there. He also directed Dr. King's research which resulted in the book, Selective Service in North Carolina in World War II.

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