

# Youth Religious Services Conducted By C. Swor

## Student Interest Was High, Intense Chapel And Church Were Crowded For His Messages

Thanks to Chester Swor!

That was the feeling of the students for the professor of English at Mississippi college, who spoke here in mid-winter with a profound power and a penetrating analysis of the inner problems of young people.

Knife-like were his messages in chapel each morning and in the church each evening as students and townspeople crowded to hear him; few, if any, were there who were not stirred and elevated by the religious services which he led.

After every evening service almost the entire audience remained to hear his discussion of questions which students asked him; and in the afternoon, in Trent parlor, he scheduled conferences with students.

When he left, the students said, "Thanks to Chester Swor!"

## Mars Hill Has Old Log Church

Mars Hill has a symbol on its campus—a log church.

Brought from a remote part of Madison county and rebuilt by students last fall, this church was dedicated as a part of the Founders' day exercises in October. Before being moved to Mars Hill, it was one of the last log buildings used for worship in this part of the state. It is now located in Locust Grove, a natural amphitheatre on the slopes of Little mountain.

It is a symbol of the fact that Mars Hill, enrolling over a thousand students in the winter and summer sessions, has not forgotten its nearly complete dependence in earlier years upon the small mountain churches, of which this is an example.

It is a symbol that Mars Hill is now a positively Christian agency of education.

## Special Courses Were Highlights

(Continued from page 1) perspective and about the work of the masters.

And the clatter of typewriters came from the business department, where fingers have flown in a mad race with time. Other students have stood on the carpet in Miss Wengert's spacious expression studio; have sat in the auditorium as young bandmaster Sebren pointed his baton at them when he wanted them to blare; have at midnight tried to polish up an effusion for Mr. Mac's class in creative writing.

After all, it was rather nice, wasn't it?

### STUDY COURSES

Members of the B. T. U. and the Sunday school spent two weeks, in lieu of the usual chapel services, in taking study courses covering a large number of subjects related to the work of their organizations.

Many students, active in their churches at home, were eager to take classes offered by faculty members and by visiting teachers.

Courses included study of administrative problems, of the Bible itself, of current work on the mission fields, and of the lives of great religious leaders.

More than half the student group enrolled. Others attended special chapel services, where forums were conducted and where a series of informative discussions on lives of great men was given.

## The Black-Gold, The Blue-White

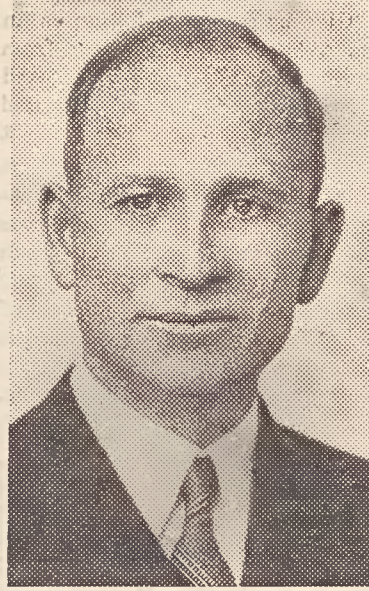
(Continued from page 1) ment at Mars Hill) ready for public presentation. Weeks were spent in planning. From trunks aspirants dug high school declamations, perhaps the ones they got the medals for in their senior year, and started trying to re-run the gamut of emotion found therein. Others got new declamations and started learning them at night, muttering them over in their dormitory rooms. Still others spent October afternoons and nights in the library, going through new magazines, delving into old books, getting ready for the debate tryouts.

The girls were at work preparing for their annual receptions; they were getting together costumes used at Christmas in a dozen foreign lands; they were preparing to stage a reception as it would have been staged in Southern ante-bellum days, with negro spirituals, Spanish moss, and clever pickaninnies. (Also they were wondering if he would ask them for a date on that night and how he would like their new hair-do.)

Then came the anniversary programs—the picked speakers addressing hundreds of people, the grand finale with the new lighting effects, the applause. And then came the reception: long dresses swishing, music, the hum of scores of private conversations—and cleaning up after it all.

But perhaps the regular Thursday afternoon or Friday night meetings stand out in memory as clearly as the larger events. It was here that all faced an audience, not once, but several times, and spoke. It was here that

### Pleased



"This," commented President Hoyt Blackwell when asked how the year now drawing to a close had struck him, "has been one of the best sessions of the college since I have been associated with it."

"Not only have we had a capacity enrollment," he continued, "but the general tenor of the student life this year has been on a high plane."

speakers had their efforts torn to shreds by student critics and yet spoke again—better. It was here that invitations were staged, that elections were held, that friendships started and grew.

And at commencement? Well, that part of the story, the most important part, is yet to be written for this year.

### PLAY ROOM

The rapid clicks of ping-pong balls; the long, drawn-out scronch of discs sliding across the shuffleboard; and the inevitable feminine shrieks—these are memories of the play room in the basement of the new Edna Moore dormitory for girls.

This play room, open throughout the day, has been the setting for many a pleasant hour of diversion after hours of work on—well, say, term papers, for example.

Some look forward to the time when the attic of the dormitory, designed to be used as a play room, will come into its own.

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