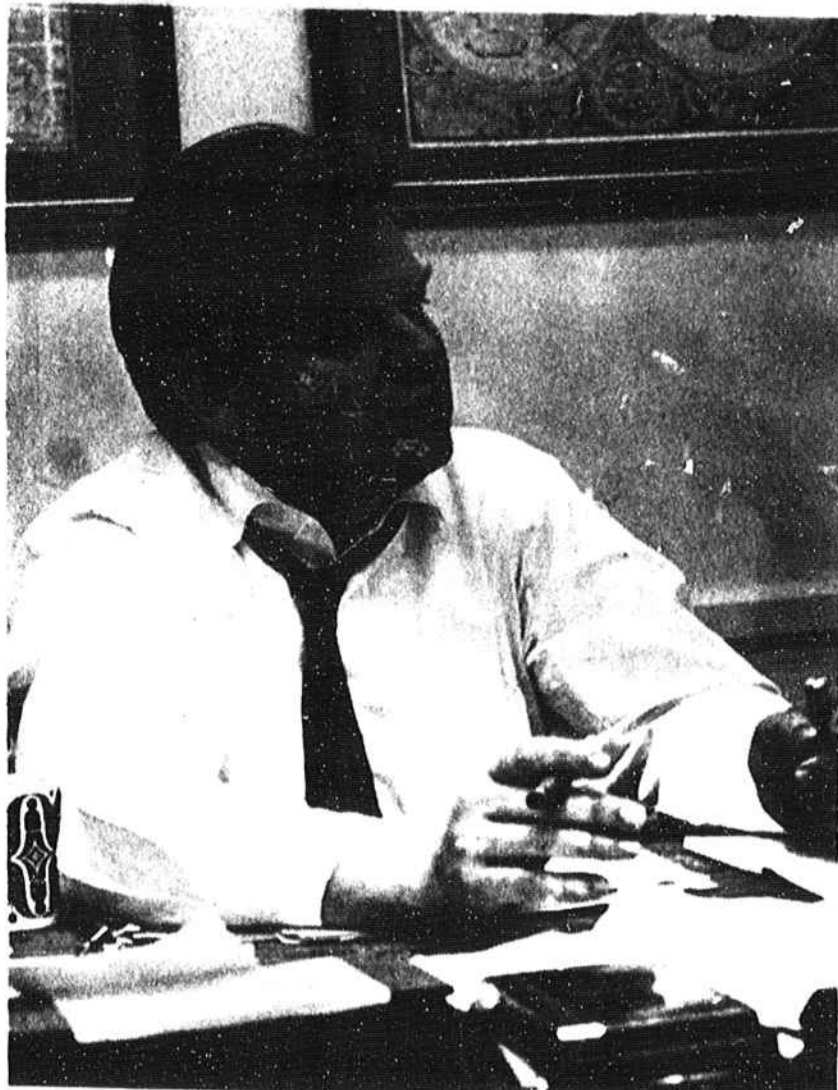


MEF: created to help people



MEF means action
Bob Alexander, MEF campus director feels, "We are an organization working in response to the needs of the poor and principally black."

By HARRY HOPE
Chief of Reporters
Born out of crisis, living in action and heading toward progress, the Metropolitan Education Foundation (MEF) works for people and welfare.

MEF came about after the Orangeburg crisis of 1968, when businessmen and educators realized that the illusion of racial harmony was shattered — that, in reality, blacks were dissatisfied and that they wanted visible signs of progress, according to Bob Alexander, MEF campus director.

IN RESPONSE TO NEED
The MEF project gained support from the student body and faculty of Carolina, and two days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Student Senate passed a bill establishing MEF as a campus organization.

MEF is, basically, a coalition of students, faculty and Columbia businessmen. As Alexander put it, "We are an organization working in response to the needs of the poor and principally black."

"We have two purposes," he continued. "One is to raise funds for progress in poor and principally black communities by programs designed and carried out by the people in the communities and the other is to educate the total community to economic and racial problems."

"The idea is to muster the resources of the larger community so that they will respond to the needs of the smaller community. The people in these smaller communities know what they need

— and they don't need someone telling them what they need or just giving them what they need.

"The disadvantaged need to develop skills to help themselves." In Operation Technique, MEF applied for a grant to instruct students at Booker T. Washington High School the basic reading and comprehension skills. University students taught BTW students how to take tests, while measuring the

advancement of students in the program against skills and education they had before they enrolled in the program. The project also involved teaching the students how to take standardized tests.

SOME SIGNIFICANT CHANGES
"We caused some significant changes," Alexander said.

Operation Expansion is a project which brings fairly intelligent

students to campus, where they are taught basic Afro-American history, reading and comprehension skills and the psychology of race relations, according to Alexander.

"We throw a block so the people can get through the tight spots," Alexander said.

MEF has also helped the organization of teen clubs, a facet

of work to which Alexander attaches the greatest importance.

"These teen clubs can place an emphasis on youth: they can be mobilized and can respond. They can also help educate the older people in community," he said.

The whole idea of this, according to Alexander, is to help organize community structures — to set up communications within communities.

A project which Alexander said he hopes to institute this summer is a guaranteed income program for "hard-core teenagers."

In this program, students from the University Business Administration School would help black teenagers organize businesses in their communities to do needed work. This would be done through a series of feasibility studies in areas such as Cayce New Life, Camp Fornace, Arthurtown and Ridgewood.

ANOTHER PROBLEM
Another problem is the lack of recreation and park facilities, he said. The residents of the communities would plan and carry out the construction of these facilities themselves.

An example of this facet of MEF at work is the Wheeler Hill community center, which was set up in an old laundromat near Bates House. The project is headed by Louis James, a Carolina student.

MEF plans in the near future to call for a fund-raising drive, which would be carried out in a manner similar to that of the United Fund Drive, with door-to-door callers and a campaign to solicit money from local colleges and universities, such as Carolina, Allen, Benedict and Columbia College. MEF hopes to raise \$10,000 from these schools.



To help themselves

"We throw a block so the people can get through the fight spots," Bob Alexander said.

Court denies plea by UFO operators

The South Carolina Supreme Court denied a motion Wednesday to lower the bail for two operators of the UFO.

Yet to be considered by the court is a motion by the defense attorneys to obtain a temporary federal restraining order to prevent prosecution of the UFO operators.

The American Civil Liberties Union also filed an action in federal court to prevent Columbia city police from trying the group on violations of the anti-litter statute.

Five persons were arrested last Friday for passing out handbills that announced a rally to protest the closing of the Coffee House. The group is seeking to obtain

the necessary legal injunctions in order to re-open the coffee house.

The UFO was closed Jan. 20 and its operators arrested and charged with "keeping and maintaining a public nuisance," where "minors were encouraged to be rebellious and disrespectful to their parents."

The warrant also contended that the UFO was a gathering place for marijuana users.

At present the group is trying to find a new location, since the owner of the building where the UFO was located has served them an eviction notice.

The closing of the establishment has set off a number of demonstrations and picketing, the latest being a massive rally at Drayton Hall Sunday.

Art show features sculpture

A sculpture show including castings in bronze, aluminum, brass and lead is being presented at The University's Huntington Gallery during February.

The 30-piece show includes the work of sculptors from the University of Georgia, East Carolina University and USC. Open to the public, the show includes many pieces for sale by the artists.

Sponsored by the art department, the show illustrates what students can do with a foundry where they are able to cast their own sculpture. The department has only recently acquired its own foundry.

The gallery, located in Sloan College, is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Towers Court explains privileges of students

"Many residents of the Mens' Towers are not aware of their privileges to come before the Towers' court," Chief Justice Stephen Smith said in an interview yesterday.

Smith said any Towers resident may appeal disciplinary action initiated by a dorm counselor by coming before the court and presenting his case. He said that the Dean of Men has "preemptive powers" in all cases but that the court makes endeavors to enforce its decisions.

"If the court finds a student guilty," Smith said, "then we hold fast to that decision. However, once we find a student not guilty we work just as hard to see that the decision is carried out."

According to Smith, the Towers' court is composed of six justices and a Chief Justice. He said that one justice is elected from each Tower and that the Mens' Towers president appoints an additional justice. He added that the Chief Justice is then elected by his fellow justices.

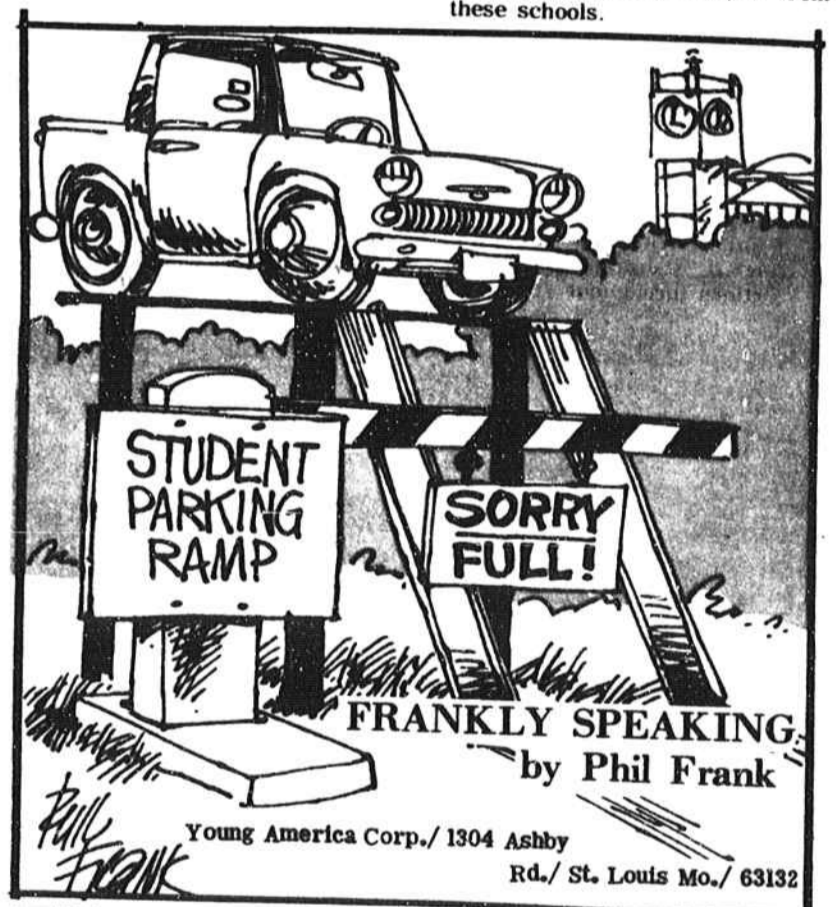
Smith said that he feels the court has been largely successful. "The court gives a student the privilege of being tried by his peers," he said, "and this makes it easier to accept disciplinary action. But it also gives the student a means of defending himself if he is innocent."

Smith reiterated that a lack of publicity was one of the biggest problems facing the court. "I think most of the Towers' residents are aware of their right to come before the court," he said. "But as I said, many of them are not."

Board

(Continued from page 1)
contingency fund, according to University regulations, but the board strongly recommended that \$723.25 from that fund be returned to the student station for transmission facilities at the Roost and an improvement of transmission facilities at the Towers.

The board also concurred with requests from WU-SC and The Gamecock that their offices remain in the Russell House.



Horseshoe election to fill two vacancies

Representatives of the Horseshoe Residence Government decided Thursday to have a special

election Feb. 26 in order to fill vacated offices of vice president and treasurer of the government.

Those who wish to run for these positions should have a 2.0 GPR and should give their names and the positions they want to run for to Fred Monk, president of the government, so their names will be placed on the ballot.

"There are a lot of qualified people," Monk said, "and we want to keep interest alive so we will have an active voice on policies concerning our homes here."

This is the first year the Horseshoe has had a government and according to Monk, although the pace has been slow there have been some definite accomplishments made since the government has been formed.

He said the government is now working with the administration to decorate the lounge and provide water coolers eventually for all the individual tenements.

Representatives of the government plan to meet next Thursday night at 7 in the Horseshoe Lounge.

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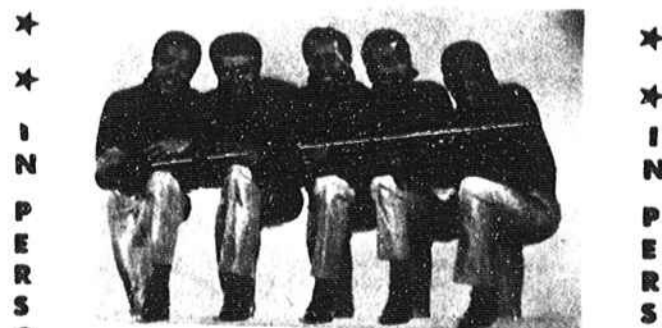
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