The Editor
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Sirs:

As a former student, I understand that Dr. James W. Silver at Ole Miss is currently receiving much abuse for his recent remarks at Asheville. As a former student of his, and a veteran of 17 years' government service, I think that I can give you a more reasoned picture of the man than many who are vilifying him.

Jim Silver is intellectually tough and broad—has a more complete grasp of American history and society than nearly all his enemies, and perhaps can make his students THINK—at least, those who are capable of it. When I arrived at Ole Miss, it was not as a callow high school graduate, but as a veteran of three years' World War II service with the Marines. Nor was I an outsider, since my family has been in Mississippi since about 1809.

Thus, I do not feel that I was hoodwinked, brainwashed, nor led down any "alien" paths by Dr. Silver. I learned to think, to grasp in the rough give-and-take of classroom debate, to think, to avoid slapdash work and hasty conclusions, to defend my thesis, and above all, to THINK! What