

THE NEWS-HERALD

September 8, 1966

SPIRIT OF DEDICATION PREVAILS

Community College Holds First Fall Convocation

By DOROTHY CABLE, News-Herald Education Editor
Beauty, dignity, and a sense of dedication marked the fall convocation of Western Piedmont Community College Wednesday afternoon. This was the Hammond organ sounded and first formal function of the college.

The program was a brief one. The auditorium of old Central School was packed. Instead of noisy grammar grade pupils, there were serious college students, parents, and friends. The Hammond organ sounded and the college faculty members wearing their academic robes

marched to their places.

Onto the platform came Dr. Herbert F. Stallworth, trustees and three of the other college staff members. They were Dr. Gordon Blank, dean of instruction; J. Paul Bagley, dean of student personnel services; and Roy N. Walters Jr., business manager.

Officers of the board there for this first convocation were Dr. E. W. Phifer Jr., chairman; W. Stanley Moore, vice chairman; and Ben E. Hoffmeyer, secretary. Others present were Robert P. Carr, Rev. L. Clement Hahn, Thad M. Poteat, Earl M. Spencer, Dr. C. L. Walton, and Eugene M. White of Lenoir. Trustees unable to come were E. P. Dameron of Marion, G. Maurice Hill, and Frank C. Patton.

Rev. J. Clifford Goare, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church gave the opening invocation and then Dr. Stallworth stepped forward to introduce the trustees. But first came a word of welcome.

"Western Piedmont Community College belongs to the community. It is of the community, for the community, and in a very real sense it is a community within itself. We form a fellowship of work, hopes, and dreams," he said.

Dr. Stallworth referred briefly to the role the college expects to play in helping the community make part of the American dream.

After introducing the trustees he asked W. Stanley Moore, vice chairman of the board and editor of The News-Herald, to introduce Dr. Phifer.

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Community

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When the history of the college comes to be written there will be recognition of Dr. Phifer as father of the college movement, said Moore. Also Dr. Phifer is a surgeon of note, an outstanding historian, and the man who long ago proposed that there be such a school as Western Piedmont. At the time the idea seemed fantastic, said Moore.

"Today he represents the fulfillment of a dream — Dr. Edward William Phifer Jr."

Expressing appreciation to the administrative staff of the college which took part in the organizational phase of Western Piedmont, Dr. Phifer spoke of the faculty. Most of its members are young people with a spirit of adventure, he said.

He also referred appreciatively to the citizens and taxpayers who believed in the idea of a community college enough to vote its financial support. "This is your college," he said.

Dr. Phifer explained how trustees are appointed by county commissioners, local school boards, and the governor of North Carolina. All live within 25 miles of the college. He also spoke of the opportunity of people of the area to help make and mold this new college.

Dr. Phifer spoke of the aim and purpose of the college — to give everyone the opportunity to learn all each one can.

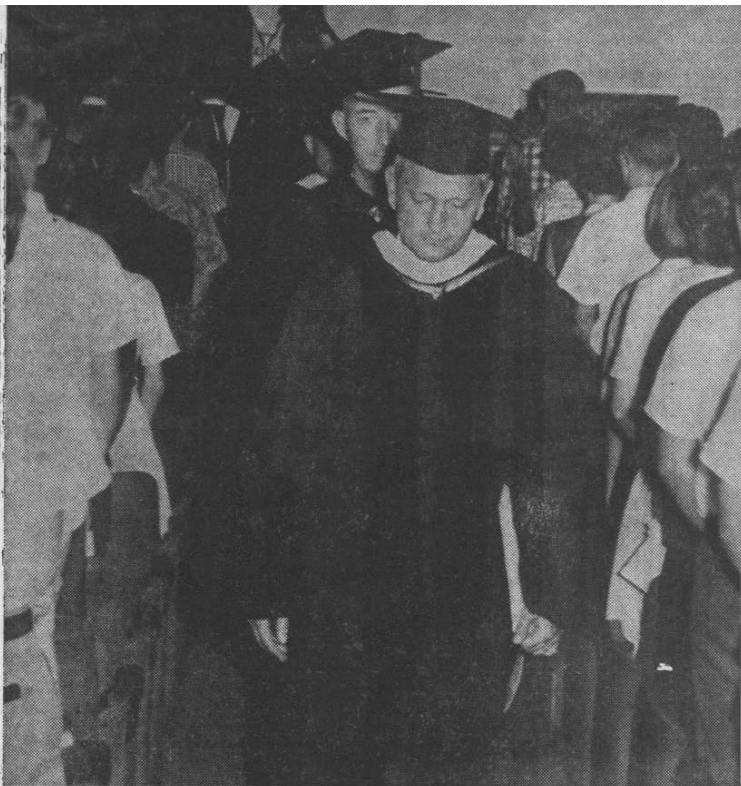
There are economic aspects of education and the college programs are geared to help increase student learning power, to teach things necessary to an enlightened citizenry, and to stress the homely virtues of integrity and all the things that add up to character.

Dr. Phifer also spoke of the love and respect for books that comes to the educated person, the increase in cultural ranges, and the end product — a liberally educated individual who is articulate in both written and spoken language, is a clear thinker, and knows the difference between fact and opinion.

The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Hahn, who in addition to being a trustee is pastor of Mt. Hebron Church at Hildebran.

Playing the organ during the program was Douglas Allen Barnett, organist for Grace Episcopal Church.

An informal reception followed the convocation honoring students and their guests.



(Staff Photo by Wayne Saunders)

AT CONVOCATION—Dr. Herbert F. Stallworth, president of Western Piedmont Community College, leads a procession of trustees and faculty members at the college's first fall convocation. Behind him is Dr. E. W.

Phifer Jr., chairman of the board of trustees, who was chief speaker for a brief ceremony marking a start of Western Piedmont's first academic year. Students, parents and friends attended the ceremony.

SPRIT OF DEDICATION

BY THE WAY

WESTERN PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



FALL CONVOCATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1966 - 2:30 P. M.

CENTRAL SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

MORGANTON, NORTH CAROLINA

PROGRAM

*PROCESSIONAL Trustees and Faculty

*INVOCATION The Rev. J. Clifford Goare
Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church

INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES Dr. Herbert F. Stallworth
President, Western Piedmont Community College

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER Mr. W. Stanley Moore
Vice-Chairman, Board Of Trustees

ADDRESS Dr. E. W. Phifer, Jr.
Chairman, Board Of Trustees

*BENEDICTION The Rev. L. Clement Hahn
Pastor, Mt. Hebron Church; Member, Board Of Trustees

*RECESSIONAL Trustees and Faculty

Douglas Allen Barnett, *Organist*

*Please Stand

*An informal reception honoring the members
of the student body and their guests will be
held immediately following the Recessional*

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MR. W. STANLEY MOORE, *Vice-Chairman*

MR. BEN E. HOFFMEYER, *Secretary*

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