

At Area Meeting At Lenoir

Legislators Hear Community College Needs

Senator Donald R. Kincaid, Representatives John Walter Brown, Jeter L. Haynes and William E. Stevens, representing counties in the Western North Carolina area, were guests of four community colleges and technical institutes Saturday at the Lenoir Country Club.

Representative William M. Fulton of Morganton had

planned to attend but was prevented by illness.

The legislators witnessed a slide presentation by Mrs. Barbara Deverick, secretary of the Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute board of trustees. The talk traced the history of the North Carolina system and emphasized the role being played by Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Mayland Technical Institute of Spruce Pine, Western Piedmont Community College and Wilkes Community College.

Mrs. Deverick pointed out that these four institutions in this section of the state have an inventory of major equipment valued at more than three million dollars. The current expense budget of these schools is almost five million for this school year. She stressed that the four institutions today offer sixty-five occupational programs to the thousands of adult students who use these facilities to keep current with

changing technology, expand their knowledge and skills required in their present jobs or to prepare them for new jobs. Specialty education programs are offered for firemen, law enforcement officers, ambulance attendants, supervisors and foremen and workers in industries related to tourism.

W. B. Wilkins, chairman of the board of trustees of Mayland Technical Institute, explained the budget requests of the four institutions.

The role the institutions play in the growth of the communities they serve was outlined by Milton J. Ingram, a trustee of Wilkes Community College.

The legislators were given a resume of the progress and plans by the chairman of the board of trustees from each institution. Speaking were W. Stanley Moore, representing Western Piedmont Community College; John A. Forlines Jr. from Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute; W. B. Wilkins from Mayland

Tech; and Gordon E. Rhodes, vice chairman of the Wilkes Community College board.

In addition to the presidents, several members of the board of trustees from each school were on hand to respond to queries.

Those attending in addition to those previously named were Dr. O. M. Blake, president; Mark Bennett, James Fox and Ralph Gwaltney from Mayland. Wilkes president, Dr. Howard E. Thompson with Mrs. John W. Andrews, Gordon E. Rhodes and L. P. Somers.

Western Piedmont was represented by Dr. Gordon

Blank, president; Ray Childers, Maurice Hill and Earl Spencer.

Caldwell's delegation included Dr. Ed Beam, president, M. L. DeVane, Myron L. (Jack) Moore Jr., William Lovelace, Clarence Braswell, J. Wade Kincaid, Wesley Collins and Bill DeLoach.

The North Carolina system of higher education ranks extremely high in the nation it was pointed out. There are fifty-six institutions in the technical institute and community college category.



WPCC Delegation Attends Legislative Briefing About Institutional Needs

State Senator Donald R. Kincaid (third from right) chats with a delegation of four trustees and the president representing Western Piedmont Community College at a meeting with legislators from this area.

Western Piedmont joined Wilkes Community College, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and Mayland Technical Institute of Spruce Pine in playing hosts to legislators at the Lenoir Country Club.

Left to right: Dr. Gordon C. Blank, president; J. Ray Childers, Earl M. Spencer, Sen. Kincaid, G. Maurice Hill and W. Stanley Moore. (Photo by Rufty).