

PHIFER ADVANCES IDEA

Asks Community College Explored

The new president of the Kiwanis Club advocated Friday night a joint effort to establish a junior or community college in Morganton.

Dr. E. W. Phifer, making his inaugural address at the club's weekly meeting, said the idea deserves consideration by an inter-club council which would be a continuing council.

The local surgeon told Kiwanians, "I believe that now is the most auspicious time for our business and public affairs committee to stimulate a movement among the service clubs of this town to work toward the goal of establishing a junior or community college in Morganton."

This movement should, of course,

be coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce, he said.

"Of all the industries we might chase, it seems to me that this is the one that would do the most to raise the ethical, intellectual and cultural standards of our community," Dr. Phifer said.

The incoming president had a word for any who think the idea too ambitious.

"I am fully aware of the fact that in this and perhaps in other suggested projects we will be reaching for the stars, but it has been said by someone that one must reach for the stars in order that he may grasp a clod," he said.

Later the Kiwanis president explained that he had no specific proposal to submit to the committee regarding either a church-supported, community or state institution.

This, he explained, was a long-range proposal which he feels the entire community should explore. With the growing need for education beyond the high school level and with continued crowding in established colleges and universities, a junior or community college should be in position to fill what is foreseen as a widening gap in educational resources.

In the first meeting since his installation as president, Dr. Phifer paid tribute to his predecessor, Hugh L. McAdway, outlined proposals for his administration, emphasizing committee activity as "the very heart and soul of Kiwanis," attendance and Kiwanis education.

Dr. Phifer said he has "a very definite opinion about the quality and content of our programs," observing, "It seems to me that there has been a tendency in the past to avoid all programs that might be construed as controversial or that might not be consonant with the beliefs of the majority of our club members."

"I do not hold with this view and neither does Kiwanis International," he went on. "I firmly believe that we can, at times, have programs which are provocative without being partisan

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and clean without being sterile."

Earlier President Phifer had announced committee assignments and dates during the year when Kiwanians will be responsible for programs.