

The News-Herald

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ALREADY HAS 200 STUDENTS

Stallworth Reports College Progressing

The Morganton Civitan Club heard a progress report on Western Piedmont Community College, discussed plans for the group's annual fruit cake sale, and chuckled as President Roy Whitaker chopped off William E. McNeely Jr.'s necktie—in honor of his becoming a father.

McNeely then presented Whitaker with his seventh membership award in recognition of his continued efforts at obtain-

ing new members. Whitaker has recruited seven members. For this he received a badge.

Club members will be selling Claxton fruit cakes Saturday on Morganton streets. Also the cakes, at \$1 a pound, will be available at the Morganton Grill, and from any Civitan.

Whitaker said he will attend the North Carolina District West Convention tomorrow at the Catawba College Community Center in Salisbury. He will attend the presidents' breakfast first with Dr. John R. Pate, international Civitan president from Washington, D. C. The meeting will last on into the evening.

Dr. Herbert F. Stallworth, president of Western Piedmont Community College, was introduced by Rev. Ralph Miller, chaplain of Western Carolina Center.

Dr. Stallworth began with a discussion of the basic philosophy of the community college. This philosophy, based on the idea that every individual should have an opportunity for training and education, is a little different from that of most other colleges.

Where these other colleges set up somewhat rigid standards and may be very selective in admissions, the community college will be open to anyone who wants training and education and is willing to work to get it.

Dr. Stallworth noted that completion of two years of academic college courses at Western Piedmont will be acceptable for transfers to any other college.

Actually the training the student receives here may well be better. Dr. Stallworth spoke of the pressures in many colleges for professors to complete a certain amount of research. This may detract from the teaching which these professors may do, particularly with first and second-year students.

In contrast, the community college will place a greater emphasis on teaching rather than on research by its professors.

Dr. Stallworth also spoke on the types of courses which will be offered as the college moves into its first regular terms. He noted that there are already 206 students at the old Central School and in several other classes in the county. These students, of ages ranging from 18 to 65 years, are taking elementary courses in reading, writing, and arithmetic. These evening classes for adult education are proving successful.

In addition to the two-year academic college course, the new college is planning to offer varied programs of vocational training. These will be tailored to needs of the community and its industries. Also groups wanting special instruction in a particular area will be able to arrange for this.

The cost will be nominal for all types of courses, he said.

Dr. Stallworth said that actual construction on the first of the college buildings is expected early in 1966. He said it had first been hoped that some of the buildings would be ready in time for the opening of the September 1966 term, but classes will start in the old Central School pending completion of construction.

He emphasized that college building plans do not call for rushing in and erecting buildings in a haphazard way. Instead careful planning will result in a beautiful campus, he said.

Durward Buck, sports editor of The News-Herald, was present as the guest of Bill Stokes.