

BUILDINGS INSPECTED, ACCEPTED

College Starts Moving To Its New Campus Near US 64, I-40

By DOROTHY CABLE
News-Herald Education Editor

The casualties of moving so far have been light to moderate — one broken pane of glass, one stubbed toe, and one bruised finger.

Western Piedmont Community College is moving to its new campus. The job started late yesterday following final inspection and acceptance of the three new buildings by college officials.

Dr. Gordon C. Blank, college president, today was referring to the casualties and comparing

the moving scenes with the beachhead at Normandy when all sorts of volunteers and amateurs got into the act.

"The educators of Western Piedmont have already found out they're better educators than movers," commented Dr. Blank ruefully.

Actually the move is a big one as the college had accumulated considerable possessions during its year-and-a-half of operations. Faculty, staff members, and students are holding classes as well as carrying desks, chairs, file cabinets, boxes

(well labeled with liquor tags as the sturdiest boxes donated came from the Morganton ABC Store), paper feed bags, and some 10,000 books.

"Please be sure you indicate that the boxes from the ABC Store came to the college empty," said Dr. Blank with a quick smile.

"The move is going very smoothly in a phased manner. It is being handled so that by the time the spring quarter begins with registration on March 25 everything should be in its place," he said.

Phased manner means careful planning with objects to be moved labeled so as to be easily put back together again. The idea was much the same as when a house to be moved piecemeal and reassembled has a number assigned to each part and is put together again according to well labeled plan.

In this case the man responsible for coordinating the moving tags and getting everything together again is Dr. Garmon Smith, dean of instruction.

For instance there is the matter of brown bagging.

At Western Piedmont this does not mean a bottle in a bag out a sack full of books, carefully marked according to what shelf they came from in the college library. The sacks were stapled shut and checked out to students, beginning March 12, who took them home. They will be returned to the new library as soon as the shelving is in place.

This is one time librarians hope that checked out books will not be read. They don't even want the packages opened.

The final inspection began yesterday at 9:30 a.m. and was

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College Starts Moving

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completed about 5 p.m. Present for the final review were college trustees, representatives from the State Division of Property Control of the Department of Administration, members of A. G. Odell Jr. and Associates, architectural firm of Charlotte, and representatives from general and subcontractors.

Also on hand were faculty and staff members as well as officials of the Student Government Association of the College, and city and county officials.

When it was all over, there still were a number of minor details to be corrected by the contractors during the next few weeks. But the buildings were substantially ready for occupancy.

Right after the official key presentation from A. G. Odell to Dr. E. W. Phifer Jr., chairman of the board, the moving began.

Among the first items moved to the new campus were administrative records. These were followed by more and more boxes of college equipment until about 11 p.m. when lights went off at the campus.

"This weekend will be a big one in the move," said Dr. Blank. "By Monday morning most, if not all, of the administrative offices and student personnel services are expected to be operating at the new campus," he said.

"Our next big job will be moving science laboratory equip-

ment along with heavy machinery used in various vocational and technical programs. Toward the latter stages of the move more faculty office and classroom equipment will be moved.

"The library will begin receiving back its books toward the latter part of next week," said Dr. Blank. They will be called in as soon as shelving is reassembled.

Right now members of the Faculty Woman's Club are busy hanging some of the drapes which they made from material donated by Morganton Dyeing and Finishing Co.

Mrs. J. Paul Bagley has headed up this drapery project and is pleased with the way the curtains are dressing up the second floor of A Building which contains the library, teaching auditorium, classrooms, offices, special laboratories, and the canteen area.

The college is busy saying its thanks for the varied help it is receiving from the community in making the move easier. This includes the loan of trucks, dollies, and other moving equipment.

While the move is a lot of work and all participating have their tired moments, still there is a glow about helping to make a large dream come true.

Riding across town in a truck bed, a girl in jeans turned to fellow students: "I have been so much free since I got an A on my last exam."



ASSEMBLING FOR INSPECTION — Participants in an inspection of new buildings for Western Piedmont Community College converge on the lobby of the central building before the go-ahead signal for the institution to occupy the campus off U.S. 64 near the

I-40 interchange. Trustees, college officials, architects, engineers, State representatives, county officials and contractors made a complete checkup of the buildings. (Staff Photo by Benny Orders).



TRYING OUT SEATS — Two trustees of Western Piedmont Community College try out chairs in one of the new classrooms where seating had been installed prior to a final inspection. Earl M. Spencer (left) of Valdese, chairman of the finance committee, and Eugene M. White of Lenoir, superintendent of Caldwell County schools and member of the WPCC building committee, paused in a lengthy walk through the complex of buildings on the new campus for a restful stop. (Staff Photo by Benny Orders).