

- - TO BEGIN IN DELIGHT - -

Dr. Perry Speaks . . .

. . . . For nearly a quarter of a century many citizens in Corning expressed their hope and detailed the need for educational opportunities beyond the high school for youngsters in the area. Some of those men have passed one — men such as William Severn and Hanford Curtiss; and many of those same people are with us today.



Janet Richardson, Frederick Parsons, and Boyd Golder dig for the College's sponsor, the Board of Trustees, and the State University of New York

In 1953 and 1954 the area again received a proposal from the Harvard study group, based on a widely studied questionnaire on education, urging the establishment of a community college under the newly adopted Community College Law which had been passed by the State Legislature in 1948. That same Harvard study had concluded that the education of all the children in our valley would best be served by a single enlarged school district.

When the consolidation was accomplished in June, 1954, the Board of Education appointed the Phillips Committee to study again the matter of a college. Members of this included Dr. Kent Phillips, Robert Shopoff, Mr. LaFollette, Mrs. Richardson, James Brown, Dick Andrews, Hanford Curtiss, and George Bevan. On December 18, 1956 the State University of New York authorized and issued a resolution on the establishment of the College. Corning Community College enrolled its first class of 116 students in September, 1958.

This Occasion Has Two Purposes:

The first purpose is to thank every citizen of this community and area for their hard work, unswerving dedication, and strong support of the Community College. Every local person on the platform today has contributed outstanding interest, time, and personal resources to bring this day about.

We would also like to express our deep thanks to not only every member of the college faculty and the entire staff and their husbands and wives, but also to the members of the high school staffs in our area; Jim Duffy, our ceremony manager, and his staff; our college architect and their staff; the benefactors of the college including the labor unions, clubs, social and fraternal organizations, stores, employers of our graduates; our neighboring colleges; and local and area professional people; and our new and good neighbors on Spencer Hill; and especially our close friends in Albany including Mr. Golder and Dr. Rapp, Tom Hamilton, Paul Orvis, Otto Teegan, and the college's great friend, Dr. Larry Jarvie; and finally, perhaps most of all, we thank all of the students and their families for taking a chance on this new college.

What An Astonishingly Great Occasion!

. . . . a groundbreaking for an entire campus to make facilities to teach 850 college freshmen and sophomores. Very rare indeed, in the life of a state and nation, is ground broken initially for five major buildings on its new 288 acre permanent site all at once — in one stroke.

The other astonishing fact about this groundbreaking is this —

The site for the campus, and half the cost of its five buildings have been donated by Corning's first citizens from private resources. We are breaking ground, therefore, on a debt-free, interest-free college. What fortune!

No wonder we are so gladly proud, so openly excited, so blushing pleased, so possessed with dreams and hopes for this school. Great ideas can lead to great actions

where imagination, support and hard work are bountiful.

When Robert Frost visited our campus a year ago this April, one of our students asked him how he went about writing a poem. He replied, "I try to begin in delight and end in wisdom." I think just such a remark applies well to the breaking of ground for this wholly new college. We are today beginning in delight; and we hope the college will grow in learning, and perhaps end in wisdom in the years and decades to come.

Breaking Ground on the Mind . . .

Yet, how odd, when we break ground for a college building, or in this case, five buildings, we have a ceremony, shovels, speeches, and lots of people, tents, and bunting. When we break ground for the education of a mind, the ceremony is quiet — between a boy or girl and a teacher, and a pencil — and there are no bands playing. The planting of wonder and love of reading is quiet and slow, and seeds of the mind usually grow into unseen harvests. What a superb location this site is for the groundbreaking of the mind. Again, I want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Houghton, Jr. for their splendid donation of these acres of land.



Gordon Wheaton, The Rev. Roger Alling, and Frederick Parsons

When a college can come to its own land, there can be a rooting forever and a beginning of tradition.

The two-year college, new as it is in higher education, presents one very practical solution to our American problem in higher education.

(Continued on Page 6)

C.C. Newsletter