

The Koran-ette

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Last Tech Open House April 28



DR. BILL J. PRIEST
Superintendent
American River Junior College

NEW COLLEGE HEAD IN FIRST MESSAGE

By Dr. Bill J. Priest

This September the American River Junior College will open its doors in leased facilities on the Grant Technical College campus. Despite the rather modest facilities, every effort will be made to provide a strong educational program for the young men and women of the ARJC district.

Intensive planning is already under way which will result in the erection of a superior college plant capable of housing a strong program in both pre-professional and semi-professional fields.

Good teaching, one of the key features of community college education, will be given great emphasis at the A.R.J.C.

As president of A.R.J.C., I extend to all post high school residents a cordial invitation to participate in the pioneering of our new community institution.

LAST ORIGINAL MEMBER

Mrs. Clara Aldrich, Open House chairman, is the only remaining member of the original full-time faculty.

All Community People Invited

By Frank Johnson, Registrar

Grant Technical College once again extends an invitation to the people of the community to attend open house on Thursday, April 28, 1955, from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

This being the thirteenth and last year of Grant Technical College, we urge that you acquaint yourselves with the opportunities that are offered for continuing your formal education in a public junior college.

The administration, faculty and members of the board of trustees will be present and will wear badges to identify them and will discuss with you any question that arises.

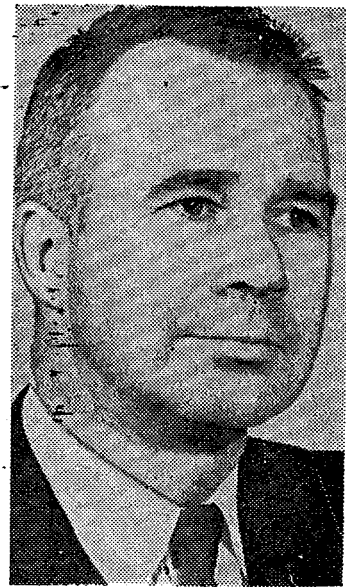
Dr. Bill J. Priest, superintendent of American River Junior College, as well as the officials of the Grant Technical College will be available in the college cafeteria during the evening to meet the people of the community.

New College Fulfillment Of Visionaries' Dreams

In marking the passing of Grant Tech in this, its last open house, and the inauguration of the new American River Junior College District, mention must be made and credit given to those responsible for the change.

Members of the Grant Union governing board (composed then of Charles Christie, Rolon Allred, Mrs. Kenneth Hammaker, Adin L. Guthrie, and Edwin Witter) instructed Superintendent Elwood J. Keema in November, 1951, to confer with the governing board of San Juan High School District and the State Department of Education regarding the possibility of forming a junior college district to care for future growth in the area and to increase the post-twelfth

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GEORGE B. JULIAN
Director
Grant Technical College

PUBLIC INVITED TO 'FAREWELL TO TECH'

By George B. Julian

The many friends of Grant Technical College will have the opportunity to say farewell to Tech on the evening of Thursday, April 28. Open House will be an occasion to see Tech in its final public appearance.

Faculty members and present and former students cherish the fond memories of Grant Technical College. To those who see in Tech's passing an occasion for sadness, pause and consider your part in making educational history. California and other parts of the west have a system of public education almost unique in the United States.

As students and faculty members of Grant Technical College you have been part of this fast growing free public education movement.

Free public education in every community is a contribution of the junior college system. You have helped to build this system in California. The transition to a larger and finer educational institution is a step forward in bringing better education to your community.

New College Result Of Careful Planning

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grade educational opportunities in the area.

At that time, members of the San Juan board did not feel the time was opportune for a change and it was not until February, 1954, that both boards sent resolutions to the State Board of Education, asking that body to call an election to form a junior college district.

Prior to that time, members of the Grant board (then made up of William L. Frazier, Jr., H. C. Lauppe, Allen Maakestad, Mr. Guthrie, and Mrs. Hamaker) had indicated a desire to improve college facilities, with a larger tax base, and felt that combining the Grant and San Juan districts would be the best way to do this.

Earlier, in the fall of 1953, North Area school superintendents, both elementary and secondary, discussed the problem and made a study which was presented to the governing boards of the two high school districts.

The State Department of Education made additional studies and recommended, in April, 1954, that the State Board of Education call an election. This was done in May, when the State Board approved petitions from the boards.

A proposal to form the district was overwhelmingly approved in June (18-1 in the Grant district alone) and this was followed by the approval of a \$3,000,000 bond issue last November 30.

This bond issue had been called by an interim board for the new American River Junior College District, appointed by Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools T. R. Smedburg. The members are Stanley Pretzer, Earl McNeely, Evan Davies, and Mr. Witter, of an earlier Grant board, and Mrs. Hamaker, member of the present Grant board.

Spearheading the drive for the new college from start to finish have been, in the San Juan District, Dr. James R. Cowan, superintendent of the Arcade School District, and William T. Mooney, superintendent of the San Juan District, and in the Grant District, Elwood J. Keema, district superintendent, who originally conceived of the new college and who has now carried his dream forward to fulfillment.

YOU ARE INVITED

You are invited to meet administration officials of both Grant Technical College and the new American River Junior College, as well as community leaders, in the Grant Tech cafeteria during Open House next Thursday.

From Grant Tech To American River--- Thirteen Years Of Community Service

By Frank Johnson, Registrar, Grant Technical College

California State Board of Education on February 28, 1942, authorized the establishment of Grant Union Junior College. The governing board of Grant Union High School District changed the name to Grant Technical College on May 9, 1945.

At first, the junior college function was to train civilian personnel for national service during the emergency of World War II. Other functions have been added so that at present it serves as a community college.



ELWOOD J. KEEMA
District Superintendent
Grant Union School District

CHAMBER JOINS IN HAIL AND FAREWELL

By David Owen, Secretary Manager
Greater North Area Chamber
of Commerce

Symbolic of the fact that the Open House at Grant Technical College on April 28 is one of the most important milestones in the history of the entire area, the Greater North Area Chamber of Commerce will participate actively in the sponsorship of this history-making event.

It will be a "Hail and Farewell" occasion in which the entire Greater North Area will join in paying tribute to Grant Technical College for its thirteen years of distinguished service in pioneering in the higher education field in this area, and in welcoming Dr. William J. Priest, new Superintendent of the American River Junior College, which will open its doors in the fall.

The Chamber is requesting all service clubs and similar organizations in the area to join with it in a reception honoring Grant Technical College and the American River Junior College officials in the college cafeteria.

What is meant by a community college? Over two and a half million young people are now enrolled in some form of higher education. With a conservative estimate of sixty-seven per cent increase within the next fifteen years, there is the realization that many more young people will desire to attend college than there are facilities, faculty and financing available for them.

Such a rise in enrollment automatically brings with it the corresponding problems of the three "F's" (facilities, faculty and financing). How best to meet these problems?

Most of the new institutions which must come into being will grow directly out of the community. The students will live at home.

With the increase in students, more and more educated men and women in the community will be involved to assist in the actual teaching process.

Business men, industrialists, chemists, biologists and social scientists will give some of their time to the college classroom and laboratory. Liberal arts graduates will lend their time to the humanities.

Trained teaching faculty will serve as a core to guard the quality of instruction. This new and larger pooling of intellectual resources will take place first by an emergency, but later by a realization of the advantages of such an action.

Demarcation lines and division between education and life will disappear. What we now call "higher education" today will be recognized as the supplier of tools and techniques for a continuing life-time process of education.

Realizing the need for immediate action for this anticipated increase and taxation of facilities, the formation of a new junior college district covering the northern metropolitan area of Sacramento was presented to the people by the educational leaders of this area in May, 1954. Approved by the voters of this area, the formation of American River Junior College brings to an end the existence of Grant Technical College.