We are very pleased that Western Nevada Community College will open its doors for the first time to students on August 30. The College will join the existing Community College at Elko and the new College in Clark County in providing services to the whole State of Nevada. It is the intention of this College to provide Community College services to the eight western counties of the State.

The chief purpose of Western Nevada Community College will be to provide occupational programs for its students. These programs are those designed to provide the student with vocational or technical skills so that he may enter the labor force upon completion of his program. These programs are designed to educate students for semi-skilled professions, skilled professions and semi-professional technical jobs. The programs are varied in length as some of them may be completed in one year while others will take two years to complete. At any rate, the programs in the comprehensive community college will provide basic employment skills and knowledge for the students.

The Community College Division of the University of Nevada System has divided its occupational programs into five broad areas.
These areas are agriculture, business, health, industrial and public service. Western Nevada Community College will provide programs for students in three of these areas this fall. These are business, health and public service. Agricultural programs are provided in the State at Elko Community College while the industrial programs for this area are provided this year by the University of Nevada at Reno.

Western Nevada Community College will provide programs in the business areas in bookkeeping, accounting, secretarial, retailing and marketing. In the health fields it will provide programs in registered nursing and radiology. The program in registered nursing for this fall will only be the second year to enable those students who have completed the first year at the University of Nevada at Reno to complete the program. It is the intention of the College to start the first year in 1972. Public service programs will be provided in fire science, hotel management, culinary arts, law enforcement and teacher aide.

These programs will provide middle manpower occupational needs for the State of Nevada. The College will operate on certain basic principles of collegiate technical programs in community colleges. The College will be an open door college with unrestricted admission to all high school graduates or those who have the equivalency of a high school diploma. Courses and curriculums, however, may be open only to those students with
proper preparation. If a student is not ready to enter some of the regular courses, developmental or remedial courses will be provided for these students. In most of the occupational areas there will be programs on two different levels. This will enable the student to work on the level that he desires. All of the associate degree programs will have sufficient content in general education and in supporting theory courses. These courses are not necessarily college parallel courses or transfer courses, but they do help the student to learn how to live as well as to make a living. High quality guidance services will be provided for students seeking courses in the vocational-technical areas.

The curriculum is planned on the core approach -- that is most of the curricula will be geared to job clusters so that a student may be oriented to many different areas rather than just one particular job. This means that the students completing the program should have greater occupational mobility and lower rates of unemployment caused by technological change. Western Nevada Community College intends to maintain continuous contact with business and industry primarily through active advisory committees. In this way it is hoped that the best career education possible will be made available for students. Through these various occupational programs, Western Nevada Community College hopes to assist the State of Nevada in solving some of its manpower needs.