

UNIVERSITY CENTER - NORTHERN VIRGINIA AREA
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
EXTENSION DIVISION
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

November 14, 1949

TO MEMBERS OF THE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE:

I wish at this time to make the following report of activities on the University Extension Project and to request your assistance in certain matters.

1. We have had considerable difficulty in finding a meeting place for the public meeting on November 28. After trying to obtain the use of any one of at least six meeting places, we were finally forced to schedule the meeting in the small auditorium at the Washington-Lee High School, Arlington. The School Department has been very kind in making the room available. As this is a central location, I am sure that persons from outside the County who may attend should have no difficulty in finding it. The public meeting will be scheduled for 8:15 p.m.

2. The dinner for President Darden will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Washington Golf and Country Club. Mr. Zehmer, Mr. Bacon, and Mr. Finley will also attend. I hope that all members of our Committee can be present. Please notify Mr. Harrison Mann as soon as possible as to whether or not you will be able to attend the dinner.

3. Arrangements are being made for Mr. Finley to attend several meetings of groups of interested citizens between now and November 28 as suggested at our last Committee meeting. He has already appeared at the Franklin-Sherman P.T.A. and at a meeting of club women called by Mrs. Yoder.

4. Attached is a copy of the letter of invitation to the public meeting that we are sending to a representative list of citizens in Arlington and Fairfax Counties, and Alexandria and Falls Church. If there are special individuals or groups that you think should be invited which might not be on our list, please call the University Center office (OWens-3125) and give the information to Mr. Finley or Mrs. Moody.

5. In order that our public meeting on November 28 may be a real success, please invite any of your friends whom you believe might be interested.

Sincerely yours,

C. A. Steele

C. A. Steele, Chairman
Temporary Committee

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Mr. C. Harrison Mann
Attorney-at-Law
1818 So. Arlington Ridge Rd.
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Mann:

You are cordially invited to attend a meeting of leading citizens of this area to be held in the Small Auditorium (Room 115) at Washington-Lee High School, Arlington, at 8:15 p.m., November 28, to discuss the subject of adult education. The principal speaker will be Colgate W. Darden, Jr., President of the University of Virginia, and former Governor of the Commonwealth. Others will include Mr. G. B. Zehmer, Director of the Extension Division, University of Virginia, and Mr. J. N. G. Finley, Associate Director of the Extension Division and Acting Director of the Northern Virginia University Center recently established in Arlington.

This meeting is being held under the sponsorship of the Citizens' Committee, set up early this year, to determine if something tangible could not be done to provide better opportunities for adult education in Northern Virginia. Since the establishment of a local Junior College, for which there was considerable sentiment, appears to be out of the question for the present, it was decided to turn to the University of Virginia for guidance and assistance. This was gladly and freely given because University officials fully recognized the need for better adult education opportunities throughout the Commonwealth. For that reason the University's extension program has recently been greatly expanded, and further enlargements are planned to bring the facilities and services of the University and those other institutions of higher education participating with it in this activity to as many of the citizens of the state as possible.

The members of our Exploratory Committee feel that an important step toward our goal was met when the Northern Virginia University Center was opened in the Vocational Building at the Washington-Lee High School in Arlington a little over a month ago. As its name implies, the Center is designed to serve all of Northern Virginia lying within a radius of about thirty-five miles of Washington. For that reason this Committee which is composed largely of Arlington citizens has called this meeting so that leading citizens throughout the area can learn more about what is already being done and what is planned, and participate in the formation of a permanent advisory committee, representing the entire area, which will assist the University in carrying on a successful, well-rounded program of adult education in this part of Virginia.

It will be appreciated if you will invite other interested citizens (especially members of your own organization) to attend this meeting.

Yours very truly,

C. A. Steele
C. A. Steele, Chairman
Temporary Committee