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### Mrs. Stroup Refurbishes Parlor of Stroup Dorm News Clipping

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# Mrs. Stroup Refurbishes Parlor of Stroup Dorm

For over fifty years, Mrs. Mae Cline Stroup has been investing in Christian education at home and around the world. Nor has her interest in the education of young people diminished with age.

Mrs. Stroup, who will be 95 this month, just recently paid for the refurbishing of the parlor of Stroup Dorm at Gardner-Webb College. The dorm, a women's residence hall constructed in 1960, is named in her honor.

Knowing of her interest in the project, President Chris White visited Mrs. Stroup

in her Shelby home, taking with him swatches of fabric and asking her advice on fabric selection. Says White, "Being able to rely on Mrs. Stroup's wisdom and good taste through the years has been an asset to Gardner-Webb."

Mrs. Stroup checked on the progress of the refurbishing while on campus for a meeting of the Heritage Club. The Club is comprised of individuals who have made gifts designated for endowment or have included the college in their wills or estate plans.

She recalls, "In his prayer that night, Dr. Forrest Feezor thanked the Lord for the lady so interested in the college that she came to our meeting in a wheelchair."

Her interest in the college

goes back to 1933 when Mrs. Stroup was elected to its board of trustees, the first woman to occupy this position at any N.C. Baptist college. Comments President White, "Mrs. Stroup was a fine business leader long before the women's liberation movement. With her husband Rush, she cofounded the Eagle Stores, and upon his death, she directed the company."

"In past years she served in almost every leadership capacity on the Gardner-Webb board of trustees and was on the presidential search committees for the three presidents prior to me. In short, she is quite a lady."

Other institutions have benefitted from both her largesse and her leadership.

She has served on the boards of trustees of Mars Hill College and Wake Forest University, and once had the distinction of being the only woman to serve as a trustee of three Baptist colleges.

A world traveler, Mrs. Stroup in 1943 provided for the building and opening of a high school and Bible institute in Carolina, Brazil, after she discovered the educational needs existing there.

Reflecting on her long life, she adds, "I'm so fortunate that I've been able to help folks all my life. And I'll continue to do that."

In recognition of her significant contributions to education, Gardner-Webb College awarded her the honorary doctor of humanities degree in 1976.



Mrs. Mae Cline Stroup



## GOLD COINS

The first general-circulation U.S. gold coin to be minted in more than a half-century went on sale recently with Treasury Department officials reporting brisk demand for the American Eagle coins.