

Beta Club Charter Is Given Appalachian Hi

Mr. Julian Stanford, General Field Director of the National Beta Club, presented the charter of the newly organized Beta Club of Appalachian High School to Dr. Crez during an assembly program on Wednesday, November 20.

Thirty-seven members from the sophomore and junior classes took the pledge, and the following officers were installed: Mary White, president; Keith Nichols, vice-president; Betsy Nichols, secretary; and Robert Gragg, treasurer. Mrs. Lera Randall is sponsor of the club.

The National Beta Club is a non-secret, leadership-service organization. Its purposes are to promote the ideals of honesty, service, and leadership among high school students, to reward meritorious achievement, and to encourage and assist students to continue their education after high school.

The qualifications for membership are: good mentality and character, creditable achievement, and commendable attitude.

Members of the Appalachian High School Beta Club are: Juniors: Robert Brittain, Vir-

ginia Bryan, Tad Buckland, Fred Cook, Landrine Eggers, Joe Elrod, Richard Greer, Jim Hayes, Dale Moretz, Jerry McCracken, Elizabeth Phillips, Peggy Phillips, Mary White, Keith Wyke.

Sophomores: Patricia Ashley, Grant Robert Ayers, Jr., Paul Bartlett, Margaret Rowe Brown, John Ralph Buchanan, Harold Bryan, Janice Cook, Jilda Creed, Donna Gilley, Jimmy Goodnight, Robert Gragg, Aline Greer, Margaret Hagaman, Gloria Hampton, Violet Moretz, Betsy Nichols, Judy Snyder, Raymond Smith, Bobby Joe Winkler, Cody Yasinae, Robert Yoder.

Distinction List
The following names were omitted from the distinction list published in last week's paper:

Seniors: Clara Beach, Pat Dowling, Judy Gragg, and Wilma Moritz.

Beta Club Reception
The National Honor Society entertained the new Beta Club members and their parents at a reception in the library after the assembly program Wednesday morning, November 20. Hot Russian tea and donuts were served to ap-

proximately one hundred students and parents.

Drivers Education News

In the United States one accidental death occurs every six minutes and a serious or permanent injury is inflicted every three seconds. The great majority of these deaths and injuries are the results of highway traffic accidents. These accidents are caused by carelessness on the part of the driver, breaking the rules and regulations, and ignorance of driving facts and hazards. The tragedy of all this is that most of the accidents are foreseeable and preventable!

Drivers education in the schools is our greatest hope for successfully dealing with this problem of destruction.

Appalachian High School has driver education as a required subject to be taken during the junior year. The course is combined with the student's regular physical education class. Since the boys classes and girls classes in physical education are separate, so are the classes in drivers training. Meeting the driver training class every other day, the girls' classes have been studying the laws and regulations, highway signs and signals, the pedestrian, problems of the road and reaction time. The material to be covered for the remainder of the school year is based on the actual mechanics of driving, the function and parts of the car and what to do in case of a mechanical failure while driving.

Through driver education in the classroom and behind the wheel, boys and girls learn to do better some of the things which they eventually do anyway. Even as a pedestrians and passengers, they will benefit from the instruction. It helps them to understand that being a good driver or pedestrian requires the same good judgment and cooperative attitude needed to be a good citizen. Citizenship is one of the main objectives of Appalachian High and the drivers training classes provide an excellent place to help them grow in good citizenship.

Melody Masters Swing
Appalachian High School's own dance band, known as the Melody Masters had the school jumping in assembly Friday, November 8. From a modern arrangement of "Danny Boy" to a tango rhythm of "La Cumparsita" the boys and girls in the band made a hit with the high school crowd.

Made up of members of Appalachian High School concert and marching bands, the group of

Community Club Progress Listed

The Cove Creek Community Club was visited Tuesday, November 19, by judges from the North-west N. C. Development Association. They were: Dr. Selz Mayo, Rural Sociology Department, N. C. State College, Raleigh; Miss Frances Alexander, assistant editor, "The Progressive Farmer," Raleigh; and Jake Henry, assistant superintendent, industrial relations activities, Western Electric Co., Winston-Salem.

The judges listened to an hour and one-half report of the progress made in the community last year. Jerry Adams gave a report on club projects; John H. Bingham and Carl Fidler gave a report of school improvements; Robert Shipley gave the farm and home report; and Mrs. Hattie Lewis gave the Home Demonstration Club and church reports.

Cove Creek was county winner in the Rural Non-Farm division and is in competition with 10 other communities for the top prize money of \$250. Winners will be announced December 5 at the annual meeting of the association in Elkin.

dance musicians meet outside the school day and rehearse for their own enjoyment and for the possibility of obtaining dance jobs. Although there is not an elected leader, Richard Greer serves as leader and Frank Payne as business manager. Mr. Perry Watson directs the band.

The group played "Swing Low", "Come Back to Sorrento", "Little Brown Jug", "Danny Boy", "Rhythm in my Soul", "La Cumparsita", "Sleepy Town Train", "Jersey Bounce", and "Dream a Little Dream of Me".

Members of the Melody Masters are: saxes, Tad Buckland, Landrine Eggers, Jimmy Goodnight, Pat Maddux, and Arlene Greer; trombones, Richard Greer, Frank Hartley, and Jerry McCracken; trumpets, Frank Payne, Raymond Smith, Eugene Greer, and Jack Thomas; rhythm section, Bobby Jo Winkler, drums; Alice Cain, piano; Bob Agle, bass.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Mr. C. D. McNeill expresses their sincere thanks to their friends and neighbors for their comforting expressions of sympathy during the death of their brother.

Washington News

Washington, D. C.—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson is definitely at the end of his usefulness to the Eisenhower Administration. He may be leaving the scene at any time between now and next year's congressional elections.

A powerful group of Republicans is now arrayed against the big-farmer, low-support policies of Benson, and heartily disagree with him that things are satisfactory in the field of farm policy and progress.

This has happened before, but not on such a scale. Each time the crisis has occurred in the past President Eisenhower has stuck loyally by his agriculture chief. However, there are now other people to be considered, rather than Mr. Eisenhower's political neck and Mr. Benson himself.

Some Republican Congressmen, up for reelection next year in the agricultural areas, know that carrying Benson around their necks is like carrying an albatross and that this might defeat them, if their Democratic opposition is formidable.

In addition, the presidential candidate of the Republican Party in 1960 will not have Eisenhower's great strength with the American people and will have to see to it that all handicaps which might prevent success at the polls in a national election, are removed.

By all odds, and admittedly on all sides, Benson is a political liability to the Republicans. There are many Democrats who hope he will remain in office, because they know the value to their party if he is on the scene to be "used" in coming elections.

But even the Republicans who support Benson, for the most part, know he is a liability. Even those who believe in his farm philosophies, and his theories, admit he is a political liability. They, however, believe that he should be retained in office, and a considerable group of supporters have again voiced a willingness to stick by him.

Nevertheless, the time seems to be inevitably nearing when Mr. Eisenhower will have to remove Benson for the good of the party, including the 1960 presidential nominee and the large number of congressmen and senators facing election fights next year and in

do the chopping, get down to bare facts, they won't be able to chop very much.

The result will be increased military spending and about the same level of domestic spending, they foresee. This may well mean an unbalanced budget, because tax collections (judging from the dip in business caused by the current recession) may be down from what had been hoped, in the coming fiscal year.

October industrial production hit a 1957 low, and dropped faster than during any month of the year. With the farm recession having been in progress for some years, the weakening of activity in the industrial sphere becomes keenly important. (One of the reasons for less demand for tractors, farm implements, new cars and appliances is, of course, the

reduced purchasing power of the farmer.)

Higher government spending may well be necessary to spur the economy and stimulate building, and help prevent a serious business let down. The lowering of interest rates announced recently by the Administration is an effort in this direction.



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