



DUKE ALUMNI OFFICERS.—Officers elected at the recent meeting of the Ashe, Alleghany, Avery Watauga county alumni are, front row, left to right, Miss Eunice Query, vice president; Mrs. George Hagan, alumni representative; back row: Donlad Lumpkin, treasurer; Dwight Isenhour, president; and Bob Barefield, secretary.

\$16 Million Is Paid On Soil Bank In N. C.

Of the nearly \$18 million earned by North Carolina farmers by their participation in the 1957 Soil Bank program \$16,257,751 has already been paid out through local ASC offices, according to Tilman R. Walker, chairman of the ASC state committee.

The 1957 Soil Bank program consisted of two parts, the Soil Bank Acreage Reserve and the Soil Bank Conservation Reserve. Under the acreage reserve phase, which serves to reduce plantings of "basic" crops, payments were earned in 1957 totaling \$17,200,000. Of that amount all but \$1,143,000 is now in the hands of participating farmers.

Walker explained that the conservation reserve part of the pro-

gram deals not with allotment crops, but with other cash crops. The conservation reserve serves to reduce plantings of these "other cash crops" and also requires proper conservation of the land taken out of production. Under the 1957 conservation reserve program, payments were earned totaling \$376,000. According to Walker, \$200,000 of that amount has already been paid out by local ASC county offices.

Bankers Aiding 4-H Foundation

North Carolina banks have launched a special fund raising effort on behalf of the National 4-H Club Foundation, according to James R. Austin, assistant vice-president of The Peoples Bank, Roxboro.

Austin is chairman of North Carolina banks in the fund raising effort which got underway November 1.

In a letter to North Carolina bankers, Austin said that he recognized that many banks already support local club work but urged them to consider the Foundation for additional support on a national level.

The program of the National 4-H Club Foundation, an educational, non-profit organization, currently supports:

- (1) The International Farm Youth Exchange under which 300 young people are exchanged each year between the United States and 50 countries of the free world in order that they may live and work with farm families and promote better understanding.
- (2) The operation of a National 4-H Club Center in the Nation's Capital, which will serve as a "working" monument to the 4-H movement, with emphasis on citizenship, leadership development, and character education.
- (3) A broad program in human development-human relations for training youth leaders in how to work more effectively with young people.

Mental Health Group Meets

The monthly meeting of the newly organized Watauga Chapter of the N. C. Association for Mental Health was held Tuesday night, November 5, at the health center. The meeting was well attended with local civic clubs and other agencies being represented. Dr. Mary Michal presided in the absence of the president, Abe Littleton.

William Eckhardt, clinical psychologist from the State Hospital in Morganton, and a member of the Burke county chapter, was the guest speaker. Eckhardt told of some of the history of mental health organizations in this country. He stressed the fact that a local chapter could do much to prevent the hospitalization of patients and to also help the ex-patient.

Eckhardt stated that since mental health is the number one health problem in the country today the need was great for more awareness on the part of each community. A great deal of interest was shown in the discussion period following his remarks.

The regular meeting date of the Watauga County Chapter is the first Tuesday of each month at 8 p. m. at the health center. All interested citizens are invited to attend.

Montreal, Canada.—Gaston Poliquin, 44 lost control of his car at an intersection and: Backed into oncoming cars, drove forward and hit a motorcycle, hit a parked ambulance, turned a corner and nicked two more cars. No charges were made against him.

Tobacco farmers are being squeezed by acreage reductions. General Motors is raising prices on all its cars. Heavy drinking is linked to risk of oral cancer.



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PARKING FUNDS

The American Automobile Association has charged that millions of motorists are being "short-changed" when they put their nickles into parking meters. The organization said most of the \$100,000,000 paid in parking meter fees annually was being spent on "municipal projects unrelated to parking."

U. S. auto production is above the 1956 level.



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