

*4-H Achievements 1957*

North Carolina has 2,503 organized 4-H Clubs with a total membership of 153,206 boys and girls - about one out of every five farm boys and girls eligible for membership. In its program of "training farm youth in the Art of Living" - training in economic, social, physical, and spiritual growth and development - 4-H provides opportunities which enable boys and girls to grow into well informed and useful citizens, better equipped to meet local situations and to assume their places of community and state leadership.

Last year North Carolina 4-H members completed 160,977 4-H projects under the supervision of the farm and home agents. Through these projects the 4-H boys and girls and their parents learned and put into practice approved methods and practices in agriculture and homemaking. The 4-H Club program provides opportunities for some 6,000 farm boys and girls to attend an organized 4-H camp annually - a program providing supervised training in recreation, leadership, handicraft, forestry, nature study, lifesaving, and citizenship - a privilege many of them would not have except for the 4-H camp program. Through the International Farm Youth Exchange and other related activities, 4-H members are enabled to broaden their contacts and cooperate in a program of world understanding and world peace. Because of the many awards offered to 4-H members by business groups and individuals, a large number of 4-H members receive state and national scholarship awards provided through the 4-H program.

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North Carolina has 2,503 organized 4-H Clubs with a total membership of 153,206 boys and girls. This is about one out of every five farm boys and girls eligible for membership and the advantages 4-H offers in training farm youth in the Art of Living. The 4-H Club program provides opportunities which enable boys and girls to grow into well informed and useful citizens, training in economic, social, physical, and spiritual growth and development. Last year North Carolina 4-H members completed 160,977 4-H projects under the supervision of the farm and home agents. Through these projects the 4-H boys and girls and their parents learned and put into practice approved methods and practices in agriculture and homemaking. The 4-H Club program provided opportunities for some 6,000 farm boys and girls to attend an organized 4-H camp during the past summer, a privilege many of them would not have except for the 4-H camp program. This program dealt with recreational training, leadership, handicraft, forestry, nature study, lifesaving, and citizenship training. Through its program of International Farm Youth Exchange and other related activities, 4-H members are enabled to broaden their contacts and cooperate in a program of world understanding and world peace. Because of the many awards offered to 4-H members, a large number of 4-H members received state and national scholarship awards provided through the 4-H program.

The most important thing about 4-H is the opportunity it provides in offering training which better equips our farm people to meet local situations and to assume their places of community and state leadership. In all areas in our state may be found former 4-H Club members in prominent places of leadership in all walks of life.

The influence of the 4-H program has contributed to the economic, social, physical, and moral welfare of our state.

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### AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

North Carolina has \_\_\_\_\_ organized 4-H Clubs with a total membership of \_\_\_\_\_. This is only about one out of every five farm boys and girls eligible for membership and the advantages 4-H offers in "Training Farm Youth in the Art of Living." To make available for every rural boy and girl of club age a 4-H program which will help enable them to grow into well informed and useful citizens - training in the economic, social, physical, and spiritual growth and development - will require more than the financial support provided by local, state, and federal appropriations. Friends of 4-H must provide the needed additional financial support, as well as moral support.

Most urgent and immediate needs are funds for: (a) Expanding 4-H camping facilities; (b) Aid for needy and worthy boys and girls for further training and education; (c) Support of a state-wide system of recognition and awards program; and (d) The support of the International Farm Youth Exchange Program.

In the present camping program adequate facilities are available for only 400 campers per week in state-owned 4-H camps and operated at full capacity for the full camping period (12 weeks) would accomodate only one out of each twenty of the present 4-H membership. The number decreases as the enrollment goes up. Camping is one of the most valuable experiences an individual can have. It has served and continues to serve as one of the most valuable phases of the 4-H Club program and has done more than any other one thing to stimulate interest in 4-H and to provide training for farm boys and girls that they could not possibly secure except for the 4-H Club camp. (It can truly be said that no camp program is stronger than the facilities provided.) To adequately provide for present needs will require space and facilities to handle a minimum of 1500 4-H boys and girls per week.



To meet this need and to take full advantage of camping property and facilities, two new full camps are proposed as additional units on existing camp property owned by the North Carolina 4-H Clubs and deeded to the State of North Carolina. This plan would make possible supervision of operation and maintenance at a minimum cost. Two camps at the same location would make it possible for counties to hold both a senior and a junior camp during the same period, thereby greatly reducing the time and expense of conducting the county 4-H camping program.

The first proposal for construction is a 150 capacity camp of all weather construction that could be used at any time in the year for 4-H groups, YMW groups, leaders, extension workers, or others interested in the promotion of 4-H Club work, this unit to be built on the Millstone 4-H Camp property located in Richmond County in the Wildlife Resources Area some sixteen miles south of Pinehurst, N. C. This camp would be located across the lake from the present Millstone Camp. The same lake would be used for swimming; the same power line serving the Millstone Camp would serve this camp. The estimated cost of building and equipping this camp is \$100,000.

A similar unit at the Swannanoa 4-H Camp at Swannanoa, N. C., would cost approximately the same amount, \$100,000.

With these two additions and the continued lease arrangement for the Roanoke Island 4-H Camp and the three state-owned camps (Millstone, Schaub, and Swannanoa) adequate facilities would be available for 900 campers per week.

The establishment of scholarships and aid for needy and worthy boys and girls can best be visualized when a study is made of the percentage of boys and girls enrolled in agriculture and home economics at the colleges. More pathetic is the number of college graduates returning to the farm and agriculture as a life's work. Still more pathetic, the few who choose working with youth as a profession. THE NEED IS URGENT AND UNLIMITED.

The International Farm Youth Exchange Program is set up to bring about a better understanding and a better relationship between our country and other countries in the world. Since the beginning of this program, North Carolina has sent delegates representing North Carolina to 27 foreign countries and in return has entertained 42 exchange delegates from 27 countries. These young people have lived with farm families and have, in a way, been adopted as members of the host families. It has been said by all of these exchangees that only in this way can one have a true understanding of these people and that with this understanding comes a better relationship between countries. As one high government official said of Francis Pressly's visit to Italy, "His visit has done more to bring good relationships with our country than all the ambassadors you have sent." To efficiently and effectively conduct this program, a fund in the amount of \$5,000 annually is needed to take care of the state's share of the expense of financing six exchangees each year. (The National 4-H Club Foundation contributes a substantial portion of the expense of this program.)

To finance the recognition and awards program, which would provide educational trips for district, state, and national winners, recognition dinners, medals and other awards, an amount of \$25,000 is needed. It is proposed that all present donations be included in this amount which would reduce considerably the total amount to be raised.

This is a big request but it is for a big program. However, when broken down on a per member basis on the official enrollment in North Carolina for 1956, it amounts to less than \$2.25 per member. Could there be a BETTER INVESTMENT or one that would pay greater dividends in human development? Every true 4-H member knows the answer and appreciates the truth of this statement.

TODAY'S INVESTMENT IN YOUTH WILL PAY GREAT DIVIDENDS IN MATURITY.