

NEWSLETTER  
KANSAS ASSOCIATION  
of  
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

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1931 AMERICAN FARMERS - KANSAS

The following are the summaries of the applications for the degree of American Farmer by our own two successful candidates. The American Farmer degree is the highest award that can be given by the national organization of Future Farmers of America. Other awards by other agencies, carrying various prizes, are important and much to be desired, but bear in mind the fact that the highest award in the F.F.A. is the degree of American Farmer. Read these brief summaries of 1931 American Farmers from Kansas. What do they reveal? Can you see scholarship, sound project procedure, ability to cooperate, and leadership qualities? The factors listed are included in the summary and we hope you will recognize them. The state association is proud not only of these records, but of both boys who are representative of the splendid group of farm boys enrolled in our vocational agriculture classes.

Kenneth Waite, Winfield, Kansas.

Kenneth received his State Farmer's degree in April 1930. He owns 1/3 interest in 11 head of Hereford cattle, one-half interest in 33 head of sheep and full interest in two Percheron mares. The cattle and sheep were purchased from project earnings. Kenneth and his brother have rented a 560 acre farm from their parents and Kenneth gets one-fourth of the crops produced. Enterprises include corn, potatoes, sheep and beef.

Kenneth's ability to farm is reflected in his project work with swine, capons, beef, corn, potatoes, small grains and sheep breeding stock, with a total project income of \$1,000 in three years. Kenneth's investments in farming and his other assets amount to over \$1,000. He has demonstrated his proficiency in numerous farm skills with the various enterprises. He has held numerous school offices and has participated in numerous contests, fairs, and shows. Ability to work with others is reflected in Kenneth's having charge of cooperative potato spraying work carried on by the chapter for the last two years and the purchase of certified seed potatoes. Kenneth is a B plus student. Project records and accounts accompanied his application.

Francis Grillot, Parsons, Kansas.

Francis Grillot received the State Farmer degree April 1931. Grillot owns 26 hogs, 9 cattle which he raised. He rents 12 acres of wheat land, the wheat is used to feed the hogs. His farming enterprises include: swine, cattle and poultry.

Home projects conducted by Francis from 1928-'31 include pigs, cattle, corn, soys, chickens and swine from which he obtained a total labor income of \$1151.00. He is proficient in many farming skills and performs many supplementary jobs.

Francis' total investment in farming and other assets amounts to \$1030. He has made many important managerial decisions and changes on the home farm which have been successful. He has taken an active part in local and community affairs. He has held many responsible offices in the F.F.A. and 4-H club. Francis participated in numerous fairs and contests, winning many high places and prizes. His application shows a good scholarship grade.

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What plan is your chapter following in using the F.F.A. Newsletter? Is it feasible to have individual reports on articles at your regular meetings? A brief statement of how your chapter uses the Newsletter would be of interest to the State Reporter, who in turn will be glad to pass on new ideas through future issues of the Newsletter.

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### THE CREED OF THE FUTURE FARMERS

By Dr. J.C. Wright  
Director, Federal Board for Vocational Education

The Future Farmers of America, national organization of boys enrolled in vocational agriculture classes in the United

States, is playing an important part in keeping its members contented with farm life and the opportunities it offers. The Future Farmers of America organization was launched less than three years ago and already has a membership of its 2,500 local chapters in forty-five states and Hawaii today of over 60,000.

The members of the Future Farmers of America organization are, through their vocational agriculture courses, and their association with its fellows in the organization, learning that their best opportunity for the future lies right on the home farm or another farm. You will not find them walking the streets of the large cities looking for jobs where there are no jobs. They are interested in farming and have determined to learn, through study and actual experience, how to become good farmers. They know that the best opportunities for service to community and country lie in their home localities. And the public schools, under the provisions of the Federal vocational education acts are helping them to get practical instruction in agriculture.

The will to work can be acquired only by cultivating the habit of work. Members of the Future Farmers of America are cultivating this habit not only in their vocational agriculture work, but also in connection with the activities of their organization. It is in the activities of their organization, also, that they are getting training for work. They form and operate their own cooperative associations, they buy and sell, they conduct agricultural meetings, and they participate in the agricultural program of the community. Such training for work is as essential to good farming as to success in any other field. To this very practical experience is added their work in the vocational agriculture school, in which they must be enrolled before they can become members of the Future Farmers of America. It is in the school that they are given instruction in technical agriculture and its application to practical work on the farm. Their school laboratories are their home farms. Projects assigned to them as a part of their vocational agriculture course work are carried out on the home farms.

Job pride, Future Farmers of America are acquiring through both school and organization activities. They take pride in the fact that they are learning to be farmers, and that through their organization they are acquiring the principles of co-operation and leadership.

The creed of the Future Farmers of America is "Learning to do, doing to earn, earning to live, and living to serve." Fundamental, isn't it? All that the members of the organization need to do to achieve success and contentment is to live up to this creed. -- Agricultural Leaders' Digest.

SEVENTY-FOUR CHARTERED CHAPTERS OF F.F.A.

To-date we have seventy-four chartered chapters of F.F.A. in Kansas. One of these chapters was inactive last year but we are confident this chapter will be among the active this year. New F.F.A. chapters chartered since the beginning of the present school year follow:

Lawrence	Decatur Co., Oberlin
Ford	Powhattan
Seaman, N. Topeka	Ellis
Tonganoxie	Pleasanton
Trego Co., Wakeeney	Meriden
Williamsburg	

Congratulations and best wishes for continued success. These chapters will be included in our "request for news" lists so you may expect to hear from them regularly. For the benefit of the new chapters, will state that each chapter is given the opportunity to furnish news items for the Newsletter four times a year; that is, the chapters of the state are divided into four lists, each list having representatives of each section of the state, and these lists in turn furnish the chapter items for the monthly issues of the F.F.A. Newsletter. So bear in mind the fact that when you receive a request for news, it will be time for action if you expect representation in the Newsletter.

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WHOSE JOB IS IT?

This business of building a yearly program of work, formulating an annual report of the local chapter, a report on membership and dues, report of list of officers, and sending news items to the state reporter? Just whom should we expect to assume these responsibilities? If you are not certain, turn to the Manual and read. Local chapter officers who permit the local advisor to perform these responsibilities are direct in their duties. Officers must appreciate the fact that along with the honor of being elected to office goes a direct responsibility. The president, of course, is charged with the responsibility of seeing that his officers function properly. Wholehearted cooperation in carrying out promptly and completely the functions of an office is expected of every member who accepts the honor of election or appointment. Letting the advisor do it (that is, the teacher) is evidence of poor chapter organization.

It takes real thought and honest endeavor to build a local program of F.F.A. work and see to it that the chapter accomplishes what it set out to do. No, this is not a job for the officers alone, but a responsibility which must be shared by each member of the local chapter. Success in F.F.A. work is dependent upon the willingness of individual members to share responsibilities.

"Am I doing my part to make our proposed chapter program a reality" is a question each member should ask himself; face the answer honestly, and get busy.

To the local advisor who thinks he can formulate chapter programs, fill in and mail reports, and send in news items in better manner and at the expense of much less time than by having the chapter or individual members perform these functions, we suggest that he take time to study carefully the purpose of the F.F.A. and his relation to the organization.

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### ANNUAL REPORTS

The State Association is building a blank form which will facilitate the business of the local chapter in making an annual report. Such a blank must be easily understood, concise, and complete. Annual reports are important, not only to the State Association but to the local chapter. If advancement is to be made, it behooves us to know what we set out to accomplish and what accomplishment resulted.

The annual reports of local chapters handed in at the meeting of the House of Delegates last spring were far from satisfactory. No blame was attached to local chapters for this. The State Association took the blame as it had not made the proper preparation in the matter. This year we hope to build upon the mistake of last year and want chapters that have done good work to receive credit and be an inspiration to chapters that have not measured up to their possibilities.

Suggestions from local advisors, local chapters, or individual members as to type blank and what to include in the annual report would be welcome.

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### F.F.A. MARKERS

How many Future Farmer chapters are making plans to use markers? There is no ruling from the National Organization regarding their use. Many states are encouraging the use of these markers by all members of the F.F.A. The Kansas Association of Future Farmers of America by action of its House of Delegates in annual meeting last spring asked that use of the Marker be postponed until a committee could study the problem and report a suitable plan of use. The Marker is attractive, would advertise the F.F.A., and should be in common use in Kansas during the next year. The House of Delegates was of the opinion that widespread use of the Marker without some definite plan would result in both favorable and unfavorable publicity. We are all hoping that the committee will come forward with a plan satisfactory to all concerned, that the report will be accepted,

and that the use of the F.F.A. Marker will become general in Kansas. The committee is anxious to have an expression of opinion from chapters relative to this question. One chapter recommends that use be limited to members who do satisfactory supervised farm practice work. What is your recommendation? Send individual or chapter expression to either John Henry Peters, State Reporter, Washington, Kansas, or to the Executive Advisor.

An attractive F.F.A. Marker standard was portrayed in the January issue of Agricultural Education. This standard was designed, built, and is being used by the Oshkosh, Wisconsin Chapter of Future Farmers of America.

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### DISTRICTING STATE

At the last meeting of the House of Delegates a committee was appointed to study the feasibility of districting the state for F.F.A. work. Tentatively recommended that the state constitution be changed so as to include several vice presidents, one coming from each district. The district vice president in turn serving as president of his regional organization. A.G. Jensen, Concordia, is chairman of this committee. This committee is a joint representation of teachers and F.F.A. members. Has your chapter given the matter thought? Do you have recommendations to offer the committee? The committee will be happy to have suggestions.

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### TERMINOLOGY

Once more we are forced to call attention to the fact that your local F.F.A. Chapter is not a "club", "society", or "organization". "Future Farmers" is a pleasing term but does not mean the same thing as Future Farmers of America. There are many clubs, societies, and organizations of rural boys, and Future Farmers is a term that might apply to most any group of rural boys. Correct terminology is worth while. Remember, it is the "national organization", the "state association", and the "local chapter", always, when speaking of or writing about the F.F.A.

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### OTTAWA F.F.A.

We initiated thirteen green hands into the local chapter of Future Farmers at the first of the school year. The next meeting we had a "Dad and Son" banquet. There were seventy people there. Nearly every boy brought his father. The advanced class of agriculture boys went to the American Royal. They reported



many things of interest that were seen there. The Williamsburg Chapter sent six officers up to be initiated as green hands and future farmers, so they could initiate other boys and become charter members.

The local chapter of Future Farmers sponsored a poultry and grain show, that was held in the vocational agriculture shop room. Ottawa merchants donated prizes. Some of the winning birds were sent to Lawrence to the Kaw Valley Poultry Show sponsored by the Lawrence Chapter of Future Farmers of America. During the show a judging contest was held. Ottawa won the cup for the second time in two years. To obtain permanent possession of the cup a school must win it three times. The Ottawa boys who represented us at Lawrence were: Frank Burgess, Chester Burgess and Harry Smith. The honor of placing first and second in the contest was won by Chester Burgess and Harry Smith respectively. Harry Smith is the president of our chapter.

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#### MANHATTAN

On October 31, 1931, F.F.A. members competed in a chapter livestock judging contest. Three classes of dairy cattle, 1 horse class, 2 swine classes and 2 beef breeding cow classes were judged. Prizes were awarded to both green hands and Future Farmer members. Stock on nearby farms was used. On October 29, 1931, nineteen green hands were initiated into F.F.A. The services were held in a large old abandoned packing house in the suburbs of Manhattan, after various tests to determine "intestinal fortitude" of neophytes the regular F.F.A. green hand initiation services were used to induct the new members.

The Manhattan Chapter of F.F.A. sent its President, Vauce Auchard, as chapter delegate to annual F.F.A. Congress at Kansas City, November 16-18. He brought back a very interesting report to his chapter given at December 1st meeting.

Swine production projects for boys in animal production class seem popular and are in greater prominence than last year. The class list of animal production projects is as follows: Sow and litter - 16; beef feeding - 3; and ewes and lambs - 3.

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#### THE WASHINGTON F.F.A.

The Washington F.F.A. boys held a Christmas meeting at the home of our president, John Henry Peters, December 30th. Eighteen boys attended this meeting. Several games were played, presents were exchanged and eats consisting of pop corn, apples, buns and punch were served. During the business meeting, plans were discussed for holding a Father and Son banquet, and an evening school for adult farmers.

Four green hands were raised to the F.F.A. degree in a public ceremony on December 18th, before the entire student body of the Washington High School. The team had most of the ritual memorized. We are planning a Father and Son banquet for January 28th. The crops class are mapping and planning a rotation for their home farms. Four boys are planning on entering the Union Pacific Scholarship Contest. They are: Elmer Dawdy, Ernest Finlayson, Darrel Craig and Olin Bennett.

The Washington F.F.A. boys believe in large project programs as shown by the fact that 24 boys have 37 projects definitely planned. These projects include 10 corn projects, 3 chicken projects, 14 sow and litter projects, 6 dairy projects, 2 beef calf projects, and 2 fattening pig projects. There will likely be several more projects started in the spring.

The laying flock class project is returning a profit in spite of the bad weather and low egg prices. Our profits over feed costs to-date are \$41.38. We have nearly enough feed bought to last all winter and was able to pay each boy \$2.00 just before Christmas. The average cost of producing a dozen of eggs has been less than four cents during this period. We have gotten a production of 59% during the last two weeks.

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#### WILLIAMSBURG

The Williamsburg chapter of Future Farmers was organized November 15th, 1931, with a membership of twenty charter members. Of these 14 are green hands and are to be initiated next month by the six Future Farmers, who were initiated as green hands and raised to future farmers by the Ottawa Chapter December 10th. Officers are: President, Lawrence Akers; Vice-President, Paul Fogle; Secretary, Lee Andrew; Treasurer, Evan Piersol; Watch Dog, Harlan McMillan. The chapter is putting on the play "The Trial of a Soil Robber" on the 29th of December and will use the proceeds for a Father and Son banquet in January, at whichtime some of the charter member green hands will go through the initiation ceremony.

The chapter has also recommissioned a fanning mill, and custom work will be done for a nominal charge for farmers as a community service.

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#### SHAWNEE MISSION F.F.A. SPONSORS OFFICERS' TRAINING SCHOOL

The first annual Future Farmers of America officers' training school was held at the Shawnee Mission Rural High School, December 5th. Seventy-three Future Farmers of America officers and their advisors from eleven chapters attended this school sponsored by the Shawnee Mission chapter. Had the weather been



favorable four more chapters would have been represented.

The day was given over entirely to instruction to officers in the performance of their duties. The school was opened with the impressive national opening ceremony given by the Shawnee Mission chapter officers. Short welcomes were given by Principal D.A. Morgan, President Donald Cover of the Shawnee Mission Chapter to which Theodore Davis, president of the Tonganoxie Chapter responded in behalf of the visitors. Speakers at the general session were: Lester B. Pollom, Topeka, who spoke on, "Building the Yearly Program"; Ray L. Cuff, Kansas City Livestock Exchange, on, "Why the Vocational Agriculture Student Should Belong to the F.F.A.", and Frank Payne, Shawnee, Kansas, on, "The Value of the Future Farmer of America Chapter to the Community". Following a short recess, the boys went into round table meetings as follows:

Presidents and vice presidents led by Mr. Pollom.  
 Secretaries led by Mr. Cuff.  
 Treasurers led by Thomas Wagner of the Shawnee Mission Chapter.  
 Reporters led by Mr. Payne.  
 Program Committee Chairmen led by A.L. Cross, vice principal of Shawnee Mission High School.  
 Advisors led by H.D. Garver, Shawnee Mission Chapter Advisor.

At noon the visitors were guests of the Shawnee Mission Chapter at lunch in the school cafeteria. The lunch, planned to meet the particular needs of boys who had traveled long distances on a cold day, was served by mothers of the local chapter officers.

The afternoon was given over to a sight-seeing trip of Kansas City, which included a trip to the top of the Kansas City Power and Light Company's new skyscraper. Many groups had to leave immediately after lunch for their homes, as they had long distances to drive, and the weather was still threatening.

The real value of this school will be determined in the months ahead, back in the chapters represented that day. The respectful and attentive attitudes of the visiting officers throughout the school indicated the need for which this school was planned to meet. The inspiring talks given by the three speakers, and the earnestness with which the round table discussions were carried on showed that the needs were met to a great extent.

Plans for another school were made at the meeting of advisors. Constructive criticism of this year's school was made with a view of making next year's school better. It was decided to hold next year's school at Shawnee Mission again, at a time to be decided later. Officers from the following chapters were present: Tonganoxie, Wellsville, Bonner Springs, Auburn, Seaman Rural, Mound City, Williamsburg, Burlington, Oskaloosa, Washburn, and Shawnee Mission.

Officers of the Shawnee Mission chapter which sponsored this school are: President, Donald Cover; Vice-president, Fred Vanschoelandt; Secretary, Milton McGrew; Treasurer, Thomas Wagner; Reporter, Arthur Smith; Watch Dog, Robert Watson; Advisor, H.D. Garver.

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EQUIPMENT

Figure it out for yourself, my lad,  
You've all that the greatest of men have had,  
Two arms, two hands, two legs, two eyes,  
And a brain to use if you would be wise.  
With this equipment they all began,  
So start for the top and say, "I can."

Look them over, the wise and great,  
They take their food from a common plate  
And similar knives and forks they use,  
With similar laces they tie their shoes,  
The world considers them brave and smart.  
But you've all they had when they made their start.

You can triumph and come to skill,  
You can be great if you only will.  
You're well equipped for what fight you choose,  
You have legs and arms and a brain to use,  
And the man who has risen great deeds to do  
Began his life with no more than you.

You are the handicap you must face,  
You are the one who must choose your place,  
You must say where you want to go,  
How much you will study the truth to know,  
God has equipped you for life, but He  
Lets you decide what you want to be.

Courage comes from the soul within,  
The man must furnish the will to win,  
So figure it out for yourself, my lad,  
You were born with all that the great have had,  
With your equipment they all began,  
Get hold of yourself and say, "I can."

- Edgar A. Guest.

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