

NEWSLETTER  
KANSAS ASSOCIATION  
of  
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA



Leo Paulsen, President  
Concordia

William A. Wishart, Treasurer  
Manhattan

Francis Grillot, Vice-Pres.  
Parsons

John Henry Peters, Reporter  
Washington

Kenneth Waite, Secretary  
Winfield

L. B. Pollom, Advisor  
Topeka

A.P. Davidson, Exec. Advisor  
Manhattan

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Volume III

May, 1932

Number 9

This is the last issue of the FFA News under the direction of the 1931-32 officers. We hope the "News" has had a small part in stimulating some FFA boy or chapter to greater achievement. If so, we feel amply repaid.

While no individual is responsible for the FFA News, we want to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation for the splendid manner in which our Reporter handled his end of the work during the past year. Brief, accurate, and prompt. These characteristics give promise to any ambitious boy of good character. A fine record for the next Reporter to shoot at.

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Congratulations to the outgoing officers for the splendid manner in which they handled the activities of the fourth annual meeting of the Kansas Association of FFA. The entire program reflected credit upon the group of boys in charge. Ritualistic parts were well in hand. Brevity, ease, poise, and a spirit of fair play permeated the entire group of meetings. Impressive and inspiring.

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The movie of the FFA Congress was well received. This picture is available in both .35mm and .16mm sizes and can be obtained by paying express through the National Organization of FFA. Write Executive Secretary W. A. Ross, F.B.V.E., 1523 L Street Northwest, Washington, D. C. and make your bookings for next year. The film is in great demand at present, but early attention to this matter should give the film many audiences in

Kansas during the next school year. Kansas was well represented in the film. Emeal Luthi, with his first place calf was given considerable play, and Earl Parsons told them about the plight of the American farmer, Bob Steele led a third place calf in the parade, and Kenneth Waite and Francis Grillot received the K.C. Star Awards for Kansas. If you look close enough you can see Professor F. W. Bell and L. F. Hall in connection with the hog judging part of the film, and the executive advisor aids in welcoming delegates, but these "big shots" don't count. The achievement and recognition of the Kansas FFA members is the point at hand.

The film presents a true perspective of the National FFA Convention and the National Congress of Vocational Agricultural students. It is well edited, high in interest appeal, and should be widely shown in Kansas.

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Greetings to the new officers of the Kansas Association of FFA. An intelligent, wholesome, and aggressive group of boys. We have every confidence that the newly elected leaders will continue to advance the best interests of the FFA in Kansas. May we lift a few lines from the ritual you so recently participated in. We wish to direct your attention to "This achievement brings you greater honors as well as additional responsibilities. I, therefore, charge each one of you to generously accept and execute the duties and responsibilities to which you are best adapted in the advancement of agricultural prosperity." New honors, new responsibilities. With every confidence in the ability of the new officers to steer the Kansas FFA ship on a high achievement plane, we take pleasure in presenting the boys who will be in charge during 1932-33.

Waldo Cox, Mound City, President  
 Everett Miller, Ottawa, Vice President  
 Frank Sawyer, Atwood, Secretary  
 Allan Nottorf, Abilene, Treasurer  
 Vincent Fuller, Miltonvale, Reporter  
 L. B. Pollom, Topeka, Advisor

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Thirty-seven and seven-tenths percent growth in number of new chapters established during the past official FFA year. Already we have national dues paid on more than a thousand boys, so Kansas is assured of two American Farmer candidates. To date there have been chartered eighty-four chapters. Two are reported inactive.

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Kansas has three chapters entered in the National Best Chapter Contest. They are Winfield, Ottawa, and Washington. We had hoped to publish in this issue the programs mapped out by these chapters but space will not permit. Perhaps the new "skippers" will find place for this material in the early issues of volume four. We hope Kansas will receive some recognition in this National Contest, but whether she does or not we are safe in venturing that the work in the state will be benefited by the fine example set by the groups who have entered.

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Twenty-five chapters handed in annual reports at the stated time Monday, May 2. Some forty chapters finally turned in annual reports. Of the reports in on time the committee of state officers found the following chapters classed as meritorious: Chanute, Lebanon, Washington, Winfield, and Abilene. Each of these chapters had a well balanced program distributed through the fields of Supervised practice, Cooperative activities, Community service, Leadership activities, Earnings and savings, Conduct of meetings, Scholarship, and Recreation.

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Fred Muret, Winfield, won the Public Speaking Contest with "The Challenge of Adversity and the American Farmer". Ray Hauk of Miltonvale was second, and Frank Carmen of Chyenne Community High (St. Francis) placed third. We congratulate this group of winners.

Adversity and it's challenge to the American farmer was a timely topic, and got us away from the tariff, debentures, machine age, and the Farm Board. Fred opened his talk with an old Shakespearean friend, the banished duke of the sixteenth century.

"Sweet are the uses of adversity  
Which like the toad, ugly and venomous,  
Wears yet a precious jewel in its head;  
And this our life exempt from public haunt  
Finds tongues in trees, books in running brooks,  
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.  
I would not change it."

Striking a parallel between the challenge of our forefathers and the present, Fred projected the following thought: "Out of our adversity comes the rising appreciation of the relative security of farm life and of land as an investment. The realities of life are making us discard the artificial expedients.

"The materialistic philosophy that wealth is an end within itself built up by inflation of material wealth during 1926-29 has been badly battered by the collapse of the last two years. People generally have been so stunned that they are obliged to find some alternative.

"This difficult period in our history is causing many to see farm life with new eyes. It is such times as these that bring out the elemental advantages of the farm -- there are food, shelter, and work, at least for those living on it.

"The farm boys are not so eager to travel to the city to make their fortunes -- to the city where millions are unemployed. They desire to stay on the farm where there is all the hazard, the adventure of the pioneer."

So you didn't attend the Public Speaking Contest? "No place in a vocational program", "Don't believe in it", "Too early", "Too busy", and so on ad. libitum. Sincere regrets!

We join the group in agreeing that this year's contest was the best to date. We'll see you at Kansas City, Fred.

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There were some very promising candidates for the State Farmer degree who although not meriting the degree this year, should by strengthening their programs have a fine chance of winning another year.

Future Farmers may compete for the State Farmer degree as long as they are active chapter members. Active membership is deferred in the Manual, Article III, Section B.

In order to win a State Farmer degree, a boy must have a balanced record of achievement, including scholarship in all high school subjects, leadership, character, project program, and supervised home practice work. The value of a State Farmer degree depends on the maintenance of high standards in all of these achievement factors.

It is hoped that many of the boys who competed this year as well as those Future Farmers who did not think they had good enough achievement records to justify entering the competition this year will plan and build toward winning a State Farmer degree. Usually a boy aspiring to the State Farmer degree can analyze his achievement to date, and with advice of his parents and teacher plan new achievements which should strengthen his candidacy for the degree.

Considerable credit should go to the Future Farmers who compete for a State Farmer degree even though they did not win. We all admire the boy who accepts disappointment in a sportsmanlike manner. Reentering the competition with an improved program would command high tribute.

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What are the plans of your chapter for the summer? Will you "close shop" until September, or does your chapter have a program of summer activities? The success of FFA chapters depends largely upon the vision of its leaders. The leadership in your chapter is a joint responsibility between the officers and the local advisor. Project tours, community service, earnings and savings, and recreational activities are objectives that can readily be carried forward during summer months. We hope the conduct of meetings will not be lost sight of. The nature of the meetings should vary, but meetings should be a part of the summer program.

How many FFA boys have read the following books? "Tom of Peace Valley", Case; "The Green Hand", Chapman; "Moon Valley", Case; all published by the J.B. Lippincott Company. How many local advisors have read "Future Farmers in Action", Getman, John Wiley & Sons? "Fifty Famous Farmers", Ivins & Winship, by Macmillan, of interest to both boy and leader.

May we suggest one or more of the above list of books for your enjoyment during the summer months.

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At the fourth annual meeting of the Kansas Association of FFA ten outstanding Future Farmers were raised to the rank of State Farmer. For this group of boys "The bronze emblem of the Green Hand has given place to the golden emblem of the Future Farmer, which now in turn has evolved into the golden key of a State Farmer.

"May the permanence of the rare and golden qualities of this emblem be a constant reminder to you of the soundness of your training, the worthiness of your achievement, and the loftiness of your ideals."

The ten men raised to the rank of State Farmer together with their achievement record follow in alphabetical order. Our sincerest congratulations.

ACTIVITY PROGRAM OF STATE FARMERS (KANSAS) 1932

Allen Nottorf of Abilene is an honor roll student, president of his local F.F.A. chapter, on the high school debate team, a member of the glee club and winner of a \$100 Union Pacific Railroad Scholarship at Kansas State for superior project work in his county. He competed in his sectional judging contests last year and is a member of the 1932 team competing in the State Contest at Manhattan. Allen started with a project of eight ewes and a ram in 1929 and has continued with this project since. The second year he expanded production to include a dairy heifer and ten acres of wheat. His project work now includes fifty-five acres of wheat, ten acres of sweet clover, ten acres of oats, and eight ewes, their lambs and one ram. His financial summary shows that he has \$430.77. Allen has a fine home practice record. He has culled the home flock, fattened poultry for market, vaccinated calves, terraced land, pruned his father's orchard, repaired the windmill, worked out ration for fattening cattle, castrated calves, cared for his father's ewes at lambing time and selected and treated seed corn.

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Frank M. Sawyer of Atwood has taken a real interest in his local F.F.A. chapter and as its vice president and later as its president he has given splendid leadership. In 1930-31 he held the office of reporter in the State Association of F.F.A. Frank has made letters in track and football and has been on the Vocational Agriculture judging team in sectional contests as well as in the State Contest at Manhattan. For three years Frank has carried sow and litter projects and he has farmed thirty acres of land for two years. He now has four sows, twenty-seven shoats, and owns equipment for the efficient handling of this stock. He is growing Yellow Dent corn on his thirty acres. One year he grew fifteen acres of barley and fifteen acres of corn. His project valuation plus earnings in the bank on time deposit total three hundred and thirty-eight dollars.

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Harold Heilman of Chanute graduated from the rural school with honors and has won scholarship distinction in high school. In 1930-31 he ranked second in the junior class of the Chanute High School in scholarship. Last year he was secretary of his chapter of F.F.A. This year he is chapter reporter and he has been elected president for 1932-33. In 1931 Harold was captain of demonstration teams which visited nineteen rural schools, and he is now captain of the vocational agriculture basketball team. He was a member of the teams competing in the State Judging and Farm Mechanics Contests held at Manhattan in 1931, placing as 9th individual in the Farm Mechanics Contest. He was a member of the team placing first in the Kansas Poultry Contest in 1931. Harold started out with a breeding project of five ewes, raising seven lambs. The second year he continued this project raising six lambs. In crops he has carried five acres of corn, five acres of wheat and ten acres of kafir.

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Vincent Fuller of Miltonvale, has a strong scholarship and leadership record. He has been president of student forum, president of Junior class, treasurer of local F.F.A. chapter, on the debate team, and winner of the \$100 Union Pacific Railroad Scholarship for outstanding project work in his county. He is a good judge of livestock, having won a place on the team competing in the State Contest at Manhattan. He also represented his chapter in the State Oratorical Contest held at Manhattan. Vincent carried three projects the first year he took vocational agriculture, his program being three baby beeves, a sow and litter, and two acres of corn. The next year these projects were continued, but the corn

project was increased to forty acres of Reed's Yellow Dent and his swine herd increased to three sows and twenty pigs. He is continuing production and now has three calves, twenty pigs, seven sows, three gilts, and three hundred fifty bushels of corn, the total value of which is estimated at \$347. He also has \$42 project earnings in the bank, making a total of \$389. He was very active in the F.F.A. chapter program of getting farmers to treat seventy bushels of seed potatoes and has carried the following home practice program: planted ten fruit trees, remodeled chicken house, helped build a cement cattle shed, helped beautify the farmstead, culled chickens, caponized eighty-five chickens, selected ten gilts for breeding herd, and pruned grape vines.

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Waldo Cox of Mound City was president of the local F.F.A. chapter in 1930-31, this year he is reporter. He is president of the junior class, and has made three letters in football and one letter in track. Waldo has taken part in dramatics each year that he has been in high school. As a judge of live stock he won the rank of second high individual in judging livestock in the State Judging Contest held at Manhattan, 1931. In 1929-30 Waldo had five acres of corn as a major project, and as a minor project three registered Shorthorn cows. In 1930-31 he increased his herd of Shorthorn cows by purchasing another registered cow. He also fed four baby beeves and carried a swine project of two gilts and their litters. Waldo now owns a Shorthorn herd of four cows, one half interest in nineteen heifers, and one bull; he has full ownership of one Hereford cow, two Poland China sows, and twenty-seven fat hogs. His present financial standing based on estimated values of stock, equipment, and actual savings equals \$1357. He has remodeled the hen house, landscaped the lawn, introduced creep feeding of hogs and calves; and built a tank heater as supervised home practice work.

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Gene Hager of Norton has taken three years of vocational agriculture and has a fine leadership record. He has held the office of president of his local F.F.A. chapter, has been school cheer leader for two years and has been on the student advisory council for two years. He is a member of the glee club and mixed chorus and was in the operetta cast this year. He was recently elected to the National Honor Society. Gene has proven himself a very valuable member of the vocational agriculture judging team competing in sectional contests, the State Contest at Manhattan, and representing Kansas at the American Royal Livestock Show, Kansas City, Missouri in the National Vocational Agriculture Judging Contest. Gene started project work with a sow and litter. The second year he added twenty acres of corn to his program. Last year his program included a dairy cow and calf as his major project with a fattening litter and twelve acres of corn as continuation projects. His return for the three year period has been quite high, \$458.28. He is now cooperating with his father in carrying on the entire farm business on a partnership basis. As supervised home practice work Gene has pruned trees, painted buildings, culled poultry, remodeled poultry house equipment, field selected seed corn, worked out balanced ration for dairy herd, and was instrumental in establishing the practice of growing legumes on home farm.

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Harry Smith of Ottawa graduated from high school in 1931 with an average grade of 90%. He was a member of the grain judging team winning first place in the sectional contest last year and this year is a member of the team winning first place in grain and poultry judging in the sectional contest. This year as a graduate F.F.A. member he was elected president of his local chapter. The

Ottawa chapter has entered the National Chapter Contest for 1932-33, and this ambitious program was due in a large part to Harry's leadership. In project work he has five acres of commercial white corn, a spotted Poland China sow with litter, sixty-five white Leghorn hens and a one-acre orchard. School records show that Harry has carried on extensive supervised home practice program, a partial list of this work follows: Culled the farm flock, surveyed farm for drainage, planned crop rotation system for farm, tested seed for germination, introduced the self feeder for hogs, and started the mash system of feeding poultry on his father's farm.

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Everette Miller of Ottawa has a fine scholarship record for his four years in high school and has taken a very active interest in F.F.A. following his graduation. He has been treasurer of his local F.F.A. chapter and secretary of the Ottawa Hi-Y. He has been active in judging work and was a member of the team which placed first in the State Judging Contest at Manhattan in 1931. In 1929 Everette had as his first project one Jersey cow and a Jersey heifer. He now has a dairy herd of six head, two cows, one heifer, two heifer calves, and a bull. Other projects carried and now continued are alfalfa, four acres; Pride of Saline corn, eight acres; one Spotted Poland China sow with litter; and a Rhode Island Red flock of thirty-eight pullets. Appraisal value of project stock, and equipment now owned equals \$465. In addition he has to his credit a superior supervised home practice program as follows: culled farm flock, tested milk for entire dairy herd, tested soil for acidity, pruned fruit trees, conditioned tools on farm, introduced mash feeding to laying flock, and introduced the growing of certified seed oats.

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Elmer Dawdy, Washington, wins a State Farmer degree on quality of achievement. He has been on the high school honor roll each semester, is now treasurer of the Washington chapter of F.F.A. and was secretary and treasurer of the Freshman Class of the Washington High School in 1931. He was in this year's judging team competing in the State Contest at Manhattan. Elmer entered the most perfect project plans and accounts of any State Farmer candidate, and made a profit of \$31.25 from his dairy cow project in 1930-31; he now owns two dairy cows and a dairy heifer. In addition he is carrying a corn project of five acres, is growing five acres of oats, to be followed with alfalfa and has a brooding project of one hundred chicks. Projects now underway are valued at \$225. Elmer has kept a Kansas Farm Account Book for his father's farm, the records of six of his fathers dairy cows, remodeled a 15x12 laying house and mixed and fed an approved ration to the farm flock.

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Earl Parsons of Winfield is a senior in high school and an honor student. This year he represented his school in the Emporia scholarship contest. He has held the offices of reporter and president in his local F.F.A. chapter. Earl distinguished his chapter and the state F.F.A. organization by winning first place in the State F.F.A. Oratorical Contest held at Manhattan, first place in the Regional Contest held at St. Louis, Missouri, and second place in the National F.F.A. Oratorical Contest held in connection with the 1931 National Vocational Agriculture Congress held at Kansas City, Missouri. Earl has represented his school on vocational agriculture teams in both sectional and state judging contests. He took first place in individual grain drill at Manhattan in 1931. He has taken three years of vocational agriculture. In project work, Earl has built up a flock of ten good ewes, and he has a swine herd of four sows. This year he fattened twenty-one head of hogs, raised ten acres of corn and continued with his ten ewes and the one-half acre of potatoes he has been carrying for three years. As president of his F.F.A. chapter he has been active in the chapter cooperative project of buying seed potatoes by the carload for distribution among vocational students, also in the treating of seed potatoes from which the boys earned forty dollars for their chapter fund this year.

CHAPTER NEWSWILLIAMSBURG

The Williamsburg chapter of FFA held a get-together rally Monday, April 18 for eighth graders who are prospective students for next year. There were twenty of them in all, only four being unable to attend. They came from schools from three miles to twelve miles away and were excused for the afternoon by their teachers. In most cases FFA boys went after them.

We had regular classroom work for awhile and then opened a chapter meeting, voted on two new members of the class to become Green Hands, and closed the meeting. We then went to the shop where we showed the boys our equipment and tools and demonstrated them for about forty minutes.

Next we went to the athletic field where the FFA teams played a four inning baseball game ending in the tie score of seven to seven. The visiting boys then chose up and played an interesting game. The high school coach talked to the prospects about athletics and we wound up by having sandwiches and lemonade.

The Williamsburg summer program calls for a visit to the experiment station at Manhattan and to the state lake at Tonganoxie.

This chapter and our department is studying adapted varieties and improved practices through the medium of ten cooperative tests of corn, popcorn, and soybean varieties, lespedeza, alfalfa treatment, and corn ear type. Summer activities will include visits to and work with these tests.

--Howard Miller, Reporter.

SHAWNEE-MISSION

Two hot beds, one heated with manure and the other by a special heating element loaned by the Kansas City Power and Light Company have proved interesting and profitable projects of the local chapter.

Officers of the Shawnee-Mission chapter participated in April in dedication services at the Shawnee-Mission State Park. Following a short talk by the chapter president, Donald Cover, he and two other officers, Fred Vanschoelandt and Thomas Wagner planted a young Washington elm.

The Shawnee-Mission chapter has met each week during the regular activity hour, and at least once a month for a full night meeting. The opening ceremony has been used for each meeting.

--Thomas Wagner, Reporter.

GARDEN CITY

The Garden City vocational agriculture boys entertained their fathers, school board, and several other guests at their annual "Home Products" banquet April 13. There were about sixty present. The boys brought in and prepared most of the feed themselves.

On April 22, the Scott City boys and instructor came down and we spent the day judging at the Experiment Station and on the farm of Mr. Richwine.



The livestock class has been put on the production list. From the nine sows farrowed, we have sixty-six pigs saved and have two more sows to farrow. Most of these pigs were sired by a boar the boys bought in partnership last fall.

--Reporter.

#### BELOIT

We have three group improvement projects. First, the planting of a cherry orchard at the Community Hospital; second, planted a grape vineyard at the Community Hospital; and third, the FFA boys will plant sweet clover in the cherry orchard.

On April 21, there will be a try-out for our play "Hiram Highpockets."

The class went on a field trip and survey for terrace on the Morrall farm. The school runs a candy counter and we were allowed to run this for one week. The school gave an all school play. The money that was taken in is divided among the different activities.

An FFA banner was purchased for the chapter.

--Reporter.

#### CONCORDIA

We had a successful FFA Father and Son banquet. There were about seventy-two present. It was served by the D. S. girls.

Two of the boys gave talks at the "Rotary" club. They were well received.

We held a joint meeting and party with the D. S. girls to show our appreciation of their help in serving at our banquet.

We sponsored the giving of FFA letters to the boys who excelled in judging and scholarship. We also sponsored the organization of a 4-H club in Concordia.

We met with the Miltonvale chapter in an initiation of the second degree boys and in organization of a sectional FFA.

Entered the Miltonvale judging contest. We took first place in shop with first and second places respectively. We took first place in the grain judging contest with first, second, and fourth individual places.

We entered the Hays judging contest and took the placque in 4-H corps. We took first and fourth individual places. In livestock we placed second with first place individual.

--Reporter.

WINFIELD

The Winfield chapter had its annual Parent-Student banquet on April 14. Director C. M. Miller was unable to be present as speaker of the evening. Professor Murphy of the Economics Department of Southwestern Colloge was the speaker.

The new feature of the banquet this year was the try-out of three boys for the public speaking contest. Earl Beaver, Pearl Watson, and Fred Muret each gave ten minute speeches. Fred Muret was chosen to represent the school at the state contest at Manhattan.

--Reporter.

HILL CITY

The Future Farmers marked off the letters F F A on the high school lawn, then put on ammonium sulphate. The grass has grown much greener under the application and the letters show up distinctly from the street.

Our judging team placed first at the Oberlin grain judging contest April 22. Hollis King was high individual and Laverne Bird was second high. A permanent cup was given by the Oberlin school.

--Russell Gripp, Reporter.

ATWOOD

Seventeen Atwood FFA's went to the Foster Farms-Colby Contests April 15 and 16. The Atwood team ranked second at Foster Farms.

The advisor has attended two father-son banquets held by the chapters of this district.

We have nominated one of our number to receive the State Farmer degree.

On April 2, the Stratton Nebraska chapter was host to the chapters of this region at a livestock contest. Before the contest each chapter contributed a number for the program. After the program a lunch was served by the Stratton boys in their school shop.

--Mason Sheehan, Reporter.