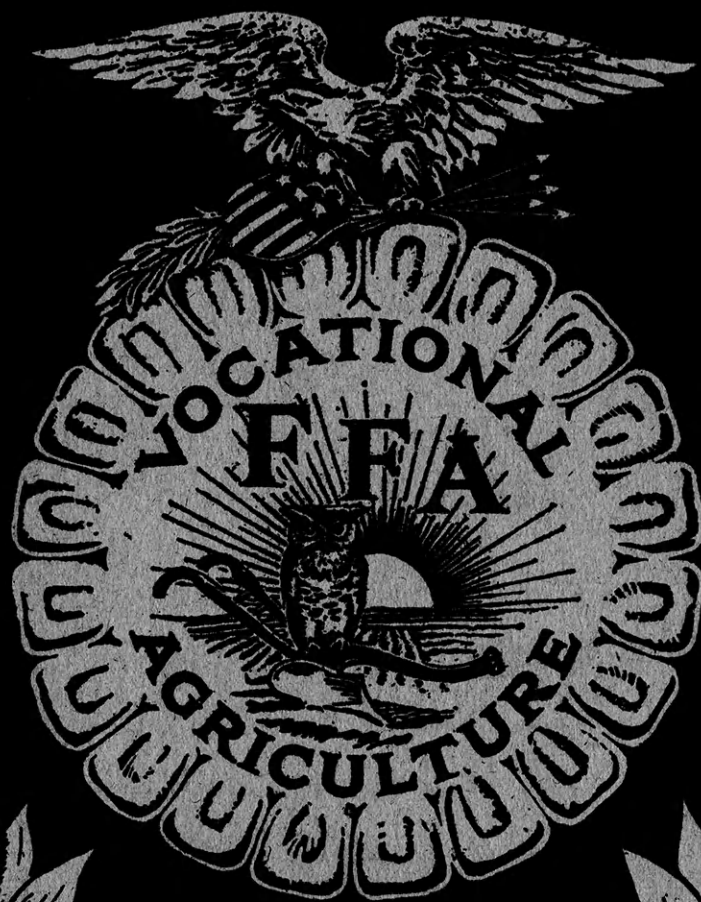


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The KANSAS Future Farmer



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FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

THE KANSAS FUTURE FARMER
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Volume XXV

February 1, 1954

Number 4

FFA CALENDAR

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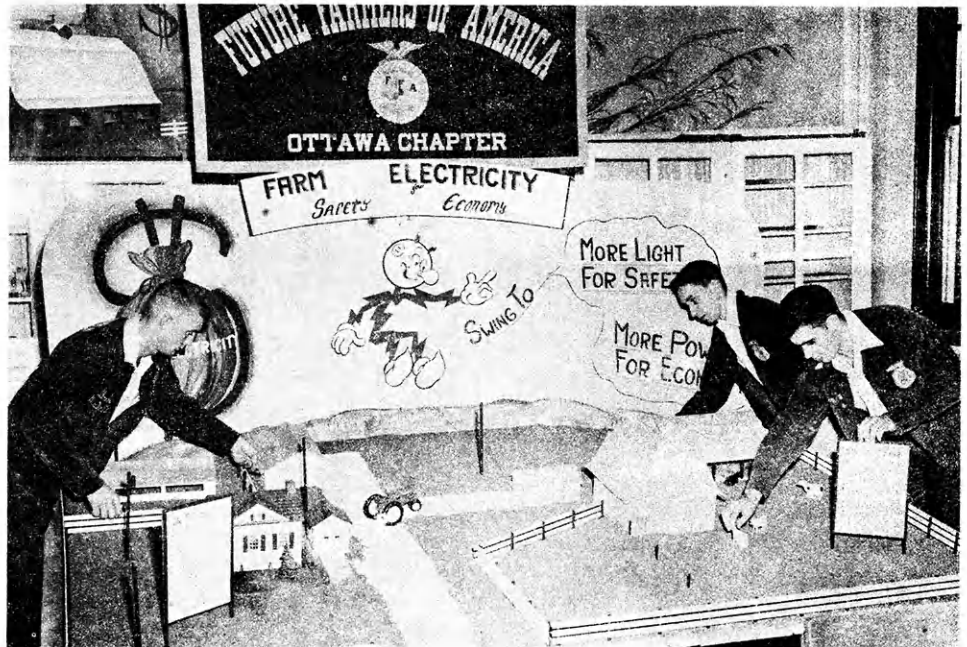
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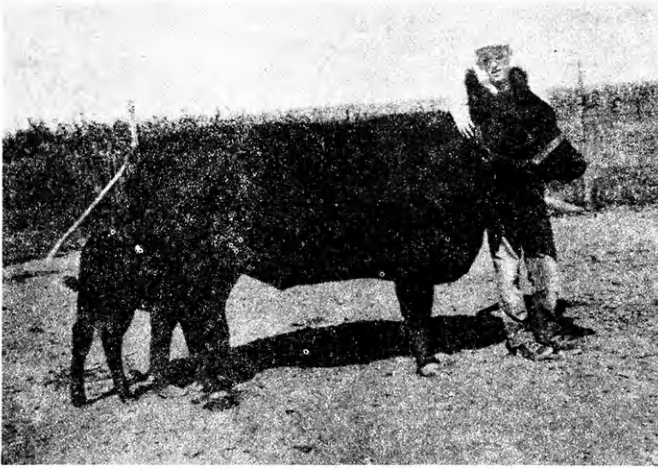


Garden City Kansas FFA Chapter float, entered in the High School homecoming parade. Float featured 25 years of FFA in the Garden City School system.

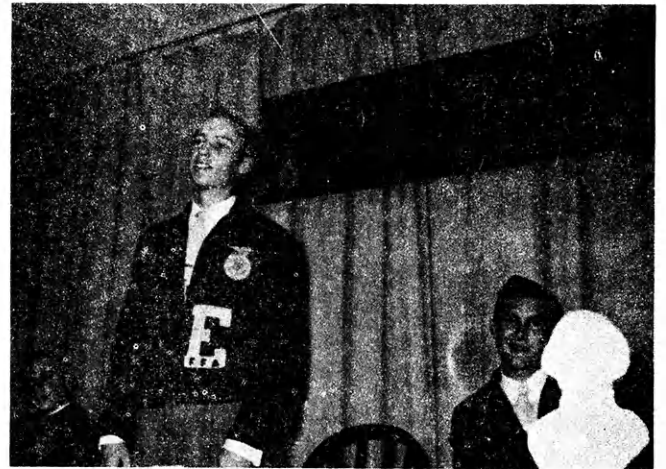
The Ottawa FFA Chapter, S. S. Bergsma, Advisor, won first place in the FFA Educational Booth Exhibit at the Topeka Free Fair. L-R: Dale Mc Wilson, Louis Thomas, and John Milton chapter members.



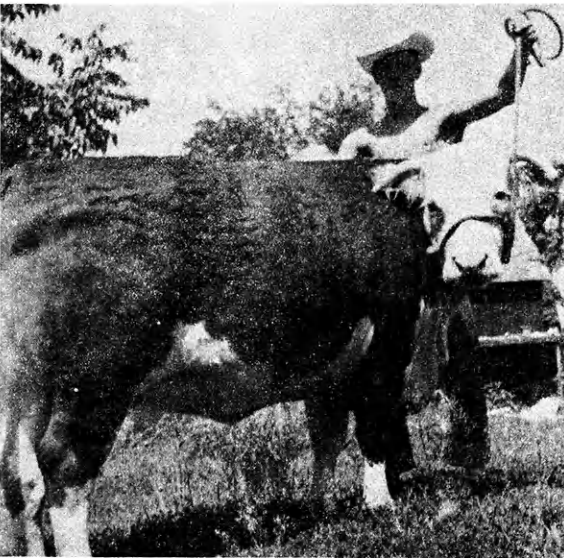
FARM ELECTRICITY FOR SAFETY AND ECONOMY



Larry Gilmore, Highland Chapter, is the owner of this Angus cow and her calf.



Robert Maze, Ellsworth Chapter, acting as toastmaster at their Parent and Son Banquet.



Daryl Becker, Meriden Chapter, exhibits his Hereford heifer.



Arthur Benson, Clay Center Chapter, emphasizes Jersey Dairy Cattle in his farming program.



Fidelis Engel Jr., Hays Chapter, likes Hereford cows for his farming program.



Clayton Carothers, LaCygne Chapter, is the proud owner of this farm tractor.

THE KANSAS FUTURE FARMER

NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA WEEK
February 20-27, 1954

SUGGESTIONS FOR LOCAL CHAPTERS:

1. Obtain "FFA WEEK" proclamation from mayor or governing official of town.
2. Make "National FFA Week" posters, and place them in prominent downtown store windows and other public places.
3. Prepare a special FFA exhibit, such as those displayed at fairs and shows, and arrange to have it displayed in a downtown store window.
4. Work with the editor of the local newspaper to obtain FFA stories or perhaps a special FFA edition. Some suggestions of material and pictures for publicity follow:
 - a. Story announcing FFA Week. (Sample story enclosed.)
 - b. Story reviewing the history and outstanding accomplishments of the chapter since it was organized.
 - c. Story built around the chapter's current program of work, telling the number of members, names of officers, present activities and plans for the rest of the year. Provide names of committee members and chairmen for special activities.
 - d. Story giving the summary of members' supervised farming programs during the past year. Tell how much the boys earned from farming, what their investment in farming is, how many acres they had in crops, how many livestock, and describe the programs of two or three outstanding individuals. Tell about improvement projects that have been completed during the year, and about farm shop work that was done.
 - e. A picture of the entire chapter membership.
 - f. One or two pictures of chapter officers and important committees at work.
 - g. Picture of the chapter adviser, with story telling his background, how long he has been working in the community and mentioning any special accomplishments or recognition.
 - h. Several pictures of members with their supervised farming projects.
 - i. Picture of member building farm equipment in the school's farm shop.
 - j. Picture of member or members doing improvement work on their home farms.
 - k. Picture showing recreational activities sponsored by the chapter.
 - l. Picture of mayor presenting FFA Week proclamation to officers.
 - m. Pictures and stories about former members that have won recognition or have become successful farmers.
 - n. Provide the editor copies of the FFA "Motto," "Creed," and "Aims and Purposes."
5. In cooperation with the editor, work with the advertising manager of the local newspaper for a special edition, or special section, in which local merchants will offer congratulations to the chapter in their advertisements.

National FFA Week (continued)

6. Hold your annual parent-son banquet during FFA Week. See that the local newspaper and radio station have stories about the banquet at least one week in advance. Invite the newspaper editor or a reporter to attend the banquet. If he cannot attend, see that he has all the information he wants for a story after the banquet.
7. Contact local radio stations to obtain FFA programs. Suggested scripts for such programs are enclosed, or you may develop your own. Arrange for the station to carry spot announcements about FFA Week. (Suggestions for spot announcements are enclosed.)
8. Local radio advertisers may wish to congratulate the FFA in their advertising announcements. Work with the commercial manager of the radio station to obtain these complimentary ads.
9. Contact the Chamber of Commerce, Civic Clubs and Service Organizations and make arrangements for Future Farmers to appear on their programs and tell of their work.
10. If you can obtain a print of one of the FFA movies, "That Inspiring Task" or "Farmer of Tomorrow," make arrangements to show it in special meetings, to civic organizations and in the school assembly.
11. If there is a television station in your community make arrangements with the program director to present an FFA program on TV. One of the movies mentioned above would be ideal for use on television.
12. Arrange a special school assembly to be put on by the FFA.
13. Hold open house for parents and friends. Tell about the past year's FFA activities and accomplishments.
14. Invite eighth grade farm boys and their parents to a special FFA meeting or open house.
15. Sponsor joint meetings of local civic clubs and rural organizations.
16. Have all members who own them to wear FFA jackets, FFA shirts, or "T" shirts during the week. Other members should wear FFA buttons.
17. Conduct a project tour, if weather permits, so your friends in the community can see FFA member accomplishments.
18. Urge members to listen to the National Farm and Home Hour program over NBC on Saturday, February 20, when a part of the program will feature the FFA.
19. Report your activities during FFA Week to your State Association, and begin now making plans for a bigger and better observance of National FFA Week in 1955. It comes during the week of George Washington's birthday every year--February 20-26 in 1955.

National FFA Week (continued)

Suggested Fact Sheet on FFA

(The Kansas Association of FFA was chartered September 3, 1929, being the 16th state chartered by the National Organization of FFA. During the first 25 years of its history the Kansas Association has elected 1631 members to the State Farmer Degree; 73 members have received the American Farmer Degree; one member was declared The Star Farmer of America; two members won the National FFA Speech Contest, and two local FFA chapters each have had the distinction of winning Gold Emblem classification twice in the National Chapter Contest.

WHAT IS THE FFA?

Future Farmers of America is the National organization of farm boys studying vocational agriculture in rural high schools of the nation. FFA is an intra-curricular activity, having origin and root in the instruction program for boys who wish to prepare themselves for a successful career in farming. Among other things, members learn through active participation how to conduct and take part in public meetings; to speak in public; to market farm products; to solve their own problems; to finance themselves; to use improved farming methods; and to assume civic responsibility.

Members of the FFA learn to be good farmers and substantial, law-abiding citizens. In the vocational agriculture classrooms they study agriculture and practical, scientific methods of farming. Classroom training is taken directly to the farms of members, where each boy is required to conduct a "supervised farming program"--livestock, poultry, crops or other enterprises--under the direction of the vocational agriculture teacher who is an agricultural college graduate employed on a twelve-month basis. This is one of the most efficient agricultural teaching methods that has been developed.

The Future Farmers of America is a non-profit, non-political farm boy organization of voluntary membership, with no outside affiliations. The organization is 100 per cent American in its ideals and outlook, and there is no secrecy connected with any of its activities.

The FFA was organized nationally in 1928. It now has 363,369 members in 8,500 local chapters, with State Associations in the 48 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

The FFA is sponsored nationally by the Agricultural Education Branch of the U. S. Office of Education, and maintains its national headquarters in Washington, D. C.

WHY WAS FFA FORMED?

Vocational Agriculture in the public high schools was given its first big boost by the Smith-Hughes Act passed by the Congress in 1917, providing for Federal Funds on a matching basis with the States, to promote a program of education that would help to prepare those who intended to enter the occupation of farming. Many schools throughout the nation established vocational agriculture instruction in the early 1920's. Teachers recognized the need for some kind of organization to stimulate more interest in farming by the

National FFA Week (continued)

boys, provide them with additional incentive, give leadership training, and provide an opportunity for wholesome organized recreation. Many local "clubs" with a wide variety of names, were established to meet that need. The local units, in turn, organized county and state associations, and by 1928 the movement was so widespread that a national organization was formed. The national organizational meeting was held November 20, 1928, in Kansas City, Mo. About 35 vocational agriculture students attended the first national convention. Now 7,000 or more members attend the national conventions held each year in Kansas City.

WHY HAVE NATIONAL FFA WEEK?

This nation must have about 130,000 NEW farmers every year to replace those who die, retire or otherwise leave the farm. These must be men with experience, and training enough to become successful farmers. Generally, they must be men who have begun farming at an early age so that by the time they are ready to marry and start a family they will be firmly established in a farming program that promises a good future.

Vocational Agriculture and the FFA constitute the most effective program yet developed for training boys to be good farmers and helping them to become established in the farming occupation of their choice.

In view of the nation's need for NEW farmers, it is fitting that recognition be given these young men who are preparing for careers in farming. Encouragement at this time will do much to stimulate them to harder work and greater achievement.

National FFA Week seeks to focus attention on the work of the Future Farmers today, who will be the successful farmers of tomorrow.

WHY IS FFA WEEK OBSERVED DURING FEBRUARY?

National FFA Week comes every year during the week of the anniversary of the birthday of George Washington. Although usually considered first as a great general, our first president, and an engineer, George Washington's first love was the farm he called Mount Vernon. There he was one of the first in the nation to practice contour planting, crop rotations and other soil conserving methods. Probably no other man in America of his day spent more time seeking new agricultural information, either by experimentation of his own farm, or by correspondence with agricultural scientists in England. The title of America's first "scientific farmer" might be applied to Washington. It was to be more than a century after his death that many of the sound agricultural practices he advocated would find general practice.

It is out of deep respect and admiration for George Washington, the farmer in whose progressive ways they seek to follow, that Future Farmers annually observe their National FFA Week at the time of his birthday.

National FFA Week (continued)THE FFA CREED

(LIST FROM MANUAL)

AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE FFA

(LIST FROM MANUAL)

THE FFA MOTTO

"Learning to do,
Doing to Learn;
Earning to live,
Living to serve."

LEARNING TO DO---(As vocational agriculture students in high school, Future Farmers study the practical, scientific principles of agriculture that will enable them to become good farmers.)

DOING TO LEARN---(Each member is required to conduct a farming program at home, under the supervision of his vocational agriculture instructor, where he puts into actual practice the methods he learned in the classroom.)

EARNING TO LIVE---(The supervised farming program at home is designed to operate at a profit so that the Future Farmer may expand his farming enterprises as he learns, to the end that he will be successfully established in farming and become a self-supporting, substantial citizen.)

LIVING TO SERVE---(Development of competent, aggressive rural leadership and citizenship is a primary aim of the FFA practical experiences in parliamentary procedure, committee work and conducting other business of an organization are provided through regular chapter meetings.)

LEVELS OF FFA MEMBERSHIP

The FFA has four degrees. The first two -- Greenhand and Chapter Farmer -- may be awarded by the local chapter. State Farmer degree may be awarded by the State Association to not more than two per cent of its total membership each year. The American Farmer degree is conferred by the national organization. Each state may have one American Farmer for each 1,000 members every year. Advancement to higher degrees is based on increased investments in farming, leadership in local and state FFA activities, and scholarship.

Spot Announcements for Radio Use

Did you know that the population of the United States is increasing at such a rate that by 1975 there will be five persons to feed where there are now four? This week the nation honors the Future Farmers of America -- the national organization of farm boys who are studying vocational agriculture in public high schools. These young men are studying today, so that you may eat tomorrow. During National FFA Week, Radio Station _____ joins the nation in paying tribute to our Future Farmers, and wishing them Godspeed in their quest for success.

- - - - -

National FFA Week (continued)

This country needs 130,000 new farmers every year if we are to keep up our high rate of agricultural production and bring about increases to keep up with our expanding population. One of the most effective training organizations for farm boys is the Future Farmers of America. Its members are students of vocational agriculture in our rural public high schools. There are more than 360,000 Future Farmers in the nation and _____ in (state). Radio Station _____ salutes these sturdy farm lads during this National Future Farmers of America Week.

Suggested Radio Script
For Use During National FFA Week

(Note: If you believe this radio script has good possibilities but you are unable to use it during 1954 FFA Week, we suggest that it be held for consideration in 1955. National FFA Week is scheduled each year during the week of George Washington's birthday, beginning on the Saturday preceding his birthday and ending the following Saturday.)

GEORGE WASHINGTON AND THE FFA

ANNOUNCER: George Washington's Birthday Sunday means much to all of us, but it is of special significance to the Future Farmers of America, who, for reasons that will be discussed in this program, honor Washington as a sort of patron saint. The ties that bind Future Farmers to the memory of Washington are close, and they schedule the week of his birthday each year as National FFA Week. We have three Future Farmers from the _____ chapter with us today, and they have some interesting things to tell us about George Washington, and the part that Washington played in the great development of American agriculture. First we'll call on (1st FFA'er), who is (office, if any) of the _____ Chapter.

1st FFA'er Thank you, Mr. _____. You know most of us think of George Washington as a great warrior, a patriot and a leader of men. We've read of his Revolutionary War exploits in the history books and we know that his leadership was so great after the war that he won unanimous approval as the first President of the United States, in the face of thirteen colonies that differed widely in their political views and beliefs. If some leader would come forward today and unite the world into a common union, it would afford a good illustration of the job that George Washington faced and performed for us more than a hundred and fifty years ago. But Washington's leadership goes farther than that. He was a farmer, and a good one! Today we recognize him as America's first scientific farmer.

ANNOUNCER: What do you mean by scientific farmer?

National FFA Week (continued)

- 1st FFA'er Being a scientific farmer in those days was not easy. There were no agricultural colleges, no experiment stations, no Department of Agriculture to provide colonial farmers with information such as we have today. Every farmer today is, to some extent, a scientific farmer, depending upon how he makes use of the knowledge that is made available to him by the schools, the various agencies of the government and the exchange of ideas by radio, magazines and newspapers.
- ANNOUNCER: Where did Washington get his advanced ideas about agriculture?
- 1st FFA'er Washington had to experiment to find how much fertilizer he needed to apply to get the best crops, what practices to follow to keep his soil from washing away, what varieties of crops were best for his farm, and the hundreds of other things that we farmers today can get just by listening and reading. He even had to design and build his own tools in a lot of cases. His diary tells of building a plow and a threshing machine, and of working out systems for the most efficient use of labor on his farm. He made tests to find what stage of ripeness was the best for cutting wheat, and he treated seeds to control rust. He was one of the first to see that continuous cropping of tobacco was ruining his land, and to inaugurate a rotation system that would save the soil.-----
(Pause)-----You might say that George Washington was America's first farmer to "learn by doing," although it was much harder for him than for us Future Farmers.
- ANNOUNCER: There must have been some way he could get agricultural information.
- 1st FFA'er Only a few people at that time were interested in improved methods of farming, and, aside from his own experimentation, Washington's chief way of obtaining information was by corresponding with a small group in England who were making careful studies and publishing their findings. The fact that Washington was recognized as a person of considerable importance and prestige made it possible for him to get information by correspondence. Those sources of information were not available to the ordinary farmers of the day.
- ANNOUNCER: You mentioned Washington's efforts to develop a threshing machine. Can you tell us something about the threshers that were in use in those days?
- 1st FFA'er Well, generally, the grain was threshed by piling it in a barn and driving horses over it to break the grain loose from the straw and chaff, then picking it up in baskets and pouring it out slowly so that the wind blew straw and chaff away and the grain fell down into containers. One of the great improvements of the day was a hand-cranked fan that would furnish "wind" when it didn't blow naturally.

National FFA Week (continued)

But farmers were hard at work trying to develop a thresher, and in one of his letters Washington described the most modern threshing machine of the day as a mill that beat the grain from the straw--two boys, working hard, he said, could beat out 16 bushels in 8 hours. It took two men, then, for winnowing to separate the grain from the chaff.

ANNOUNCER: That was a far cry from our modern combines, wasn't it? (2nd FFA'er), you look like you're wanting to add some facts on Washington's agricultural accomplishments--how about it?

2nd FFA'er: One of the little-known facts about Washington is that he was the first American to raise mules successfully, and of course we all know that mules played an important part in the nation's agricultural development....He was always experimenting with new crops in the attempt to improve his production. By careful seed selection he developed a new strain of wheat that proved to be better than any that was available before that time, and as early as 1760 he sowed lucerne, known today as alfalfa, probably our most important legume hay crop....I think a good example of his farming ability can be shown by the fact that he improved his sheep so that they produced an average of five and one-fourth pounds of wool a year, where his neighbors seldom clipped two pounds.

ANNOUNCER: Washington as a great farmer! That's an angle a lot of history books have overlooked. (2nd FFA'er), aside from scheduling National FFA Week during the week of his birthday, what does FFA do to give Washington additional recognition?

2nd FFA'er: We use the example of George Washington in the ritual for formal opening of FFA meetings. The treasurer is stationed at a picture of Washington because, as he states it: "I keep records of receipts and disbursements just as Washington kept his farm accounts--carefully and accurately. I encourage thrift among members and strive to build up our financial standing through savings and investments. George Washington was better able to serve his country because he was financially independent."

ANNOUNCER: Keeping records is important, no matter what you're doing.

2nd FFA'er: We like to think of Washington, too, when we come to that part of the FFA Aims and Purposes relating to "nurturing a love of country life." In 1788 Washington wrote his feelings about country life in a letter to a friend. He said: "The more I am acquainted with agricultural affairs, the better I am pleased with them; insomuch that I can nowhere find as great satisfaction as in those in recent and useful pursuits. In indulging these feelings, I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vain glory which can be acquired from ravaging it, by the most uninterrupted career of conquest."

National FFA Week (continued)

ANNOUNCER: That might have been said by a believer in soil conservation.

2nd FFA'er: It was. George Washington was the first great conservationist in this country. He deplored the wasteful practices of land use in his day and predicted the westward movement made necessary by depletion of the soil. In 1796 he wrote: "It must be obvious to every man, who considers the agriculture of this country, even in the best improved parts of it, and compares the produce of our lands with those of other countries, no ways superior to them in natural fertility, how miserably defective we are in the management of them; and that if we do not fall in a better mode of treating them, how ruinous it will prove to the landed interest. Ages will not produce a systematic change without public attention and encouragement; but a few years more of increased sterility will drive the inhabitants of the Atlantic States westwardly for support; whereas if they were taught how to improve the old, instead of going in pursuit of new and productive soil, they would make those acres which now scarcely yield them anything, turn out beneficial to themselves---to the Mechanics, by supplying them with the staff of life on much cheaper terms---to the Merchants, by increasing their Commerce and exportation ---and to the Community generally, by the influx of Wealth resulting therefrom."

ANNOUNCER: You Future Farmers seem to have come up this morning with a lot of quotations from George Washington showing that he was one of America's first really good farmers. Now, (3rd FFA'er), what do you have to add.

3rd FFA'er: Well, I'd like to tell some of Washington's beliefs about education. If he were alive today I believe he would be one of the staunchest supporters of vocational agriculture in high school. You know, Washington had very little formal education himself. I think the greenest freshman ag student in _____ High could have set him down in a spelling match. But his wide experiences and his associations with the most highly educated men of the period gave him a practical education that caused him to be considered one of the learned men of the times.

ANNOUNCER: Did Washington believe in formal education?

3rd FFA'er: Yes, he did. He spent a lot of money in the education of his step-children and many of his letters show his beliefs in schooling. For instance, in one letter he stated: "The best means of forming a manly, virtuous and happy people will be found in the right education of youth--without this foundation, every other means, in my opinion, must fail."

ANNOUNCER: How do you think George Washington would have reacted to the various government agencies we have for helping farmers gain new knowledge?

National FFA Week (continued)

- 3rd FFA'er: As a general thing he would have been in favor of them. In 1797 he wrote as follows: "I have endeavored both in a public and private character to encourage the establishment of Boards of Agriculture in this country, but hitherto in vain--since the first establishment of the National Board of Agriculture in Great Britain. I have considered it as one of the most valuable institutions of modern times."
- ANNOUNCER: Even though the colonies had beaten Great Britain in a war, the colonies' greatest leader still felt that the mother country could teach its offspring some lessons.
- 3rd FFA'er: Yes. For centuries the farmers of the British Isles have had to farm their land so as to get the maximum production per acre, whereas we in America have tended to farm for the maximum production per man. In this type of production we have ruined many thousands of acres of fine land, and we're still doing it. One of the most frequent comments made by foreign farmers when they visit us concerns the vast amount of waste land in the United States, and the tendency of our farmers to use bad cropping practices that deplete the soil or allow it to erode. George Washington pointed out more than a century ago the thing that most of us have just begun to realize--that is, that there was a great need for American farmers to adopt soil conserving and soil improving practices.
- ANNOUNCER: In Washington's day when a farm became poor because the soil was worn out the farmer just moved a little further west and cleared out a new farm, didn't he?
- 3rd FFA'er: That's right, but that day is over. Our frontiers now are on the soil we're farming. If we're to feed our own people and furnish part of the food for the rest of the world we must hold the soil fertility that we have. We're barely able to produce enough food now. As the population increases we must improve the soil that we have, so that it will produce more, and even go further to reclaim much of the land that is now lying in waste. To show what faces us, I might just point out that our agricultural production today is the highest it's ever been but we've got to increase it about twenty-five percent by 1975 to take care of the expected population increase.
- ANNOUNCER: And you Future Farmers, studying vocational agriculture, are the ones who will have the task of bringing about that higher production. I think it's fitting that National FFA Week was selected to coincide with the week of George Washington's birthday. Tell me, is there any one statement Washington made that you think should mean more than any other to Future Farmers of America?

National FFA Week (continued)

3rd FFA'er: I like the thought in this statement of George Washington's: "While we do not underrate difficulties on one hand, we should not overrate them on the other; nor discourage ourselves from a very important undertaking by obstacles, which are to be surmounted."---(Pause)---George Washington didn't believe in the expression: "it can't be done."

ANNOUNCER: What have you to add _____ ?

1st or 2nd FFA'er: I think there's real meaning for all of us in one of the more brief statements George Washington made. He said: "Nothing but harmony, honesty, industry, and frugality are necessary to make us a great and happy people."---(Pause)--- In the FFA Creed we say: "I believe in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me." Those simple expressions have a lot in common, and can serve as example for all of us to follow in our everyday thoughts and actions.

(CLOSING)

- - FFA - -

FOR BETTER F.F.A. BANQUETS IN 1954*
by Dr. W.F. Stewart

Since banquets are looked upon as the outstanding social events of the year in all chapters, the quality of performance on these occasions become of greatest importance. To promote this, the following suggestions are stated briefly:

1. Plan the banquet carefully.

Get many suggestions followed by much discussion to find the best. Don't be content with merely a way of doing.

2. Resolve to give a quality performance.

Good banquets do not "just happen"; they are earnestly desired and then worked for.

3. Provide an appropriate reception of the guests.

Have members meet the guests at the door, conduct them to the cloak room, then to the assembly room. Introductions of guests to members of the faculty might well be considered.

4. Provide "painless" seating of the guests.

Have the boys conduct the guests to their seats rather than depend upon reading their names on place cards. Particularly if there are late arrivals, have them met promptly and escorted to their seats.

* January 1954 Ohio Agricultural Education News

Better FFA Banquets (continued)

5. Insure a competent and well prepared toastmaster.

The most agonizing banquet is one where the toastmaster is a failure. Select him carefully, coach him on details---proper poise, proper voice adjustment, proper introductions of each speaker, thanks or commendations following each speaker. The toastmaster sets the pace for and maintains the quality of the program.

6. Insist on adequate preparation by all members on the program.

This involves proper selection of each boy for his number, careful organization of content, effective delivery from his notes if needed, and appropriate response to the toastmaster's introduction.

7. Prepare for proper conduct at the banquet table.

Plan for merriment but not rowdyism. Plan for fun without boisterousness. Time should be given for the proper preparation of all members to use the table service properly. Develop pride in proper social conduct.

8. Insure a generous sprinkling of humor.

Individual participants can make their contributions and the general tone of the evening can add needed touches.

9. Express appreciation sincerely.

Include the principal or superintendent who approved holding the banquet, the teacher of Home Economics or others serving it, the waitresses, the janitor--all who had a part in its plans and conduct.

10. Provide a thorough clean-up.

This includes removing the tables and decorations and leaving the banquet hall in as good condition as it was found. Such action merits a repeat performance.

11. Talk it over at the next Chapter meeting.

Remembering that the boys resolved to have a good banquet, let them mention the things they liked and report the favorable remarks made by their parents. Then talk over the mistakes and shortcomings in order that all features may be properly evaluated.

12. Resolve to do better next time.

Profit from the mistakes of this banquet. Leave a record of suggestions for next years' committees and look forward through the year to another delightful occasion.

FFA PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The Twenty-fifth State FFA Public Speaking Contest will be held on the Kansas State College campus, Room G206, Holton Hall and Engineering Lecture Hall, April 27, 1954, at 8:00 a.m. FFA members should be encouraged to begin their preparation for this contest immediately.

THREE COPIES of the speech entered in the State FFA Public Speaking Contest will be required. One original and two carbon copies will be acceptable. Please be certain that good carbon paper is used in order that the carbon copies can be read easily.

The 1954 State FFA Public Speaking Contest will be conducted under the rules set up for the national contest.

The speech will be scored, allowing 300 points on Content and Composition and 700 points on Delivery of the Production. This is in agreement with the national score card.

Eligibility

The FFA chapter must have filed a program of work with the State Association on or before November 1, 1953, and must be in good standing with both the State Association and the National FFA Organization in order to have a member eligible for the State Public Speaking Contest. Exception - chapters chartered or re-established after November 1, 1953. Chapters falling under this category must have paid state and national FFA dues and have submitted a program of work on or before April 5, 1954.

Each eligible FFA chapter in Kansas will be entitled to one entry in the State FFA Speech Contest.

The State Contest will be open only to boys less than 20 years of age, who are regularly enrolled high school students successfully carrying at least three units of regular high school work and who are active members of chartered FFA chapters in good standing with the State Association and the National Organization of FFA at the time they are selected to represent their chapter. Each contestant's speech is to be the result of his own efforts. Training in both composition and delivery is limited to the facilities of the school from which the contestant comes, but facts and working data may be secured from any source.

Any boy who has participated in a State FFA Public Speaking Contest is ineligible for participation in the 1954 Kansas FFA Speech Contest.

Note; Chapter Public Speaking contestants who plan to participate in either the Agricultural or Farm Mechanics contests on Tuesday, April 27, must obtain permission to compete in the Speech Contest from Professor A. P. Davidson at the time copies of the speech are submitted for judging, April 5, 1954.

Time Limit

Each speech shall be limited to ten minutes in length and five minutes additional time will be allowed each contestant in which to defend his production on questions which shall be asked by the judges.

FFA Public Speaking Contest (continued)

Subjects

Contestants may choose their own subjects for their speeches. In connection with the choice of subject we wish to call your attention to the following 1950 ruling of the National Organization of Future Farmers of America, as communicated to the Kansas Association of FFA by National Adviser, Dr. W. T. Spanton:

"There has been a growing tendency during the past few years for contestants in the FFA Public Speaking Contest to choose topics that are only vaguely related to agriculture. Several such speeches have been given recently in some of the Regional and National Contests."

"The National FFA Board of Trustees* with the approval of the National FFA Advisory Council** at their meeting just prior to the National Convention in Kansas City, October, 1950, passed a resolution calling on all judges of FFA Public Speaking contests (local, district, area, State, Regional and National) to disqualify all contestants whose speeches are not of a strictly agricultural nature. The resolution was approved later by the delegate body of the Convention."

"It is not enough that a speech should be built around some topic of general interest such as "The Marshall Plan" or "Socialized Medicine" and contain a few references to agriculture or farm people. The rules are specific in requiring that the speech must be on an "Agricultural Topic." This means, according to the National FFA Advisory Council, that both the title and content of the speech must deal primarily, not incidentally, with some phase of agriculture."

"The National Office has called attention to this problem on several occasions during the last two years, but from now on, any contestant who violates this provision of the rules, no matter how well his speech is prepared or delivered, will be doing so at the risk of having his speech disqualified by the judges. Certainly all speeches that may "get by" judges of local or State contests, will most assuredly be disqualified in the Regional or National Contests, if this provision of the rules is violated."

"Judges of all FFA Public Speaking contests should be clearly instructed as to the importance of this requirement, since the decisions of the judges in all contests will be final. It would be very unfortunate for the winner of a State contest to be disqualified in a Regional or National contest because this regulation had not been observed."

* - Now termed National Board of Student Officers.

** - Now termed National Board of Directors.

The following list offers many suggestions in choosing a topic for the State FFA Public Speaking Contest.

1. Agriculture and America.
2. The Machine Age and Its Effect on American Agriculture.
3. Leadership, the Urgent Need of Agriculture.
4. Cooperation and the American Farmer.
5. Taxation and Its Meaning to American Agriculture.
6. The World Food Crisis.

FFA Public Speaking Contest (continued)

7. Balanced Farming and Its Effect on American Agriculture.
8. The Future of the American Farmer.
9. The Future Farmers of America in Relation to American Agriculture.
10. Farm Safety.
11. The Restoration of Agricultural Stability.
12. Why I Choose to Become a Farmer.
13. Education's Contribution to a Balanced Rural Living
14. The Unorganized Farmer in an Organized World.
15. The All-American Team of Soil Builders.
16. Rural Electrification and Its Effect on Agriculture.
17. New Markets for Farm Products Through Chemurgy.
18. The Utilization of Economic Information in Farming.
19. The Economic Status of Farmers in Relation to National Prosperity.
20. The Part-Time Farmer in American Agriculture.
21. The Soil - A National Heritage.
22. Farm Family Partnership.
23. Conservation of Soil Our Greatest National Problem.
24. The FFA Creed - What It Means to Rural America.
25. Soil Conservation - Man's and Nature's.
26. The Place of Farm Cooperatives in our National Economy.
27. Education of the Farmer of Tomorrow.
28. Atomic Energy, Its Application to Rural Life.
29. Farm Price Supports.

Sources

It is impossible to list all sources of aid for those preparing to take part in the Public Speaking Contest. The following standard sources should not be overlooked.

1. Books dealing with the topic chosen.
2. Readers' Guide - in public libraries and high school libraries.
3. Publications of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. (Yearbook, Technical bulletins, and special reports).
Note: In addition to the old line technical bureaus such as Animal Industry, Dairy Industry, Entomology, Chemistry, etc., the following agencies are now a part of the USDA: Soil Conservation Service; Farm Credit Administration; Rural Electrification Administration; Farm Home Administration; Production and Marketing Administration. For information on publications, write the Director of Information, U.S.D.A.
4. Current National Magazines.
5. The Farm Press.
6. Census Report.
7. Kansas State Board of Agriculture, biennial reports and special bulletins, Topeka, Kansas.
8. State newspapers.
9. Proceedings of National FFA Convention.
10. Public Speaking for Future Farmers, Judson, published by Interstate Publishing Company, Danville, Illinois.
11. Winning FFA Speeches, Vol. II, R. D. Perky, Interstate, Danville, Ill.

JUDGES SCORE SHEET
1952 STATE FFA PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

PART I. FOR SCORING CONTENT AND COMPOSITION

Items to be scored	Points Allowed	Points awarded contestants											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Content of Manuscript	200												
2. Composition of Manuscript	100												
Score on written production	300												

PART II. FOR SCORING THE DELIVERY OF THE PRODUCTION

Items to be scored	Points Allowed	Points awarded contestants											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Voice	100												
2. Stage presence	100												
3. Power of expression	200												
4. Response to questions	200												
5. General effect	100												
Score on delivery	700												

PART III. FOR COMPUTING THE RESULTS OF THE CONTEST

Items to be scored	Points Allowed	Points awarded contestants											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1. Score on written production	300												
2. Score on delivery	700												
TOTALS	1000												
* Less overtime deduction for each minute	20 points												
* - Time Keeper's record													

EXPLANATION OF SCORE SHEET POINTS

<u>Content of the speech includes</u>	:	<u>Composition of the speech includes</u>
Importance and appropriateness of the subject.	:	Organization of content.
Suitability of material used.	:	Unity of thought.
Accuracy of statements included.	:	Logical development.
Evidence of purpose.	:	Language used.
	:	Sentence structure.
	:	Accomplishments of purpose -
	:	conclusions.

FFA Public Speaking Contest (continued)

<u>Voice includes</u>	:	<u>Power of expression includes</u>
Quality.	:	Fluency, emphasis.
Pitch.	:	Directness, sincerity.
Force.	:	Communicative activity.
Articulation, punctuation.	:	Conveyance of thought and meaning.
	:	
	:	
<u>Response to questions includes</u>	:	<u>Stage presence includes</u>
Ability to satisfactorily answer the questions on the speech which are asked by the judges, indicating originality, familiarity with subject and ability to think quickly.	:	Personal appearance.
	:	Poise and body posture.
	:	Attitude.
	:	Confidence.
	:	Personality.
	:	Ease before audience.
	:	
<u>General effect includes</u>	:	
Extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable, convincing, pleasing and held attention.	:	

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OUR SOIL AND OUR FREEDOM

by

Roger Adamson* - Cherryvale Chapter

Sixteen years ago on the night of November the sixth, old Doc Norman drove out to a farm in Montgomery County, Kansas, and delivered a fine bouncing boy. For that I am truly thankful, because that boy was I. For the first few years of my life, I, like all other American boys, just took things for granted. But as I have grown older, I have begun to realize more and more that I, as well as every other American farm boy, have much for which to be thankful.

While listening to the radio and reading our newspapers, I shudder when I think of what my lot would be now if I had been born in Russia, China, or any one of the Communist dominated countries. Therefore, one of the most important things for which I am thankful is that I am an American, born at the beginning of what I choose to call a new era in Agriculture.

What has brought about this new era? There are many things contributing to its development. Definitely, such things as our modern farm machinery, our new and improved crops and our enlarged farming programs have aided. However, I believe that the idea of soil conservation is doing more to bring permanent prosperity to agriculture than any other factor.

* Winner of second place in the National FFA Speech Contest held at Kansas City, Missouri, October 12, 1953.

Our Soil and Our Freedom (continued)

When our pioneer forefathers landed on this continent and begun tilling the soil, they seemingly operated on the theory that our land resources were inexhaustible. At that time new land was plentiful. When a farm was worn out, it was abandoned, and the farmer moved further west, where new land could be obtained readily and farmed profitably. This practice was continued until the late eighteen hundreds when the farmer had reached the Pacific and was brought to the realization that the supply of virgin farm land had been exhausted.

Since the first furrow was plowed in America over three-hundred years ago, our soil has suffered a gradual loss of fertility due to continuous cropping and lack of conservation practices. During these years the farmer has taken everything possible from the soil and returned relatively nothing. Millions of tons of earth have been permitted to wash down the slopes into the small streams, the rivers, and finally the ocean.

On April sixth, nineteen hundred seventeen, the United States was drawn into World War I. The farmers were called upon to produce larger quantities of foodstuffs for the Allied Armies. It was then, for the first time they realized that their soil was not as fertile as it had once been.

Thank God, we were able to come through the war victorious; however the increased cropping programs drastically taxed the fertility of our soils.

In 1929 came the crash of the stock markets, and our country entered into the great depression. Little thought was given to our soil during this period until the "black blizzards" of the mid-thirties brought to the attention of the American farmer the inescapable fact that our soil is the lifeblood of America; that our independence and our opportunities stem from the soil, because our food, our clothing, our shelter, all come from the soil.

Back in the early thirties, about the time I made my first appearance in this world, the idea of soil conservation was just coming into importance.

In 1935 Congress established the Soil Conservation Service, the first attempt by any national government to halt the appalling losses of soil and soil-fertility. The program of the Soil Conservation Service was built carefully on the sound foundation of scientific research, devotion to our land, and the co-operation of farmers.

The founders of the Soil Conservation Act realized that each farm presented a separate and distinct problem. They knew you couldn't just take a group of practices, thrust them in a farmer's face and say, "Here, these will build up your soil". No, the Soil Conservation Service drew up separate plans for each farm, taking into consideration the complex problems this farm presented. They also realized that the farmer would have to do the conservation job himself; the government couldn't do it for him, even though they were willing to assist financially through payments made by the Production and Marketing Administration. This meant that the Soil Conservation Service had to be de-centralized into local control and management. This was done through locally organized and farmer-operated soil conservation districts. These local districts are supervised by farmers in the local community.

Our Soil and Our Freedom (continued)

The Soil Conservation Districts have sponsored practices such as terracing, contouring, strip-cropping and other more or less permanent conservation practices aimed at building up our soil and its fertility.

The Soil Conservation Service has worked with the Extension Service and the Production and Marketing Administration in completing nearly a third of the total conservation jobs, a job that man has been more than three-hundred years in making.

We have made a good beginning in regaining our soil fertility, but we are only now approaching the main part of the problem. It is true that one-third of our conservation job has been accomplished, but do we truly realize the immensity of the job ahead? The majority of the conservation jobs that have been carried out were on farms where the conservation problems had not yet gotten out of control. These farms were comparatively easy to rebuild, but what about the countless acres where water has been allowed to gush down the unprotected slopes for the last twenty years or longer, carving vast gullies and carrying with it our fertile topsoil? What about the fifty-million acres where no efforts have been made to reclaim them and they can no longer be used for cultivation? And what about a second fifty-million acres from which fifty per cent of the topsoil has been lost?

We talk in big words. We tell the public that we are on the high road in the fight against soil losses. We like to tell the story of the improvements that have been made on the farm that grandfather once owned. He cleared the land and raised crops on the same field year after year, apparently with little thought that the soil would lose its fertility. He cut the trees and set no replacements. His fields lay bare during the winter without cover crop. Brush and sprouts covered his pastures, trash and leaves filled the springs. He raised grain crops repeatedly until production was low. Yes, grandfather worked hard during his lifetime but accumulated only the bare necessities of life.

Today the grandson is operating that farm. It is laid out in contour strips with rotating crops and he is adding lime and fertilizer. The land is producing better crops; the verdant green pastures blend smoothly with the blue sky; sparkling water trickles from the spring to the water trough; all forms of wild life find a haven in the multiflora rose fencing; bass and blue-gill are very plentiful in the farm pond which he has built. Electric power has come to the farm where electric appliances have taken the drudgery from work, leaving more time for recreation and participation in community activities.

This is the story that is played up to our American public today, but when the truth of the matter is known, there are very few farms that look like the one I just pictured for you. You can drive through Kansas and only about one out of ten of the farms you see will even begin to measure up to this ideal.

If we expect to make satisfactory progress, we must first of all realize that the conservation job is a long way from being completed. Each farmer must work in close cooperation with the Land Grant Colleges through the Extension and other services. He must work in close cooperation with the Soil Conservation District on programs for retaining the rebuilding our soil.

Our Soil and Our Freedom (continued)

In view of the enormous job ahead of us, we cannot on the basis of our past accomplishments in the conservation field lean back in the easy chair on our front porch and say with the rich fool, "Soul, thou has much good laid up for many years, take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry".

History teaches us that any nation that permits its soil to become depleted loses its prosperity, its security, and its independence. Even though we are told that we are on the high road in the fight against the losses of soil and soil fertility, we cannot relax; even though we are building a new economy, based on proper land usage, we now know that our soils can be exhausted. Few virgin soils remain.

Our soil is our heritage to be passed on to the next generation, better than it came to us. Yes, on our soil depends the progress of America, and that progress is in our trust. Soil conservation is an obligation of every American interested in the preservation of freedom and security for the generations of tomorrow.

Let's save our freedom, our prosperity, our opportunities, - our American way of life. Let's save our soil.

- - FFA - -

ORDER OF APPEARANCE IN 1954 FFA SPEECH CONTEST

Anticipating more entries in the State FFA Public Speaking Contest than can be run off in one section, an elimination contest has been planned. In order to facilitate this plan it will be necessary to have a disinterested party make drawings for order of appearance prior to the contest. Information relative to place, and order of appearance will be mailed local chapter advisers having entries in the Speech Contest. Information on place, and order of appearance will be available at the state office, Holton Hall, Room 103, April 26 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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STATE FFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The State FFA Executive Committee will hold its annual meeting at Manhattan, Kansas, April 8, 1954, at 10:00a.m. The meeting will convene in the office of A. P. Davidson, Holton Hall, Room 103. The principal business of the meeting will be to review the State Farmer Degree applications. Members of the FFA Executive Committee are: L. B. Pollom, State FFA Adviser; Dean A. D. Weber, School of Agriculture; A. P. Davidson, Deputy FFA Adviser; L. F. Hall, Executive FFA Secretary; C. O. Carter, Chanute, President of K.V.A.A.; Nelson D. Galle, Moundridge, President of the Kansas Association of FFA.

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U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Washington 25, D. C.

Office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue

February 19, 1953

The Future Farmers of America
c/o A. Webster Tenney, National Exec. Sec.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 30, 1953, enclosing lists, in triplicate, of the local chapters of The Future Farmers of America organized and reinstated during the school year 1951-52 pursuant to Bureau ruling of January 10, 1945, which held that you and the State Associations and local chapters appearing on the lists submitted at that time are entitled to exemption from Federal income tax under the provisions of section 101 (6) of the Internal Revenue Code and corresponding provisions of prior revenue acts as exclusively educational organizations.

On the basis of the information heretofore submitted which resulted in Bureau ruling dated January 10, 1945, and on the information now submitted, it is held that the local chapters appearing on the current lists are entitled to exemption from Federal income tax under the provisions of section 101 (6) of the Code.

Accordingly, it will not be necessary for the new local chapters to file income tax returns so long as there is no change in their organization, purposes, or method of operation. Any such changes should be reported immediately to this Bureau in order that their effect upon the exempt status of the chapters may be determined.

However, the chapters listed are required to file annually information returns on Form 990-A with the Directors of Internal Revenue for their respective districts so long as the exemption remains in effect. This form may be obtained from the Director and is required to be filed on or before the fifteenth day of the fifth month following the close of the respective annual accounting periods.

Contributions made to the chapters appearing on the lists referred to above are deductible by the donors in computing their taxable net income in the manner and to the extent provided by Section 23 (o) and (q) of the Code.

Bequests, legacies, devises or transfers, to or for the use of the chapters listed are deductible in computing the value of the net estate of a decedent for estate tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided by sections 812 (d) and 861 (a)(3) of the Code. Gifts of property to such chapters are deductible in computing net gifts for gift tax purposes in the manner and to the extent provided in section 1004 (a)(2)(B) and 1004 (b)(2) and (3) of the Code.

In the event your chapters referred to above have not filed waiver of exemption certificates in accordance with the provisions of section 1426 (1) of the Code no liability is incurred by them for the taxes imposed under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. Tax liability is not incurred by such chapters under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act by virtue of the provisions of section 1607 (c)(8) of such Act.

U. S. Treasury Department (continued)

You should continue to furnish the Bureau annually, on the calendar year basis, lists, in duplicate (present requirement), showing the names and addresses of any new organizations chartered by you during the year, and the names and addresses of any such organizations which for any reason have ceased to exist, together with a statement sworn to by one of your principal officers as to whether the information heretofore submitted by you, and on which the ruling of January 10, 1945, is based, is applicable in all respects to the organizations appearing on the lists and they should be forwarded so as to reach this office not later than February 15 of the following year.

The Directors of Internal Revenue for the districts in which your chapters appearing on the list recently submitted are located are being advised of this action.

Norman A. Sugarman
Assistant Commissioner

By R. C. Dunlap
Head, Exempt Organizations Branch
Special Technical Services Division

-- FFA --

EXHIBITS AT THE 1954 NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

In a survey of State FFA Associations relative to educational exhibits at the 1954 National FFA Convention, the following significant points were indicated:

1. Exhibits portray:(a) promotional activity, or (b) agricultural practice.
2. Exhibits include animation of some type, such as light, motion, sound, etc.
3. Amount of space--states were equally divided; half wanted larger space, and half favored same as formerly.
4. No competition between state educational exhibits, and no awards.

The following excerpt from Dr. W. T. Spanton's letter of January 18, 1954, will be of interest to Kansas FFA Chapters:

"As a result of this survey, I am suggesting that your exhibits at the 1954 National FFA Convention in the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium should display some FFA promotional activity, some FFA practice, or when exhibiting some agricultural product of a State it should show the relation of the FFA to the product. When the shipping costs are not too great, an FFA exhibit that has been previously displayed in the State, could be shown at Kansas City. Please avoid bringing commercial exhibits to the convention.

Assistance will be provided in setting up the exhibit by the Agricultural Education Branch, Office of Education. Adequate space for exhibits will be provided up to 6 feet wide, 4 feet deep, and 4-5 feet high for each exhibit. Space will be reserved also for the box type of exhibit that has been used in previous years.

It is hoped that a greater number of States will send or bring exhibits to the National FFA Convention in 1954 than in past years."

-- FFA --

STATE AWARDS FOR IMPROVING AGRICULTURE AND LEADERSHIP

The Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., accept the total program of activities planned and executed by a local FFA chapter as conforming with the regulations governing the State Awards for Improving Agriculture and Leadership sponsored by the Foundation. This is a liberal interpretation of the rules, and the Kansas Association of FFA is appreciative of this interpretation, since this represents the only cash award program sponsored by the Foundation that Kansas can accept. The cash award will be distributed on the basis of 60 per cent to the Gold Emblem Chapters and 40 per cent to the Silver Emblem Chapters. The funds designated for each classification will be divided equally among the chapters listed under each division. In order to qualify for this cash award, each Gold Emblem and Silver Emblem winner submits to the state office, to be forwarded to the Washington FFA office before a specified deadline date, a summary of chapter achievement. The summaries for 31 of the 1953 Gold and Silver Emblem Classification winners were sent to the National office. The amount received by each chapter in the Gold Emblem classification was \$39.21 and each chapter in the Silver Emblem classification received \$24.50. The money is to be used for the betterment of FFA work in the local community.

The following chapters were eligible:

Gold Emblem

Alma Chapter, Frank E. White, Adv.
 Beloit Chapter, Frank Carpenter, Adv.
 Buhler Chapter, J. A. Johnson, Adv.
 Chanute Chapter, Chas. O. Carter, Adv.
 Clay Center Chapter, Ray Morrison, Adv.
 Coldwater Chapter, L. E. Melia, Adv.
 Effingham Chapter, Roy Eck, Adv.
 Ellsworth Chapter, Lester Crandall, Adv.
 Emporia Chapter, Emory Groves, Adv.
 Holton Chapter, Keith Wagoner, Adv.
 Hoxie Chapter, Frank Hutchinson, Adv.
 Little River Chapter, Milton Kohrs, Adv.
 Shawnee-Mission Chapter, Harold Garver, Adv.
 Olathe Chapter, A. G. Jensen, Adv.
 Stockton Chapter, Floyd Blauer, Adv.

Silver Emblem

Bonner Springs Chapter, L. L. Van Petten, Adv.
 Colby Chapter, Gordon Cunningham, Adv.
 Eldorado Chapter, W. R. McMillan, Adv.
 Eureka Chapter, Harry Coffel, Adv.
 Howard Chapter, Wilbur Hart, Adv.
 Kiowa Chapter, Allen Starosta, Adv.
 Kingman Chapter, Virgil Lake, Adv.
 Lebanon Chapter, Thos. Roberts, Adv.
 Seaman Chapter, Marvin Smith, Adv.
 Ottawa Chapter, S. S. Bergsma, Adv.
 Phillipsburg Chapter, Frank Freeman, Adv.
 Riley Chapter, L. O. Gugler, Adv.
 Simpson Chapter, Bob Severance, Adv.
 Smith Center Chapter, Charles Mantz, Adv.
 St. Francis Chapter, Don Hall, Adv.
 Washington Chapter, Otis Dewey, Adv.

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CORRECTION

Helps In Mastering Parliamentary Procedure, W. F. Stewart, was listed in the September, 1953, Kansas Future Farmer at 20¢. This represented price on a single copy. Ten or more copies may be purchased at 15¢ per copy.

More than 400,000 copies of this helpful booklet have been printed since 1931. This amazing record of acceptance pays high tribute to the author, Dr. W. F. Stewart, Teacher Trainer, Ohio State University.

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HIGHWAY SAFETY *

....A Challenge to Rural Youth

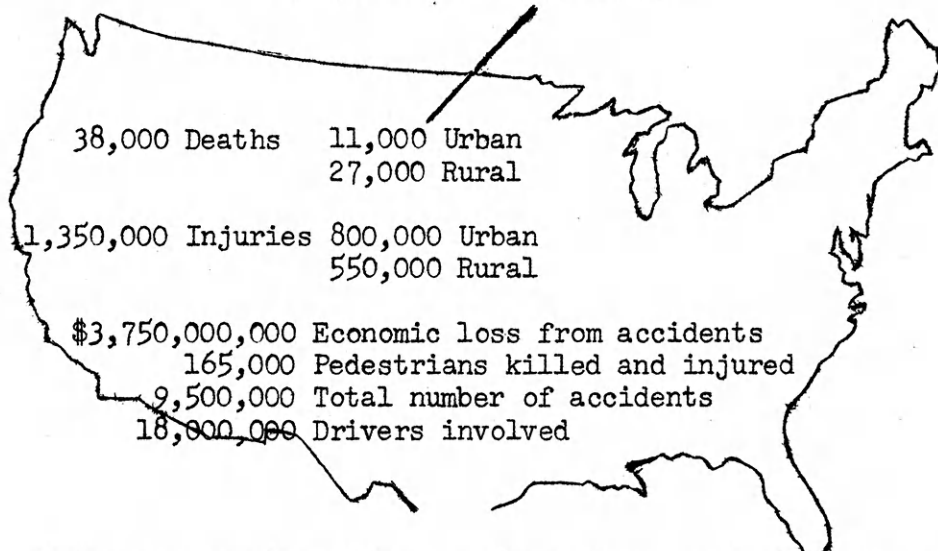
Did You Know That--

1. Highway safety is a problem as close to you as the road in front of your farm?
2. Seven out of 10 motor vehicle deaths and more than one-half of all traffic injuries occur on the free and open roads in rural areas?
3. Accidents in rural areas usually kill more people?
4. Of the 38,000 persons killed last year, 6,000 were your farm neighbors and 210,000 farm friends were injured?

These facts and figures have been compiled by the executive committee of the Rural Youth of the U. S. A. Conference, which is issuing a challenge to all rural youth to help the committee in its safety program. Highway transportation has become as much a part of farming as spring plowing or harvesting; but along with the benefits of highway transportation come the hazards with which we must deal in our daily use of the public roads. The committee says:

"Safety on the roads you use every day in your work or recreation is just as important to you as the food you eat. Won't you join with rural young people in every organization to get this job of building safety on the rural roads and highways accomplished?"

ONE YEAR'S STORY IN BRIEF



Major causes of accidents: Excessive speed...Failure to yield right of way...Alcohol...Acts of discourtesy.

More public interest is needed in the highway safety movement today; and Future Farmer chapters and their advisors can render a definite service in this direction. Organized action for highway safety is weakest in rural areas; and Future Farmers, along with other rural young people organizations in America, can spark community-wide and county-wide organization and action for the reduction of traffic accidents. The promotion of highway safety is a real challenge to Future Farmers--it is a challenge to community service.

* From January, 1954, Texas Future Farmer

Highway Safety (continued)

What Can Future Farmers Do?

1. Help make our highways safer. Conduct a highway hazards hunt on the roads in your community to look for such danger points as unsafe bridges and culverts, dangerous curves, obstructions to safe sight distance and the lack of warning signs. Plan a meeting to discuss these findings with your highway administrator and explore ways to correct them.

Spot the high-accident locations in your community and discuss them with the local law enforcement and highway officials, and work out some way of eliminating them.

2. Promote safety education. Urge the school authorities to include safety instruction in classroom work at all grade levels, and to have an efficient safety patrol. Promote driver education in your high school, and encourage all high school pupils to enroll in the course. Form a student safety organization in your school.

3. Become law enforcement conscious. Know your county officials, state and local highway patrols. Ask how you can help with the traffic law enforcement needs of your community. Find out from judges and prosecutors how Future Farmer chapters might help with law enforcement problems and how to gain greater public respect for traffic laws and ordinances. Have some members of your group visit a traffic court session.

4. Get together with other groups of rural young people in your area to develop and carry out a united safety program. Take part in planning and conducting a county-wide highway safety program in which every subscribing group has an assigned part.

Project Ideas For FFA Groups

1. Clear farm road entrances in your neighborhood.
2. Conduct a community-wide highway hazards hunt.
3. Have your group discuss "What Are Safe Highways."
4. Conduct a safety check for farm vehicles. Develop an automobile and truck inspection blank; include those items which should be regularly inspected to maintain safe and efficient operation.
5. Scotchlight cars, trucks, bicycles, tractors and farm machinery which travel on the highway.
6. Construct educational booths and exhibits on highway safety at your fairs and use a highway safety theme for a parade float.
7. Put displays in local store windows.
8. Sponsor a safe drivers club in your group or community.

Advisors of FFA groups may secure a variety of publications for use in their work on highway safety, and a national directory of safety films may be ordered from the National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. "Safety Education in Rural Schools", and "Let's Teach Driving", may be obtained from National Education Association, Commission on Safety Education, 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

CHAPTER NEWS

ALTON: Friday night, December 4, eleven FFA members, our adviser, Mr. Joel Morrison, and his wife left on a weekend trip to the Flint Hills. Our first stop was at the farm of Albert Morgan, where we judged four classes of Poland China hogs. The official judge was Mr. Morgan, who gave us some very good pointers on hog judging. Our next stop was at the farm of Mr. Ralph Collier, where we judged two classes of fine Shorthorn cattle. From the Collier farm we went to Council Grove for dinner. After dinner we went to the Moxley-Hall Hereford Ranch, where we judged several classes of outstanding Herefords. Mr. Moxley gave some very good pointers on beef cattle judging and the management of beef cattle. Sunday morning we toured the Merrill Ranch, the largest in the area. This ranch contains 12,000 acres and runs about 3,000 head of cattle. After touring the ranch, we attended the Four Mile Church about six miles south of Council Grove. After church Mr. Morrison took us on a tour of his home farm, showing us the Grade A milking barn, and the cattle and machinery. Then we went in the house for a big chicken dinner. After saying good-bye to our hosts, we left for home.

Gary Eller, Reporter

HIGHLAND: Fifteen Green Hands received their Green Hand Degree at our banquet on December 4....The FFA boys are rearranging their home farm shop tools after studying shop arrangement in class....We pruned the shade trees at the high school....Plans have been made to purchase a popcorn popper....Our FFA basketball team has been organized and we plan to challenge other FFA teams in this area.

Phillip McKay, Reporter

TORONTO: Five of our members were raised to the Chapter Farmer Degree on October 23....We have chosen sides for our rodent contest and it is now underway....We had a special night meeting November 23, to which everyone was invited. Our game warden spoke to us, and we showed a color film on wildlife.. ..We are making gates to sell as a means of making money.

Gary Webb, Reporter

LYNDON: The chicken project carried on in past years will again be carried on this year. The chicks are raised in the department's brooder house. They serve as a project for the town boys....We have had our pest eradication contest this year. We were divided into two teams with the winning team receiving a free feed from the losing team. The contest started November 23 and ended December 14....We held a father and son chili supper on December 3. Part of the evening's program consisted of reports on their farming programs by three boys in the chapter. We held Green Hand Degree at the time of the father and son chili supper.

Jim Bronson, Reporter

COLBY: Our chapter earned \$50.00 by building the sideline fence and putting up the goal posts at the football field....We have been operating the popcorn machine at the football games. The FFA owned coke machine provides some steady income for the chapter....All members enjoyed the annual hay ride and weiner roast on the evening of September 21....The Vo-Ag classes attended the "Trench Silo Day" and the "Fall Field Day" at the Colby Experiment Station.

Loren Henry, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

ERIE: The Erie Chapter has 40 members this year. Seventeen Green Hands received their Green Hand pins, and five Chapter Farmers received their pins on December 16....Our Christmas card sale cleared \$125.00....Fourteen hundred pests were killed in our pest contest. The losing side gave a hamburger fry to the winning side....Shop projects completed this year include: 10 pipe gates, 5 cattle hay-feeders (made from used 2" flue pipe), one four-wheel trailer, two cattle feed bunks, 6 chicken feeders, three sheep feed bunks, two gasoline drum racks, and 45 table legs for the new school....Our new ag building is about half completed and will be finished by May.

George Bartholomew, Reporter

KINCAID: We have 28 active members plus 12 new Green Hands....At our regular October meeting the Blue Mound officers received the Green Hand Degree....We have just completed our annual pest eradication contest. Clyde Sprague's team defeated Daryl Ramsey's team by the score of 7,440 to 4,010. The losers will treat the winners to a picnic this spring....As money making projects this year we will have the concessions at two basketball games. We made \$142.00 on a scrap iron drive. The chapter now owns a squeeze chute which we rent out to farmers for 10¢ a head....Shop jobs now underway include: an implement trailer, a two-wheel trailer, two four-wheel trailers, a squeeze chute, a stock rack bed, two wooden gates, a milk cart and numerous smaller projects.

Lyle Osborn, Reporter

SIMPSON: The Simpson Chapter of Future Farmers of America closed its annual pest eradication contest Friday, January 8 with a win over the Glasco Chapter. This entitles them to a Glasco host chili supper later in January. A brief summary of the final results shows the amount of pests eradicated by the Simpson boys: mice-161, sparrows-1785, starlings-445, coyotes- 13, coons- 45, and possums-18.

Larry Sams, Reporter

STOCKTON: Our annual Goblins Glory (Carnival) was held October 27. The profit was \$501.78....The parents and son meeting was held November 13. Fourteen freshmen received their Green Hand Degrees at this meeting. Merwin Stearns, the vocational agriculture instructor from Osborne, was the speaker... An all-school party was sponsored by our chapter on November 19.

Gerald Byerly, Reporter

CLAY CENTER: Our annual pest eradication contest, in which the chapter is divided into two teams, started Thanksgiving and will end January 29....The year book has been completed by our president and vice-president....New swinging doors for the back of the ag pickup were constructed by several FFA members....Our adviser, Mr. Morrison, went to Topeka and got angle iron and channel iron for us to use in our shop work. He also brought some pipe for us from the oil fields at Great Bend.

Darrell Rosenow, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

HARPER: Our chapter officers and committee chairmen met at our adviser's home in September for a hamburger fry, after which we outlined our program of work for the year....Fifteen Green Hands received the Green Hand Degree in December....Our pest eradication contest started December 9 and will run until March 1. We are cooperating with the 4-H clubs of the county in a rat control program. Our chapter is putting out poison at the city dump as well as poisoning the rats at the homes....We are planning a box supper with the FHA for February 2. The girls will bring the boxes and the boys will buy them....Our chapter sponsored the sale of the Silver Anniversary stamps and ran a cut in our local paper with the help of 52 of our local merchants.

Carroll Pearl, Reporter

WELLSVILLE: Our chapter sold popcorn and pop at all of the home football games, and will sell popcorn at the home basketball games as soon as the new gym is finished....The pest eradication contest in our chapter is underway. Two teams have been chosen with a team captain for each. Jim O'Connor is one team captain, and Harley Broers is the other....The following boys received the Chapter Farmer Degree at our December 2 meeting: Don Caruthers, Jay DeGarmo, Jim Jackson, Eldon Kerr, Joel Macoubrie, Dick Michael, Floyd Mignot, Rex Murphy, Dewayne Watson and Phillip Williams....Some of our major farm mechanics projects have been: two four-wheel trailers, machinery trailer, individual type hog house, loading chute, three feed bunks, several pipe gates, two gas barrel stands, two tool cabinets and two manure spreaders repaired.

Harley Broers, Reporter

HILLSBORO: The FFA chapter cooperated with the Scully Estates and the county agent in establishing county wheat variety and fertility tests. The agriculture class assisted in harvesting the corn variety and fertility plots....On December 14 the vocational agriculture class presented a parliamentary procedure demonstration before the Hillsboro Kiwanis Club. Boys taking part in the demonstration were Virgil Funk, Eugene Just, Gordon Jost, Curtis Penner and Lewis Hiebert. Wayne Weins, National FFA band member also reported on some of the activities of the FFA at the National Convention....Early in December the chapter enjoyed their annual play night....Our first annual pest eradication began on December 1 and was completed on January 14. The contest was won by Jim Barkman's side with a total of 23,345 points. Some of the pests eradicated were: 3073 sparrows; 1309 starlings; 542 mice; 154 jackrabbits; 18 racoon; 34 opossum; 42 crows; 4 coyotes and numerous other pests....Shop projects now underway are 3 four-wheel wagons, 3 two-wheel trailers, 4 manure loaders, 2 loading chutes, a large implement trailer, set of stock racks, and many other smaller projects....Plans are underway to hold the South Central District Dairy Judging Contest in Hillsboro on March 27.

Ronney Ewert, Reporter

LAWRENCE: The Jayhawk Chapter is in a period of transition. If everything goes according to plans we should be in a brand new high school building by the middle of February....In December 17 boys were raised to the degree of Chapter Farmer....Chapter members handed out 450 FFA calendars in December.... The Green Hands have elected their officers.

Scott Mitchell, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

OTTAWA: To help the FFA celebrate 25 years of FFA, the Ottawa Rotary Club invited the Future Farmer officers and former members to be their guests at the annual Rural-Urban meeting of the club. The officers had charge of the program, which consisted of the regular opening ceremony, a report on the activities of the chapter and reports from former members who told of FFA activities when they were in school. Professor Loren Whipps showed colored slides of FFA activities in Kansas and at the national convention....The annual pest hunt is in progress at this time with the boys who live north of the river working against those south of the river. The losers will furnish treats for the winners....Lieutenant James Boucek, former FFA president, is home on a thirty day leave. He gave a talk at one of our meetings and told of his experiences in flying a jet bomber in Korea.

Marrel Macy, Reporter

ELLSWORTH: The Ellsworth Chapter had seven freshmen receiving the Green Hand Degree. Fifteen sophomores and one senior received the Chapter Farmer Degree.. ..To raise money for our chapter we had 200 calendars made. The chapter's picture is on the front of the calendar with the business ads beneath the picture. Each business firm in Ellsworth paid $2\frac{1}{2}\phi$ an ad on each calendar. We distributed these calendars throughout Ellsworth County....A new \$100 scholarship for the FFA has been made possible by the Soil Conservation Service of Ellsworth County. Any boy of Ellsworth County between the ages of 14 and 19 may compete....The chapter purchased a new strip film projector this year. To pay for it we are planning to prune trees in Ellsworth.

Bill Zavesky, Reporter

HOWARD: Chapter activities so far this year have been a coyote hunt (caught three), Freshman Parent Night, two project tours, Freshman Welcome Party, King and Queen Contest, Barnwarmer and joint FHA and FFA meeting....Some items of farm equipment built in ag shop include: four-wheel trailer and wagon box, 10 feed bunks, brooder house, poultry range shelter, 2 calf creep feeders, two-wheel trailer, and machinery trailer....The chapter bought an old 1937 V-8 pickup truck, which they have dismantled in order to make a stock trailer and a flatbed trailer for the members' use....The chapter is cooperating with the city in making three picnic tables and assembling new playground equipment for the city park. We also made a bicycle rack for the city.

John Yantis, Reporter

GOESSEL: Vocational agriculture is being taught in Goessel for the first time this year. There are 45 boys enrolled in vo-ag and all are FFA members....As a money raising project the chapter sponsored a donkey basketball game with the FFA boys versus local men. The chapter got 50 per cent of the gate receipts and all of the concessions....The chapter is having a pest eradication contest which will end February 1....Some of the projects being made in the shop are lawn mowers, gates, bale loader, implement carrier, air compressor and cattle rack.

Donald Schmidt, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

FORT SCOTT: The chapter's 14 freshmen members have received the Green Hand Degree....The FFA chapter collected and repaired 150 toys at Christmas and distributed them to the needy children of Fort Scott....We are holding a pest eradication contest with the losing side treating the winners....The chapter is testing seed for farmers in this area....The gilt ring has been increased to 8 gilts....Some of our money raising projects have been selling Christmas cards, concessions at ball games, and landscaping yards....Projects in shop are: self hog-feeder, stock racks for 3 trucks, 4 four-wheel wagons, implement trailer, 2 two-wheel trailers, ensilage wagon and bed, post hole digger, baled hay elevator, sub-soiler, and several pipe gates.

Tommy Quick, Reporter

ALTAMONT: Our chapter had a "Shodeo" on October 30 and limited the entries to the FFA members. The events included goat roping and sacking, calf roping, pole bending, clover leaf and a reining class....On October 27 the chapter had their annual Barn-Warming, which included square dancing, sack racing, pie-eating contest, corn husking contest for girls, shoe race for boys, and an old clothes race....Fifty freshmen boys received the Green Hand Degree on November 13....We had our annual banquet on December 2, and C. P. (Hog) Thompson from Oklahoma A & M College was our guest speaker. Approximately 400 boys and their parents were present....We marketed our 10 Hereford and 10 Angus steers on December 5 at Parsons Stockyards. Two steers sold for 16¢ and the remaining 18 steers brought 19¢. The steers averaged a loss of \$24.00 per head.... A new Peerless roller mill was purchased by the department, and also a new flute-fed 13-hole International drill....In shop the boys have built 4 hog feeders, 3 silage troughs, 2 combination grain and roughage feeders, a trailer bed, new grain and stock racks for two trucks, painted 2 tractors and cultivators, made a calf creep feeder, 5 steel gates, rebuilt a manure spreader, made a cattle guard, chicken feeders, loading chute and various smaller jobs. The boys are now building concrete blocks with their new block machine.

Virgil Billups, Reporter

McPHERSON: The McPherson Chapter of the FFA has bought a 430-pound calf. We plan to feed the calf out, butcher, and sell the hamburgers in our concession stand for our annual May Day celebration....Our chapter is having a pest eradication contest....We plan to go to Mr. Patton's farm at Cottonwood Falls for an overnight hike....Our FFA was host to the FHA for a Halloween party. We fixed up an empty farm house and took the girls through it. We played games and had a weiner roast. We used hayracks for transportation.

Bill Rhodd, Reporter

OSAGE CITY: Eight members were initiated into the Green Hand Degree on November 24....On March 27 we will be hosts to the East Central Kansas Farm Mechanics School with the Burlingame and Lyndon chapters assisting....For community service work we are ready for pruning of grapevines and fruit trees. Our goal is at least 50 of each. We will also spray a few trees. We have been testing soils, whole milk, and we are now planning to start farm seed germination in our classroom germinator.... Felix Wilde, a German exchange student, has just recently been enrolled in our department. He transferred from the Harveyville department. He is classified as a senior and doing fine work. He is under the sponsorship of the Grange.

Loren Bryan, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

WINFIELD: The Winfield Chapter of Future Farmers will be host to the South Central Kansas Future Farmers in a Farm Mechanics School to be held at Winfield on Saturday, March 20....The Junior Class is helping Gary Andes get started on his Grade A dairy barn. The class made three trips and helped get the building started. Gary did most of the stone laying himself...Mr. Anwar Koraitim of Cairo, Egypt University visited the agriculture department and was very much interested in our program. He also visited the Walnut Valley Hereford Ranch, home of the Waite brothers.

Stanton O'Neil, Reporter

HAYS: A new ag shop and classroom is nearing completion. The shop is 60' x 70' and the classroom 24' x 32'. We have purchased a post drill, arc welder, tool grinder-hone, portable sander, and oxy-acetylene outfit....Some community activities completed thus far are butchering (20 beeves and 30 hogs), culling chickens, castrating (7 head) and tree pruning....For chapter money raising activities we have concessions at a basketball game, butchering, fair booth, and calendar sale.

Marvin Pfannenstiel, Reporter

SEAMAN: The chapter bought a registered Duroc Boar for the chapter members and community service. The boar has netted \$65.00 in fees....The chapter sold ads for the football programs and netted \$49.00....Six Green Hands have been raised to Chapter Farmer....The chapter held a coyote hunt January 17, but no coyotes were shot....We bought oil barrels and motor stands from Forbes Air Force Base to make trash barrels and trailers....The projects which have been completed in shop are: a cattle feeder (4' x 20'), 4 wooden gates, a four-wheel trailer, 2 two-wheel trailers, reconditioned and repainted 2 plows, 10 trash barrels, 21 barrel feed bunks, a hog self-feeder, reconditioned a power lawn mower and constructed stand for gas barrels.

Daniel Dister, Reporter

OLATHE: We initiated 19 Green Hands at a special meeting in January. After the initiation ceremony we were entertained with pictures taken by Max Stutz while in New Zealand. These pictures in color and the talk given by Max gave us a better understanding of agriculture in that country of extensive sheep raising. Our adviser, A. G. Jensen, enjoyed the visit with Max, as he was a Green Hand member of the Atchison County Chapter the last year Mr. Jensen served there....Several of our members have been working hard on speeches in preparation for the annual chapter speaking contest scheduled for January 27. The winners in each division will represent the chapter in the district contest at Topeka....Bob Harrison, a junior and vice-president of the chapter, planned and painted safety signs for our farm shop....Our farm shop is well filled with a farrowing shed under construction, two disc harrows undergoing repairs and four sections of spike-toothed harrows receiving a general overhaul. A cattle chute and odd equipment add to the crowded condition but also to worthwhile activity.

Henry Caenen, Reporter

FORD: The Green Hand initiation was held November 17 with 10 new members added to our chapter....We butchered three turkeys for the school's Christmas dinner....Some of the projects in shop are: hay bale elevator, 2 feed bunks, land leveler, two-wheel trailer, and a four-wheel trailer.

Raymond Roetzer, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

ELLINWOOD: We held open house and dedication of our new vocational agriculture building on Sunday, January 17. Professor Harold Kugler was the speaker. ...January 18 our officers met with the officers of Hoisington, Great Bend and Claflin at Claflin. At this meeting our officers and Hoisington's officers were initiated to the Green Hand Degree....Some shop projects being worked on at the present time are 2 bale elevators, 2 large beef cattle feeders, stock racks for large trucks and pickups, shed for calves and many other smaller projects.

Glen Krueger, Reporter

BURNS: The Burns Chapter of FFA met Friday, January 8 and initiated 6 members into the Green Hand Degree. Other business concerned the development of the rat and mouse campaign which will close April 1st. For this the boys are using Warfarin baits....A committee was appointed for planning "Car Economy", a race which will soon be held....At the January 22nd meeting five members were raised to the Chapter Farmer Degree.

Wayne Hinz, Reporter

GOODLAND: Our new vocational agriculture shop has seemed to be too small at times this year. The two 12-foot creep feeders under construction will feed close to 100 calves when completed. The five 7-foot creep feeders (two of which are completed) will feed 130 more calves next summer. The total value of these feeders is estimated at \$1000. Other shop projects are: two adjustable livestock loading chutes mounted on rubber-tired wheels, two cattle squeezes made of scrap iron from home farms, rotary snow plow mounted on the front of a garden tractor, two sheep feeders, a garden tractor, three large parts cabinets, a set of stock racks for a truck, a bulletin cabinet for the soil conservation service, and installing new rings, grinding the valves, and tightening the bearings in a Chevrolet car....The Goodland FFA Chapter has 54 members this year.

Gary Mosbarger, Reporter

JENNINGS: The Jennings Chapter has built several feed bunks and barn doors, and we are now overhauling a truck motor and building some picnic tables. We also made a bicycle rack for use in front of the schoolhouse...Our chapter took a trip to Denver to the National Western Stock Show January 15, 16, 17. While touring the Coliseum we stopped at the KFEL radio booth to make a fifteen minute tape recording which was broadcast Saturday, January 16.

John Wahlmeier, Reporter

COLDWATER: We had our annual Christmas party December 22....Members of the committee to raise funds for the March of Dimes passed a blanket around the gym for donations between halves of the last semi-final game of our league tournament held at Coldwater the first week of January. Thirty-four dollars and forty-two cents was raised for this fund....Earnings for the members' farming programs are much lower this year due to the low prices of beef cattle and the poor wheat crop. These two enterprises have been our main source of profit in the past.

Richard Bean, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

NATOMA: Activities which have been completed by our chapter are: parents night with over 160 persons present, pest eradication contest, ceremony for raising Green Hands to the degree of Chapter Farmer, and community service such as dehorning, vaccinating, castrating, etc....A welder's school was displayed in the vocational agricultural building, and farmers from the surrounding area came throughout the day to learn new and various methods of arc and acetylene welding....Seven seniors, six juniors, five FFA dads and our vo-ag instructor spent three days in Denver, Colorado, to take in the Denver Live-stock Show. The chapter had reserved seats for the Sunday afternoon show. Each member of the chapter was responsible for reporting on a certain assignment and giving it to the reporter of the chapter to be presented in the local "Natoma Independent".

Douglas Hale, Reporter

COTTONWOOD FALLS: Our chapter held its Parent-Son Fun Night on January 20. Despite the cold weather we had approximately 175 people at our meeting. After a fine supper we gave an electrical demonstration, which the crowd enjoyed very much, showed an interesting movie, and finished with a square and round dance....All classes have been studying electricity the past week. The Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative Assn. of Council Grove furnished our classes with panels and notebooks which made the teaching of the course easier and more effective....In farm shop we have built several feed bunks, large gates, and repaired several pieces of farm machinery. The freshmen are making nail boxes with dowelled bottoms....Our pest eradication program ends February 1. The losers will give a chili supper to the winners.

Lee Brewer, Reporter

CHAPMAN: Our chapter has a membership of 58 this year. Green Hand initiation was held at our November meeting for 19 members....A cooperative calendar project with our local bank, operating a hot-dog stand at football games, and serving the dads and players after Dad's Night Game have been the principal sources of income for our treasury....The pest control contest is progressing satisfactorily....During the past semester some of our major shop projects have been a calf creep feeder, 2 hay feeders, 3 trailers, tractor jack, 2 pickup stock racks, 2 tractor post hole diggers, tractor repair, drill repair, disc repair, 2 community nests, 7 feed bunks, chicken feeders, mineral feeders, tool cabinet and other home shop conveniences....Our chapter was agreeably surprised last week to find that the Country Gentleman had used our shop as subject matter for their February issue front page cover. This project has been quite interesting and very informational as to just how those things are worked out. Their artist visited our shop last October.

Dale Correll, Reporter

ATWOOD: Our chapter has started a gilt ring. The gilts will farrow in a month and two gilts will be returned from each litter. The gilts cost \$75.00 each as they are registered Poland Chinas. The boys keeping the gilts are required by the chapter to keep up the papers on the gilts....Projects nearing completion in our shop are: 3 garden tractors, several panels and gates, a tool cabinet, a self feeder and several small items. Two truck motors are being overhauled.

Robert E. Rippe, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

MEDICINE LODGE: The senior class tested 30 samples of soil for farmers in our area....At the present time six of our members have seven steers on feed for the Wichita National Junior Fat Stock Show next year. Recent gains have been approximately 2.34# daily. Our president, Paul Magnison, recently sold three deferred steers at Wichita and topped the market for that day at \$24.00.... Our chapter conducted a one-day scrap iron drive and collected 27 tons of iron, netting the chapter treasury \$300.00 plus some scrap which was saved for future shop projects. The members were excused all day from school for this drive.... Our members voted to buy a bred registered Duroc gilt for one of our needy and deserving members and thus start a gilt chain. The gilt was purchased from a Kiowa FFA boy for \$85.00....Three of our members and our adviser attended the Northwest Oklahoma FFA Land Judging Contest at Cherokee, Oklahoma, December 3.. ..On January 14 we had our Green Hand initiation and eight members were awarded the Green Hand Degree....Our chapter distributed 38 of the FFA calendars, which the Osborne Company makes in cooperation with the local chapter and a local machinery dealer. We received \$11.50 for our part of the sale.... On January 20 our No. 10, 11, and 12 classes attended the Barber County Soil Conservation District meeting at Kiowa and heard the featured speaker, Leon "T-Bone" McDonald, Asst. Chief of SCS in Oklahoma. He is really a soil evangelist, and our members will remember his talk for a long time....One of our members, Lewis Balding, recently completed wiring and remodeling the interior of an old hog barn and has made it into a model farrowing house for his registered Duroc sows. He and another member, Joe Whitfield, plan to purchase some registered Durocs at the Vern Albrecht Duroc sale at Smith Center on February 6. Several other members of our chapter will also go to participate in the judging contest to be held in connection with the sale.

Charles Hall, Reporter

MINNEAPOLIS: Our chapter has a Ford pickup through the courtesy of one of the Minneapolis merchants. In shop the boys built a covered box for the back of the truck for protection when they go on trips....Shop jobs are: repairing a grain drill, model D John Deere tractor, horse trailer and pickup truck, and sharpening saws and overhauling a small motor. We are building a squeeze chute, an A-type hog house, a hay trailer, a set of swings, a machine trailer and clothes line poles....To raise money we have had one basketball game stand, worked for the father of one of our members, and fifteen of the boys picked up corn behind a corn picker on two Saturdays....Our chapter had the privilege of installing the officers of the new FFA chapter in Salina. The Ellsworth Chapter presented the Green Hand Degree to members of the Ellsworth, Salina and Minneapolis Chapters....Our chapter has started a pest control contest....The Harvester, annual FFA and FHA get-together was held in the high school gym. Circle, square and ballroom dancing and games were the entertainment, and refreshments were served. Jack Plunkett was crowned King, and Sharolyn Morton was Queen....In January we had an FFA skating party with plenty of fun, falls, and food.

Gary Kay, Reporter

MANHATTAN: Our chapter has just completed its annual pest eradication contest. We killed 68 coyotes and 1247 blackbirds as well as good number of other pests. The losing team gave the winners a chili feed December 16. Faculty men and Chamber of Commerce members were guests. We consumed 16 gallons of chili in 20 minutes....Fourteen sophomores were raised to Chapter Farmer Degree January 19....We are preparing for the North Central Kansas FFA Crops School and Public Speaking School February 20.

Fred Knorr, Reporter

Chapter News (continued)

CHANUTE: Shop jobs completed are: 4 combination hay and grain feeders made of wood and 2 made of pipe and wood, an ordinary feed bunk with slanting bottom, a number of farm gates made of pipe, a four-wheel trailer, and several three-section harrows were repaired....We held one FFA meeting on Farm Safety in November. A quiz program concluded the meeting with Bill Bareis winning the first place award....Our annual pest eradication contest will close on February 1....Money making activities include concessions at one football game and one basketball game, and the selling of 175 boxes of Christmas cards....We held our Parent-Son Banquet on January 20. Seventeen new Green Hands were taken into the chapter and three honorary members. Mr. Loren Whipps from Kansas State College was our guest speaker....Our chapter's public speaking contest is to be held next week in preparation for the district contest at Iola January 30.

Garold Burghart, Reporter

PARADISE: Our new vocational agriculture building has been completed. The building is rather unusual because it is built on two levels. The office, class room, store room, and rest rooms are on the upper level, with the shop built down over a bank on the lower level....The vo-ag boys are making signs to put along the highway as a public service....Eight boys were initiated into the FFA as Green Hands this year. Shop jobs are: a hayrack being built from a car chassis, a two-wheel trailer, and several gym sets consisting of a swing, rings, and a sky ride. Several of the boys are also overhauling their cars.

Dwain Hutchcraft, Reporter

BURLINGAME: Thirteen boys were raised to the Green Hand Degree on November 18. ...We had a farm tour this fall in which we visited projects belonging to our members....In our supplementary farm practices we ran concrete in a farm shop, a corn crib, and about 125 feet of sidewalk....To raise money we have concession stands at the football and basketball games. We also had a turkey and duck raffle this fall....During the months of December and January we have had two coon hunts.

Dick Kimball, Reporter

PLAINVILLE: We held a Mother-Son dessert meeting on Tuesday evening, January 27....Projects under construction in our shop are: a portable loading chute, a hayrack, 2 feed bunks, 2 metal feed bunks, metal gates, several pair of sawhorses, several foot-scrapers, and a sand box for the vocational agriculture shop.

Leland Adam, Reporter

STAFFORD: We have just finished a very successful pest eradication contest. The following pests were killed: 2278 crows, 5 coyotes, 379 sparrows, 29 mice, 66 blackbirds, and 88 starlings....We have installed a pencil machine in the high school building, which should pay for itself in a short time.

George Miller, Reporter