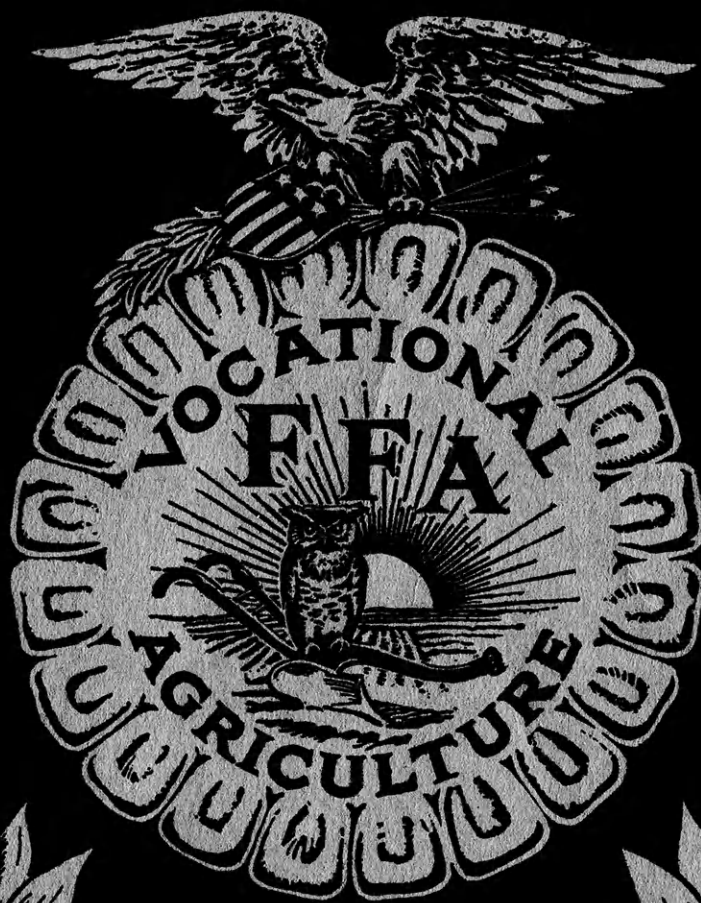


OCT 15 1937

The KANSAS
Future Farmer



Published by
**THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA**

OFFICERS OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Albert S. Coates, President
Merriam
Harmond Baer, Vice President
Abilene
Emil Heck, Reporter
Lawrence

Leonard Deets, Secretary
South Haven
Gene Birdzell, Treasurer
Winfield
L. B. Pollom, Advisor
Topeka

A. P. Davidson, Executive Advisor
Manhattan

Volume IX

October 15, 1937

Number 2

THE TENTH CONVENTION CELEBRATION *

The Tenth Convention Celebration of Future Farmers of America, October 16-23, 1937, was the most elaborate and satisfying of any annual meeting of the National Organization to date. At five o'clock Thursday, October 21, the registration figure stood at 8415. There were 91 delegates from 47 states and Hawaii. Four past national presidents were present, and a total of 22 past national officers attended part or all of the convention program. Three states, Utah, Missouri, and Texas had bands, totaling 265 pieces. The convention headquarters were in the Municipal Auditorium. The Kansas delegates were Albert Coates, Jr., Shawnee Mission chapter, and Arnold Sawyer, South Haven chapter.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17: Registration, tours of Kansas City, delegates dinner, and dedication of plaque commemorating the founding of the F.F.A. At the delegates dinner past president Andy Sundstrom, South Dakota, was in charge and did a fine job. It was a get acquainted affair and the boys had lots of fun. Past presidents Bobby Jones, Ohio, and Bill Shaffer, Virginia, were present, as were three boys from Hawaii, two delegates and a public speaker. Jack Dunn, a delegate in 1933-34, now attending South Dakota State, was present in the capacity of an official delegate. Jack received the Honorary American Farmer degree in '33-34. He was a candidate for the American Farmer degree, but owing to a technicality, was found ineligible for that degree. Delegate Duplantis, Jr., Louisiana, moved that Jack Dunn be granted the Honorary American Farmer degree along with the other sixty some odd American Farmer candidates. The motion passed. An alert executive secretary saw to it that the Proceedings carried a proper motion, and so far as we have been able to learn, the sixty some odd boys who received their American Farmer degrees did not insist on the Honorary American Farmer degree to which they were entitled. At the table for ten with the delegates from Kansas were found delegates from Utah, South Dakota, South Carolina, Virginia, and Vermont. It was interesting to listen to these delegates exchange opinions concerning the F.F.A. and farming problems of their respective states and regions.

* The splendid record of the Kansas judging teams and other activities of the national contests for students of Vocational Agriculture will be handled in the KVAA Newsletter.

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

Following the delegates dinner the dedication of the plaque commemorating the founding of the F.F.A. was held in the Pompeian room of the Baltimore Hotel. The Missouri F.F.A. band gave a concert. This was followed by an appropriate dedicatory ceremony. The plaque bore the following inscription: "Commemorating the Founding of the Future Farmers of America Organization, Baltimore Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri, November 20, 1928. This Plaque placed October 17, 1937".

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18: The opening session of the convention was held in the Arena of the Municipal Auditorium, a beautiful setting. The three bands were seated in the balcony immediately back of the president's station, 365 pieces, including 17 bass horns, three bass drums, and 10 snare drums, and other band instruments in proportion. John Dart, Newton chapter, alternate number 1, was seated in place of Albert Coates, Jr., who was a member of the Shawnee Mission milk judging team. Nominations for the American Farmer degree, together with the presenting of state reports, occupied most of the time of the morning session. At 10:30 a. m. the convention went on the air through the facilities of the NBC, under the direction of W. E. "Bill" Dripps. An outstanding feature of this broadcast was the mass band concert, and no less interesting was Henry Groseclose's description of the meeting and its setting. Henry talked without script and did an excellent job. The afternoon session was given over largely to the reading of the proposed revision of the national F.F.A. constitution. It is the usual custom to raise the candidates to the American Farmer degree during the Monday afternoon session. The time required for consideration of the revision of the constitution caused this activity to be deferred until the Tuesday morning session. This was a lucky break for Kansas. Due to a misunderstanding two of the candidates for the American Farmer degree from Kansas were in attendance at the Royal on Monday afternoon. Space forbids a full report on the commandeering of Harold Garver and his car for a mad rush to the Royal and a search for the missing American Farmer candidates. After two hours of fruitless searching Garver drove the Executive Advisor back to the Municipal auditorium to witness the ceremony of granting the highest degree in the national organization to the lone remaining candidate from Kansas. This year Kansas was entitled to a third American Farmer candidate, and how proud we all were to find that all three of the Kansas candidates had been approved and recommended--since thirty-five candidates were rejected by the National Board of Trustees--and here we were returning to the auditorium to see one candidate from Kansas walk to the rostrum to receive his degree and key. What an ignominious situation! Think of the blood pressure release when, about ten minutes after our return to the House of Delegates meeting, President Black announced that due to the lateness of the hour, a motion to defer the raising of the candidates to the American Farmer degree until the Tuesday morning session, would be in order.

At 5:30 p. m. the Past National F.F.A. Officers dinner was held. Andy Sundstrum presided. Twenty-six persons were present. Four past national presidents were present, Sundstrum, Jones, Shaffer, and Vernon Howell. This was a get acquainted dinner and the time was spent in introducing the past

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

officers and having each tell what he was doing. Boyd Waite, Winfield chapter, our first state president, first American Farmer, and first national officer from Kansas, was present. Your executive advisor was the only one in attendance who had no business at the meeting. Exercising our reportorial prerogative we walked in, and no one had the courage to throw us out. We found Alvin Reimer, Nebraska, and Sam Pickering, Arkansas, representing the first officer group. Gray Miley, Florida, Boyd Waite, Kansas, and Paul Zillman, Missouri, represented the second officer group. Paul was student secretary at that time and being student secretary then meant something. The national organization was growing by leaps and bounds and the student secretary had to sign the charters. His name is affixed to an estimated 2,500 charters scattered over the 47 states and Hawaii. We also learned that in 1933 the farm homes of Boyd Waite, his brother Kenneth, and his father, together with silos, barns and outbuildings were razed by a cyclone. The families escaped via the cyclone cellar route. It took courage to take the \$3,000 insurance and stage a come back, especially so when one thinks of the \$2.50 hogs, \$3.00 cattle, and 25 cent wheat prices. However, the buildings were replaced, and Boyd and Kenneth are partners with their father in operating an 800 acre bottom land farm. They have a large herd of pure bred Herefords, and this year they grew 200 acres of 30 bushel wheat. Vernon Howell, Oklahoma, had the distinction of being the first American Farmer member to be elected to a state legislature. He is now with the Oklahoma State Board of Agriculture. Howell and Charles Fitzgerald brought their wives to the banquet. Fitzgerald operates a large dairy, milking 40 cows at present. Your roving reporter was the only person present at the banquet who had had the privilege of attending all the meetings of the national organization. He enjoyed renewing acquaintances with this fine group of men, who only a few years ago were boys occupying the chairs in the National Organization of Future Farmers of America.

At 7:15 p. m. the program of the national public speaking contest was opened in the Arena. A concert by the 110 piece Utah band preceded the contest. The contest was of high quality throughout, and the contestants placed as follows:

- 1st. Jack Gunning, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
- 2nd. Bernell Simmons, Progress, Mississippi
- 3rd. David Inciong, Island of Maui, Hawaii
- 4th. John Vernard, Chehalis, Washington
- 5th. Virgil Harrison, Canal Winchester, Ohio

Jack Gunning is the lad who defeated Harmond Bear, Abilene, Kansas, at the regional public speaking contest held at Ames, Iowa, last June. Gunning's ten minute oration on George Washington was entitled "First in Agriculture".

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21: The highlights of the Tuesday sessions were: granting the American Farmer degrees, the Arena parade with the announcement of the Star Farmer awards, and the historical program held in the Arena of the Municipal auditorium in the evening. The three successful American Farmer candidates from Kansas were John Dart, Newton chapter, Arnold Sawyer,

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

South Haven chapter, and Thello Dodd, Linn chapter. Arnold Sawyer was named the Star Farmer for Kansas and received a check from the Weekly Kansas City Star for \$100.

Robert Lee Bristow, Saluda, Virginia, was declared the Star Farmer of America, and received a check from the Weekly Kansas City Star for \$500. He automatically became the Star Farmer of the Southern Region. Other American Farmers honored were: Ralph Davis, Napton, Missouri, Star Farmer of the North Central Region, and State Star Farmer of Missouri; Eugene Warren, Calico Rock, Arkansas, Star Farmer of Arkansas; J. O. Dickey, Jr., Weatherford, Oklahoma, outstanding Future Farmer of Oklahoma.*; William Stiers, Alexandria, Ohio, Star Farmer of the North Atlantic Region; Lex Murray, Santa Rosa, California, Star Farmer of the Pacific Region. An Honorary American Farmer Degree was awarded Mr. J. C. Swift, eleven years president of the American Royal. The presentation was made by President Joe Black.

The Arena parade was headed by the three F.F.A. bands from the states of Utah, Missouri and Texas. Editor W. A. Cochel of the Weekly Kansas City Star made the awards.

During the morning session the California delegates made a bid for the 1939 F.F.A. convention. The World's Fair committee offered to pay the expenses of all eastern delegates on a mileage basis from Kansas City to the coast, so that the meeting might be held at the time of the World's Fair in San Francisco in 1939. The bid was rejected, and the House of Delegates voted unanimously to make Kansas City its permanent convention home. A gavel was presented to President Black from the Georgia Association. The gavel was made from cedar from a tree planted by the late Dudley M. Hughes, co-author of the Smith-Hughes act.

The Tuesday evening program was one of the most impressive of the entire convention. This program was held in the Arena of the Municipal auditorium. A mass band concert was given. The bands were directed in turn by each of the three leaders from the states furnishing F.F.A. bands. Several special numbers were presented by individuals and groups from Utah and Texas. The hog caller from Texas pleased the crowd. Max Bruncker, cowboy yoedler from Utah, has a splendid voice and was well received. Earl Tucker, accompanied by Grinnell Skinner, Utah boys, delighted the audience with his vocal numbers. R. L. Floyd, member of the Texas band, offered a French Horn solo, which was well received. A letter from President F. D. Roosevelt to President Black was read. Dr. J. C. Wright, Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Education, Washington, D. C., addressed the group on "Twenty Years of Vocational Education". The scenario depicting the story of F.F.A. was written by W. E. Dripps of the NBC. The purpose of the F.F.A. was given by Henry Groseclose of Virginia. Sam Pickering, Arkansas, 3rd Vice President 1928-29, described the emblem. The Creed, adopted in 1929, written by E. A. Tiffany, Wisconsin, was read and discussed by Dr. J. A. Linke. The motto and how it happened to be chosen was presented by Dr. C. H. Lane. This was

*Due to the fact that the records for American Farmer candidates from Oklahoma came in late, no American Farmers were recommended from that state.

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

followed by a past officer of each of the preceding years giving a brief history of the accomplishments of the organization during the year of his incumbency. The following notes may be of interest:

- 1928-29: First Vice President Alvin Reimer, Nebraska. History of the first banquet. Eighteen states sent delegates. Closed the year \$118 in debt.
- 1929-30: Third Vice President Gray Miley, Florida. Manual adopted. Sixty-three delegates from 33 states. Colors adopted. First Star Farmer, Alden Patten, Arkansas. 30,000 members. Twenty-nine American Farmer degrees. Net worth, \$1,204. Ohio furnished an F.F.A. band. Edward Drace, Missouri, won the national public speaking contest.
- 1930-31: First Vice President Arthur Lacy, Wyoming. Forty-nine states in the National Organization, 36 sent 72 delegates. 40,000 members, 2,000 chapters. Prizes offered for F.F.A. songs. First edition of the Manual. Forty-one states entered chapter contest; Sale City, Georgia, won. Tennessee won the State Association contest. R. H. Conn, Massachusetts, won the public speaking contest.
- 1931-32: First Vice President Wallace Bryan, Tennessee. 57,000 members, 2,500 chapters. Forty-one states sent 79 delegates. 141 chapters entered the chapter contest; Deer Lodge, Montana, won. Arkansas won the state association award. First National Broadcasting Company F.F.A. Farm & Home Hour program. W. G. Searson, S. Carolina, won the public speaking contest.
- 1932-33: President Vernon Howell, Oklahoma. 62,000 members. 3,000 chapters. Forty-eight associations. Collegiate chapters provided for. Dedicated room in Thomas Jefferson home at Monticello, Virginia, with 16,000 present. Texas furnished the F.F.A. band. Louisiana won the State Association award. W. A. Broyles chapter, Park River, N. D., won the chapter contest. A. W. Richardson, Reading, Mass., won the public speaking contest.
- 1933-34: President Bobby Jones, Ohio. 3,467 chapters. 86,190 members. Hawaii won state association award. Toyack chapter, Roosevelt, Utah, won chapter contest. National F.F.A. day designated. J. Phelon Malouf, Utah, won the public speaking contest. Utah F.F.A. band.
- 1934-35: President Andrew Sundstrom, South Dakota. 3,977 chapters. 100,399 members. Mississippi the 47th state association, total of 49. Net worth \$11,000. Mont Kenney, Utah, won the public speaking contest. Shawnee Mission chapter, Kansas won the chapter contest. Utah won the state association award. Certificates furnished to all American Farmers. Texas F.F.A. band.

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

1935-36: William Shaffer, Virginia. 4,341 chapters. 117,000 members. Oil painting of the rising sun purchased. Tenth celebration committee appointed. Virginia won the state association award. Iowa Falls chapter, Iowa, won the chapter contest. Kenneth Jack, W. Virginia, won the public speaking contest. Michigan F.F.A. band.

1936-37: President Joe Black, Wyoming. 145,600 members. 5,000 chapters. Tenth Convention Celebration. Awards for the Better Chapter Contest were announced. They were: 1st, Stamping Ground, Kentucky, followed by Little Valley, New York; Fort Collins, Colorado; Stuarts Draft, Virginia; and Dardenella, Arkansas. In the State Association award, Louisiana won first, followed by Texas, Utah, Georgia, and Wyoming, in order named.

The tenth convention committee then presented each of the past presidents with a gold F.F.A. pin, surmounted by the eagle with a chip diamond between the wings of the eagle. The pin was bordered with royal blue on which was inscribed, "Past National Officer". Each of the past national officers were then presented with a similar pin, except a sapphire was used in the mounting in place of the diamond. Past and present adult national officers honored with pen and pencil desk sets were: Dr. C. H. Lane, Advisor J. A. Linke, Treasurer Henry Groseclose, and Executive Advisor W. A. Ross.

The next event was listed as "Building the Flag". A large flag of the United States of America with a blank field occupied a position immediately back of the president's station. Delegates from the state associations passed across the platform in order in which the states were chartered, and as each delegate passed the flag he pinned a star representing his state on the blank field. Virginia was first, Kansas was sixteenth, and Mississippi represented the last state chartered. This was followed with the mass bands playing the Star Spangled Banner, which in turn was followed with the closing ceremony and our salute to the flag. This historical review was by all odds the most impressive ceremony of the entire convention calendar.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20: The day was spent in considering routine reports and problems pertaining to the revision of the constitution. Since this was the date of the big banquet, with the Solomon F.F.A. chapter orchestra as guest artists, we shall describe the banquet and report on constitutional changes and other important business under the Thursday heading. Paul Chilen arrived in town in time to hear the mass band concert in the arena of the auditorium, and spent most of the night unloading. Wednesday morning was spent in placing the set and satisfying a bunch of union labor officials. It cost just \$32 to have the proper representatives of various labor groups on hand to supervise what Paul and his helpers have performed dozen of times. For a time it appeared as though another \$15 or \$25 would have to cross the palm of another labor representative who appeared and found his particular branch unrepresented. It developed that one of the

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

men "overseeing" held a card in his show, so we were permitted to proceed. The afternoon found the Solomon boys going through their paces, then to an early supper, and back on the job ready to play at 6:00 p. m. The lighting was beautiful, although the spotting was very weak. The banquet was held in Exhibition Hall, which is the basement of the auditorium, and has a floor space equal to four acres. One can surmise that the acoustics were none too good. Approximately 1,500 people were at the tables, and several hundred more listened from the mezzanine floor. The personnel of the orchestra follows:

Violin

1st. Paul Donmyer*
2nd. Paul Kelley
3rd. Elston Meek

Cello

Junior Smith

Sax

1st. George King*
2nd. Phil Hollingsworth
3rd. Norman Neaderhiser
3rd. Kenneth Eye
4th. Floyd Close

Vocal

Bill McCallum*

Comedy team: Joe Hall and Jim Burt
*Indicates those having feature parts.

Trumpet

1st. Earl Herman*
2nd. Dale Caplinger
3rd. Tim Green

Trombone

1st. Don Caplinger
2nd. Kenneth Geoffery*
3rd. Francis Fenstemacher

Drum

Raymond Wolfe*

Bass

Roger Roirdian
Ray Bottorf*

Piano

The Solomon boys performed like veterans and pleased their audience. Unfortunately the clatter resulting from a hundred waiters picking up and dumping dishes for 1500 people in the same room where the program was being presented made it difficult to hear. The desserts were placed at the conclusion of the seventeenth number and from there on, Paul and his boys had the attention and interest of the audience. When Bill McCallum began singing "Carry On Future Farmers", and the eight foot American flag began to rise up back of the set, the audience rose to its feet as a man and drowned the orchestra music with cheering and hand clapping. The state leaders and the officials from Kansas City and Washington, D. C. were generous in their praise of Paul and his fine Future Farmer orchestra. The Solomon boys have been invited back for next year, and plans are under way to have them represent Kansas on the F.F.A. Farm & Home Hour radio program over NBC.

Tenth Convention Celebration (Continued)

THURSDAY OCTOBER 21: The revision of the national F.F.A. constitution was the most important issue to come before the 1937 House of Delegates. Much time was required to read the various articles, sections, and by-laws. Copies of the proposed changes were placed in the hands of the delegates for study. Many differences of opinions were voiced, and ample opportunity for a display of parliamentary skill was given. The whole treatment of the constitutional revision problem was deliberate, thorough, and sound. The House of Delegates under the leadership of President Black is to be congratulated on the splendid manner in which this important matter was handled. Significant changes in which all are vitally interested are:

1. The State Farmer degree earnings were raised from \$200 to \$250.
2. The scholarship requirement for the American Farmer degree was lowered from "upper third" to "upper forty per cent" of the candidates class.
3. All degree emblems will be surmounted by the eagle. Green Hands will wear bronze pins, Future Farmers will be entitled to silver pins, the State Farmer will wear a charm, and the American Farmer key remains unchanged.
4. Membership in collegiate chapters may include trainees preparing to teach vocational agriculture and former active F.F.A. members who are enrolled in the institution. All collegiate members are entitled to wear an owl pin of special design.
5. While we are not positive, we think a provision was made in one of the by-laws to empower the National Advisory Council to make whatever adjustments deemed necessary in dealing with state association whose F.F.A. constitutions can not conform with the National F.F.A. constitution because of prescribed legal technicalities.

Some points not included in the adopted constitution which were up for consideration were:

Affiliate chapters. This proposal never got beyond the National Advisory Council.

National Farmer Degree. This was recommended by the National Advisory Council and was defeated on the floor. Briefly, the major requirements proposed were: Held American Farmer Degree two years, active F.F.A. member continuously for five years previous to application, successfully completed all the vocational agriculture offered in his high school, earned from farming at least \$2,000, actively affiliated with some adult farm organization, and must not have reached his 25th birthday at the time of election to the degree.

Much routine business was given attention, following which the report of the nominating committee was heard. The following officers for 1937-38 were elected:

Tenth Convention Celebration (Concluded)

President, J. Lester Poucher, Florida
1st Vice President, Eugene Warren, Arkansas
2nd Vice President, Lex Murray, California
3rd Vice President, William Stiers, Ohio
4th Vice President, Arden Burbidge, North Dakota
Student Secretary, Lowell Bland, Colorado
Advisor, J. A. Linke, Washington, D. C.
Executive Secretary, W. A. Ross, Washington, D. C.
Treasurer, Henry Groseclose, Virginia

160,000 members was the goal set for 1937-38.

Joe Black gave an inspiring address to the delegates. It was a great honor to head the Future Farmers of America during its anniversary year, and Black fully measured up to the occasion.

-- FFA --

NOTES ON THE CONVENTION

Kansas City very graciously offered the use of the new Municipal Auditorium for the Tenth Convention Celebration. This building was erected at a cost of \$6,500,000, and provides facilities for every conceivable kind of gathering. The building covers an entire block, having exterior dimensions of 419x332 feet and rises to a height equal to that of a ten story office building. The walls from granite base to parapet are of rough, rust colored limestone. The Main Arena in which all meetings of the convention, except the banquet, were held has a seating capacity of 15,000. This unit has a domed ceiling suspended without posts or pillars to obstruct the view of spectators. The arena contains 5,000,000 cubic feet of space, five times as much as can be reached by the normal human voice. Exhibition Hall in which the banquet was held offers approximately four acres of floor space. Electric trucks and tractors are provided for the rapid assembling and dismantling of exhibits and shows. The state agricultural exhibits were placed in the Little Theatre, a room of breath-taking and fairy tale beauty. A million dollar conditioning plant manufactures to order the weather in the Municipal Auditorium. The apparatus heats or cools, humidifies or dehumidifies, washes and filters all the air that enters the building. Four 350-ton compressors, capable of manufacturing 1,200 tons of ice a day, cool the building during the summer months. So large is the system that 420,000 cubic feet of fresh, pure air may be pumped into the Main Arena every minute without retarding the air conditioning service in other parts of the building. It would be possible, with capacity crowds in the larger units and committee rooms, to assemble 40,000 persons within the walls of the Auditorium at one time. And yet, because of the arrangement of exit facilities, these crowds could be discharged onto the streets in approximately eight minutes. It was a privilege to have enjoyed the beauty and utility of this magnificent building.

Notes on the Convention(Continued)

Much time was spent on the question of whether or not an American Farmer key (Honorary) was to be granted one of the adult workers of Virginia for services rendered that state association in 1936. After much wrangling, a committee was appointed to study the question and report. The committee reported adversely. Then parliamentary acumen broke loose. Some heat was engendered, but not a great deal of light. The parliamentarian ruled incorrectly on a vital issue, and by the time he got around to correcting his ruling there had been a cooling off process and a motion to table the whole mess prevailed. About half of the delegates think the key will be granted and about the same number think it will not be given. From a vantage point of less heat we will venture to suggest that the minutes of the meeting will prove that the gentleman from Virginia is entitled to his honorary American Farmer key.

The agricultural exhibit was a credit to the national organization. Nebraska exhibited native wild grasses. Kansas exhibited a glass covered outline of the state showing the Hard Red and Soft Red winter wheat areas, with a ten year average for each county, and a ten year average production figure for the state. Head samples of four leading Hard Red Winter and of four leading Soft Red Winter varieties were portrayed under glass. Good samples of wheat were used for the state background. An F.F.A. seal balanced the exhibit. Pennsylvania presented a Keystone comprised of buckwheat. Wyoming had an excellent exhibit of wool, and Arkansas presented more varieties of rice than we knew existed. Idaho exhibited 27 Russet potatoes, each weighing from 10-12 ounces. They were so uniform in size, shape, and color that one could not be distinguished from the other. Florida exhibited a variety of agricultural products including varieties of citrus fruit, avocados, coconuts, carombola, surinam cheut, tomarind, akee nut, carissa, kumquat, sapodilla, sea grape, and hog plums. How would you like to be a teacher of vocational agriculture in Florida? The House of Delegates voted to make the agricultural exhibit a permanent part of the F.F.A. convention.

We learned that we have Future Farmers of Greece, Future Farmers of Bulgaria, and Future Indian Farmers. These organizations are looking to the Future Farmers of America for guidance and inspiration. Dr. C. H. Lane projected the idea of a possibility of an international organization of Future Farmers.

Five hundred boys with their teachers showed up at one of the business firms of the city that in the past had furnished a free lunch. As this was not mentioned in the program, no free lunch was available. Moral. Get your program and read them.

In our judgment delegate Gifford of Iowa was correct in stating that the national constitution could be amended only in accordance with regulations set forth in Article VIII, Section A. One of the adult members of the national officer group stated that this was not a case of amending the constitution, but a case of revising the same. We fail to see any provi-

Notes on the Convention (Concluded)

sion in the constitution governing revision. However, since all were in favor of lifting the 75 restriction on American Farmer degrees, the advisors to the delegates decided to allow the point to ride. What's a little matter like the constitution between friends?

Oklahoma failed to have any American Farmer candidates recommended for the degree of American Farmer. Due to negligence on the part of someone the applications were several days late. A representative from that state appearing before a meeting of state advisors admitted that the state association was in error. He remarked that he was "asking for mercy, but was hoping for justice". Unfortunately for the boys concerned, they got justice.

Near the close of the House of Delegates meeting, ten dollars worth of overalls came in for a thousand dollars worth of advertising.

The Roby chapter, Texas, exemplified the ritual and conducted a model meeting.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to attend the national convention of Future Farmers of America. While we derive much pleasure from renewing acquaintances, our greatest thrill comes from meeting the delegates, American Farmer candidates, and contestants. The F.F.A. has come a long ways during the past ten years. One wonders what place it will hold in the minds and hearts of our citizens ten years hence. If the courage, judgment and intelligence of the leaders of the past ten years is a criterion for judging the calibre of leadership which will be offered this organization during the next ten years, then one need have no fear for the future of the F.F.A.

-- FFA --

NO. 127

Congratulations are in order for the Gardner chapter of Future Farmers of America. This school is the first to be chartered this fiscal year, and is one of the new departments established this year. The Gardner chapter was chartered October 12, 1937, and has a membership of ten. Marion Irwin is the vocational agricultural instructor and advisor.

-- FFA --

DUES

While dues are due as of January 1, there is no objection on the part of the State Association to receiving dues early in the school year. The dues for the year were fixed by the last House of Delegates meeting at 20¢ per member, 10¢ state and 10¢ national. Membership cards are furnished free, through this office to all members paying their state and national dues.

-- FFA --

CHAPTER NEWS

Winfield: Twenty-four tons of potatoes from three and one-half acres of ground were produced this summer on the Winfield Future Farmer potato project. This project was put out on a 50-50 basis with Herbert Olmstead, a former Winfield high school aggie. The average yield was 218.8 bushels per acre. Owing to the poor market on potatoes this year a small profit was netted by the chapter. A variety test on eight kinds of potatoes and a fertility test of nine kinds of fertilizers was conducted. The 10-52-0 fertilizer just about doubled the yield over the test plot.

The chapter now owns 13 purebred gilts which are now distributed among the members on a share basis and we figure that by the fall of 1938 we should have out 30 of these gilts. We have orders for all the gilts on our fall litters. We are now in the market for a good purebred Poland China boar. If you have anything let us know.

Sixty-seven boys are now enrolled in vocational agriculture in the Winfield high school. Sheep seem to be our major project at this time. We have shipped in 1400 head of breeding ewes for project purposes this year. A good many were purchased for farmers in the community but probably 1000 head are now in the hands of Winfield Future Farmers. Mr. John Lowe, one of our teachers and sponsors, purchased most of these for us around Sonora, Texas. These ewes were solid mouth and cost the boys \$4.70 each.

We now have a silage-beef program under way which will require a car load of feeder calves to market the sorghum projects through. If the markets are favorable we plan to purchase these calves in November or December.

--Raymond Berry, Reporter

Lawrence: The Jayhawk chapter of the F.F.A. held its first regular meeting of the new year on Wednesday, September 16. There are 51 members in the chapter this year. The officers are: Ralph Houk, president; Emil Heck, Jr., vice president; Herbert Hornberger, secretary; Harold Johann- ing, treasurer; and Lowell Penny, reporter.

The new members of the Jayhawk chapter were guests of the old members at an annual "get acquainted" water melon feed on Monday, September 20. The committee in charge was composed of Delbert Steele, Dale Babbitt, and Howard Lynch. The gathering gave the new members a chance to become acquainted with the older members.

The officers of the Jayhawk chapter attended the Sixth Annual Officers Training School held at the Shawnee Mission High School on Saturday, September 25. The officers went to their respective groups and all returned home knowing much more about their duties than they did before attending the meeting.

--Lowell Penny, Reporter

Chapter News (Continued)

Howard: Last year the school board and Mr. Bergsma, the vocational agriculture teacher rented a small farm at the edge of town. The farm is to be used for the purpose of conducting group projects in connection with vocational agriculture. A number of projects were conducted and all were completed except a beef calf project which is continuing through a part of this year.

On September 1, the Future Farmer chapter took over the management of the farm business and the officers act as an executive committee. The financing of the farm business was the first problem for consideration. It was decided to sell stock to F.F.A. members and students in vocational agriculture at \$2.50 per share and members may not purchase more than four shares. The money needed beyond that raised by the sale of stock is to be borrowed from the Howard Production Credit Bank.

The projects planned for this year are, a laying flock of 125 pullets, 8 purebred sheep, 4 acres of wheat, wheat variety tests, feed crops and complete beef calf projects.

The first meeting of our chapter was held Wednesday, September 8 at 8:00 p. m. at the vocational agriculture building. The main business of the evening was that of election of officers. The election resulted as follows: Ralph Davis, president; Robert Webster, vice president; Billy Pfrehm, secretary; Elvin Perkins, treasurer; Kenneth Calvert, reporter; Carter Hinshaw, watch dog; S. S. Bergsma, advisor. The members were treated to ice cream by the eats committee immediately following the meeting.

--Kenneth Calvert, Reporter

Beloit: Richard Tice won the \$100 Union Pacific Railroad Scholarship for the year 1937. Richard's projects consisted of sheep, beef cattle, and wheat. He graduated from the Beloit High School with the class of 1937, and will enter Kansas State College in 1938.

In a Livestock Judging contest at Mitchell County Fair, Beloit and Simpson school students placed as follows: Neal Daugherty, 1st, \$3.00; Norman Overman, 2nd, \$2.00; Robert Huffman, 3rd, \$1.00; Harold Prohaska, 4th, Ray Huffman, 5th, .75¢; Delbert Hill, 6th, .50¢; Dale Berneking, 7th, .50¢; Raymond McClure, 8th, .50¢; George R. Jones, 9th, .50¢; Maxell Williams, 10th, .50¢; Corwin Freeman, 11th, .50¢; Richard Tice, 12th, .50¢; Lowell Porter, 13th, .50¢; Gene Prewitt, 14th, .25¢.

A water melon feed was given for the new vocational agriculture students September 13. Twenty-five attended.

Our reporter, Donald Londen, has moved to Idaho.

--Reporter, Beloit chapter

Chapter News (Continued)

Morrowville: Officers of the year of 1937-38 are Jack Nutter, president; Lawrence Dodd, vice president; Charles Schwab, secretary; Paul Prellwitz, treasurer; Gerald Fencil, reporter.

Our summer program consisted of summer meetings, judging at the North Central Kansas Free Fair, an ice cream feed for the members, and a watermelon feed for the Freshmen.

Our chapter activity program is ready for final typing before being mailed.

We will hold one night meeting each month and day meetings as problems arise.

Our goal calls for every member participating in at least one sport.

Each six weeks the secretary will chart grades of each class showing comparative F.F.A. members' grades by classes.

August 30 our chapter purchased a hog house and a brooder house at Thad Hale's sale for \$25. September 15 our chapter purchased a ton of shorts to be used in future projects.

Our F.F.A. plans call for three projects this year. One has been completed. Four purebred Black Poland gilts purchased in August were fed and exhibited at the fair. We won first on litter, and first and second on gilts with \$11 premium money. After the fair the gilts were sold to local members. The project netted our organization \$29.27.

At the Washington County fair, Morrowville won first on their shop display and third on the F.F.A. booth. In vocational project books we placed in four of the first five places, having had the outstanding vocational book for five consecutive years. Lawrence Dodd was winner of first this year. Morrowville Future Farmers won six firsts in the ten shop divisions. In judging we placed first as a school, winning the \$7.00 for the department. Walter Mooren was high individual in the Junior division and Gerald Fencil took first in the Senior division. Lloyd Moore won the champion showmanship over all livestock showmen with his Duroc boar. Although premium money was reduced this year we exceeded the amount won last year. Our total winnings were \$183.25 this year.

Our F.F.A. initiation will be held immediately after the first six weeks grades are recorded.

All newly elected F.F.A. members will be awarded a trip to the American Royal. Our president, Jack Nutter, will attend the Royal again this year and we hope to have all officers attend.

--Gerald Fencil, Reporter

Chapter News (Continued)

Wakefield: The vocational agriculture department showed some of their pure-bred sheep at the Clay County fair. Tom Brown, Merle Myers, Howard Stittsworth, won two grand championships, three firsts, four seconds, and three thirds. From these prizes we won \$10 which will go to the F.F.A. treasury. We also showed some shop articles. We are planning to show the sheep at the local fair.

The F.F.A. chapter sponsored a trip for the advanced class to the Topeka fair. The class went down Monday morning and stayed all day. In the morning we watched them judge and demonstrate on livestock, and we also made the rounds of the grounds looking at the livestock. In the afternoon we attended the show in the grandstand. Some boys stayed for the evening show.

The second week of school the chapter sponsored a watermelon feed for the parents. There was all the watermelon you could eat and two of our outstanding F.F.A. boys gave talks. Also Mr. Brandenburg gave a talk on projects and plans for the year. The parents were very interested to find these boys in such an interesting activity as F.F.A.

The chapter elected officers the third week of school. They are as follows: Clarence Shandy, president; Robert Randle, vice president; Myron Bixby, secretary; Melvin Thurlow, treasurer; Merle Myers, reporter; Lester Elsasser, watchdog.

This summer the chapter had a swimming picnic party at the Clay Center park. Three of our F.F.A. boys furnished cars. We had all of the swimming we could stand first, then came the eats. Every body was present at this meeting. There was also a ball game which was interesting. The eighth grade graduates were also invited to go along.

Last summer the chapter held a project tour. After the tour we went on an all night fishing trip. Quite a few fish were caught and we might have caught more if we had not run out of bait. Everyone had a good time sleeping in a barn. We returned home the following morning.

Plans are being made to carry class projects in sheep, swine, poultry, and beef cattle this year.

We are filling our silo this week.

--Merle Myers, Reporter

Argonia: We have elected the following officers for this year: Paul Davis, president; Merle Carder, vice president; Loren Paxson, secretary; Maurice Bandy, treasurer; Emmitt Whitesell, reporter; Buddie Melonbwch, watch dog.

Members of the F.F.A. and the Home Making girls had a party September 24, for their parents and new teachers.

--Emitt Whitesell, Reporter

Chapter News (Continued)

Moundridge: Twenty-five members of our chapter and our instructor attended the State Fair at Hutchinson. Everyone enjoyed the farm machinery school and livestock work presented by Professor Bell.

A coop-sheep project was started August 21. We have 67 western ewes which are being sold to members of the chapter. The members plan to hold a fat lamb show next spring. The chapter purchased two pure-bred rams and the sheep are turned in with them until all are bred.

The first meeting of this school year was held September 14, in the Agriculture building. After this meeting which was also for the dads, we enjoyed a watermelon feed.

We are cleaning and treating seed wheat for farmers in this community. We bought a new fanning mill to aid us in this work. So far we have treated about 2,000 bushels. Along with this we have a wheat demonstration plot in with the local elevator and South-Western Wheat Improvement Association.

Election of officers was held September 23. Our new cabinet members are: Marvin Westernman, president; Rueben Zerger, vice president; Weldon Vogt, secretary; Eldon Flickner, treasurer; Clinton Krehbiel, reporter; Lawrence Harms, watch dog.

The first part of August, 15 members including the instructor, made a trip through Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Kansas. The trip was made for pleasure as well as for educational points. The boys camped out and cooked their own meals which made it possible to take this trip on \$15.00. The boys who made this trip were: Ben Wedel, Dale Galle, Gilbert Galle, Curtis Melbourne, James and Paul Studky, Dan and Harlan Goering, Walter and Clinton Krehbiel, Eldon Flickner, Martin Schrag, Jack Mulvaney, and Mr. Earl H. Johnson, our instructor.

--Clinton Krehbiel, Reporter

Auburn: The Auburn chapter held its annual election of officers at the first meeting of the school year, September 22. We will have 17 members in the chapter this year.

We spent one day at the Kansas Free Fair in Topeka. The morning we spent in the pavilion. The afternoon we went to the grandstand. After the races we looked the fair over.

The chapter put in a booth at the Auburn Grange Fair, October 1 and 2.

We have two seed-treating barrels that we have been using for treating seed wheat. We have treated 164 bushels since school started.

--Lawrence Koci, Reporter

Chapter News (Continued)

Ramona: Counting the freshmen, who are junior members, the Ramona chapter of F.F.A. now includes every boy in high school.

The second Thursday of each month has been set as the date for the evening meeting. The chapter meets in school time twice each month on alternate Fridays.

Our big job right now is planning our program of work for the coming year. Our president, Arthur Schubert, has appointed the following committee members to make the first draft of our program of work which is to be presented at our next meeting: Herman Bruns, Billy Mier, Florian Makovec, Walter Sondergard, and Oss Schubert.

Fifteen members from our chapter attended the State Fair at Hutchinson, September 20, and spent a very enjoyable day. At the judging school the seating capacity was taxed to the limit and many boys had to stand while Professor Bell gave us an interesting lecture on the principles of beef cattle selection.

The machinery school was also good but because of the crowd the boys had difficulty in seeing the demonstrations. The rodeo and the evening show at the grandstand were much enjoyed by the boys.

Officers elected last May for this year are: Arthur Schubert, president; Billy Mier, vice president; Herman Bruns, secretary; Florian Makovec, treasurer; Oswald Schubert, reporter.

The chapter has received many favorable comments on the community improvement project which they completed last May. The project was a park oven made of stone for our city park. The oven has been used on several occasions this summer and fall.

--Oswald Schubert, Reporter

Wellsville: The officers elected by the Wellsville chapter for the year are: Carey Seyler, president; Lauren Broers, vice president; Junior Crist, treasurer; William Lytle, secretary; Lesley Seyler, reporter, James Coughenour, watch dog.

Elmer McGill, a charter member of the F.F.A. chapter was fatally injured in an auto accident early this fall.

Plans are being formulated for the carrying of a swine fattening project. The chapter now has a small flock of sheep which are used as a teaching device as well as a source of income to the F.F.A. treasury.

Nineteen members of the vocational agriculture department attended the judging demonstration and races at the Topeka Free Fair. The advanced class visited the Soil Conservation demonstration area north of Ottawa, September 23. Special emphasis was placed on the wood lot demonstration, gully planting, and soil conservation through terracing.

--Lesley Seyler, Reporter

Chapter News (Continued)

Bird City: The Bird City livestock judging team consisting of Lowell Query, Clarence Robenson, and Donald Clark, competed in the livestock contest at the Thomas County Fair at Colby and placed fourth with nine teams competing.

At the N. W. Kansas Free Fair at Goodland, Donald Clark was high individual with the team placing second.

At the Rawlins County Fair Lowell Query was fifth high individual and the team placed fifth among ten teams.

The ninth year shops class is going to build shelves and cases in the City Hall for the new Community library.

The F.F.A. will make a donation to the library and be allowed to elect a representative to the library board.

Norval Harris's baby beef placed second and Donald Clark's Duroc Jersey sow and litter won \$8.00 in premiums at the Rawlins County Fair.

Lowell Query won a prize of \$4.00 by being the best "calf catcher" at the Northwest Kansas Fair. Lowell sported a badly cut chin as a result of the fray, but thought it was worth it. Jimmie Query won second money by catching and haltering his calf in second best time.

--Clarence Robenson, Reporter

Paxico: The following are the present officers of our chapter: Henry Hergert, president; Eldon Clark, vice president; Leo Muckentahler, secretary; David Karnoski, treasurer; Sherman Beasterfeld, reporter; Charles Reading, watch dog; and Mr. Loomis, advisor.

The F.F.A. members of our chapter went to the Kansas Free Fair on Monday, September 13. We had a very nice time and saw some very good livestock.

The following delegates attended the F.F.A. officers school at Shawnee Mission: Sherman Beasterfeld, Charles Reading, Winston Bartley, Harold Michaleavs, Clayton Tatt, and Mr. Loomis.

We have 30 paid up members for the year 1937-38.

In selecting a purebred Ayshire cow and calf project, Sherman Beasterfeld introduced into Wabaunsee county the beginning of the first herd of that breed.

--Sherman Beasterfeld, Reporter

Simpson: At a meeting held September 22 we elected the following officers: Harold Prochoska, president; George Jones, vice president; Corwin Frecman, secretary; Vernon Sams, treasurer; Ivan Huffman, reporter. Following the meeting, our advisor, Mr. Bradley gave us a watermelon feed. We will hold an evening meeting once a month, and will have at least two day meetings each month.

--Ivan Huffman, Reporter

Chapter News

Chanute: Our chapter held its first regular meeting September 17. The meeting was well attended with 36 of the vocational Agriculture boys present. The meeting was called to order and the following officers were elected: George Madill, president; Max Tharp, vice president; Sam Briener, secretary; Dean Smith, treasurer; Junior West, reporter; Franklin Washburn, watch dog. The election of officers was followed by talks given by Sam Briene and Junior West. Mr. Collins, our new advisor, talked on plans for the coming year. Group singing was led by Everett Gearheart and Verne McKelvy accompanied on his guitar.

Our chapter will put on a half-hour radio program Sunday, November 14 at 2:00 o'clock over KGGF, Coffeyville, Kansas.

About 45 of our Vocational Agriculture boys plan to spend two days at the American Royal.

We have made a sizable increase in our vocational agriculture enrollment having 56 members. One hundred per cent of the livestock and crops classes will belong to the F.F.A.

We are building a trailer in the shop to use on field trips and to go to near by judging contests. It will be equipped with seats, top, and side curtains, and lights.

--Junior West, Reporter

Smith Center: We had a "get acquainted" watermelon feed by our F.F.A. chapter. There were 78 boys and their dads present.

We are now having a horseshoe tournament which 68 boys have entered. We are having one game each noon.

Mr. Gilpin, our advisor and Mr. Graper, the County Farm Agent, ordered 250 Western Ewes of which the F.F.A. gets 48, and 20 go as a class project to the school.

The farm management class is making models of their farms and homes at the present time, and next spring they want to make models of how they would like to have their homes made and arranged.

Boys living out of town 25 or 30 miles are entitled to keep their projects at our school farm.

We are planning to have an electric fence demonstration.

--Dale D. Libby, Reporter

"Our deeds still travel with us from afar
And what we have been makes us what we are".