

NEWSLETTER

FUTURE FARMERS OF KANSAS

Affiliated with

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

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Winfield

Robert Paige, Reporter
Manhattan

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Volume I

February 13, 1930

Number 3

WHAT WE ARE SHOOTING AT

Each succeeding generation and every generation has its problems. The present generation of farmers is no exception. In every age and in every industry some individuals have succeeded in solving the problems and by reason of that fact have been acclaimed great. Also in every age and every industry large numbers of individuals have succeeded to a somewhat lesser degree in solving its problems and these have been looked upon as good substantial successful citizens. Here again the present generation of farmers is no exception for many, many farmers have solved their problems to the extent of being able to rear their families and accumulate enough for comfort during their declining years.

But each succeeding generation brings new problems, not necessarily more difficult problems but different problems. Different problems require different methods of solution. The problems of the farmers of tomorrow will probably not require any more intelligence than the problems of the farmer of today but the farmer of tomorrow will doubtless need a wider range of information than most farmers of today have.

Successful individuals in every age and every industry have a desire in their hearts to leave the vocation to which they have given their lives in a little better condition than they found it.

In order to prepare aspiring young farmers the better to meet the problems they will meet and have to solve, various agencies have been at work in this country to that end. Among these has come the organization of Future Farmers of America. It has come not as a protest against the failure of agricul-

turalists for they have not failed. It has come rather as a measure of preparedness. Successful agriculturalists today predict the need of an attitude of cooperation among the agriculturalists of the future and the organization of Future Farmers of America has as one of its cardinal principles, cooperation among farmers.

Everyone recognizes the need for leadership among farmers and no one who has observed closely the workings of the organization of Future Farmers of America can fail to see that it is a very effective agency in the training of leaders among young farmers. The valuable experiences they are getting in this organization were unheard of when their fathers were starting out to farm for themselves. I should say that the organization of Future Farmers of America should have for its goal the preparation of its membership to meet its problems with more confidence and solve them more effectively in order that it may render greater service rather than it shall solve its problems with less effort. There will always be problems; they will always be difficult. The more difficult they are, the greater the challenge. Let Future Farmers be prepared to meet the challenge whatever it is. - C.M. Miller, State Director.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE ADVISER

A new year always invites the making of New Year's resolutions. But, unfortunately, many such resolutions are never kept. A better plan, so it seems to me, is to consider what we are trying to do, how much progress we have made, what progress we can reasonably expect to make in the new year and what each of us can do to help accomplish the work of the new year.

The Future Farmer movement in Kansas should be available to every high school student in vocational agriculture in the state. It is not now. How about doubling the number of chapters of Future Farmers in 1930? Can we do it? Surely we can if each of us takes advantage of his opportunities to speak to others of the movement. We see others at inter-high school games, at judging contests and at other places. A few words often are the thing needed to get interest transferred into action. Let's not pass up any such opportunity!

Then how about our local programs? The programs of work adopted by most chapters in Kansas provide abundant opportunities for the work of 1930. Good meetings, tours to visit projects, banquets for parents, local publicity and the doing of our jobs

to the best of our ability every day are just some of the things we can accomplish.

Robert Paige, State Reporter, has asked that I write of the goals and achievements for 1930. Surely if we accomplish the things I have mentioned, we will have attained worthwhile goals and achievements. After all, the biggest achievement would be for each of us to do his job to the very best of his ability. If we do that, we will look back upon 1930 as one of the greatest for the Future Farmers of Kansas. - Dr. W.E. Grimes, State Adviser.

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FUTURE FARMER RALLY AT ATWOOD

The Atwood chapter of the Future Farmers of Kansas held a rally and initiation, celebrating their first annual charter day, Friday evening, October 11th. The following chapters of the order were invited to participate: Norton, Oberlin, Goodland, Colby, Norcatur, Bird City and McDonald. The boys constituting the charter members of McDonald were duly initiated as Green Hands. They were as follows: President - Claude Bell; Vice-president - Richard Cooper; Secretary - Roy Jackson; Reporter - Elmer Halligan.

The members of the Atwood chapter were hosts to their fathers as well as the out-of-town boys. In the afternoon the boys were guests of the high school at the football game between Atwood and Norton. The ceremonies began at 8:30.

After the initiation the two honorary members of the local chapter, Mr. C.A. Weber, Principal of the High School; and Mr. H.Z. Baker, President of the Farmers' Equity Cooperative Association, gave a short talk. Following them, each of the vocational agriculture teachers present gave a short address, after which the meeting was closed and refreshments served. Miss Garnet Criehtfield, the vocational home making instructor, had charge of the refreshments, assisted by Mrs. C.A. Weber, Mrs. Paul Axtell, and Mrs. A.H. Hilpert.

According to Mr. L.B. Pollom, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education in Kansas, this was the first time in the history of the Future Farmers of Kansas, that such a rally and territorial initiation had taken place. Some fifty persons were present to witness the ceremonies. - Theo Robbins, Reporter.

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CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE AUBURN CHAPTER
OF F.F.A. ARE INITIATED.

The vocational agriculture classes of the Auburn and Carbondale High Schools banqueted together at Auburn December 10. The occasion was the initiation of the eight charter members of the Auburn chapter of Future Farmers of Kansas. The Carbondale chapter, which was one of the earliest organized in the state had charge of the initiation ceremonies.

The following eight boys were initiated as charter members: Clinton Acheson, Nevin Bayless, Clarence Hollar, Upton Irwin, Glenn Meredith, Robert Nason, Donald Tillman, and Archie Renyer. The initiation services were witnessed by a large number of students and patrons of the Auburn High School. It took place in the assembly room and the candidates made "The Trip to the Run-Down Farm" in the gymnasium.

As a part of the program Lee Kaff, who is president of the Carbondale chapter and state secretary of the F.F.A., told us of his recent trip to the International Stock Show at Chicago. Clinton Perry, who was a member of the state dairy judging team also told us of their trip to St. Louis to the National Dairy Show.

The Auburn Domestic Science Department, in charge of Miss Kellner prepared and served the banquet to 48 persons. The menu consisted of fruit cocktail, creamed chicken, stuffed potatoes, head lettuce salad with mayonnaise dressing, coffee, buttered rolls, rose apples and cream puffs with chocolate dipp. The banquet was served in the ag room and the initiation ceremony followed it. The evening was a very enjoyable one and the ag boys from the two classes expressed the hope that they might get together soon on some similar occasion. - Donald Tillman, Reporter, Auburn.

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WELLSVILLE CHAPTER F.F.A.

Officers elected:

Wayne Scott, President.
Chleo Davidson, Vice-President.
Karl Seyler, Secretary.
William Murphy, Treasurer.
Chas. Shields, Adviser.
Howard Bunnell, Reporter.
Chas. Stephens, Farm Watch Dog.
Wayne Hey, First Conductor.
Glenn Collins, Second Conductor.

At a regular monthly meeting held recently twelve candidates were initiated and received the degree of Green Hand. All members of the chapter have memorized the Future Farmer creed. The chapter has a definite program of work. The Future Farmer creed and the charter is framed and hung on the wall of the vocational agriculture classroom. A large percentage of the members have major, minor and continuation projects. The local chapter hopes to have a few candidates eligible to receive the State Farmer degree in the near future. - Howard Bunnell, Reporter, Wellsville.

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MANHATTAN REPORT

The Manhattan chapter of F.F.A. is sponsoring a debate contest. The questions are:

Resolved, "That it is more desirable to seed alfalfa in the spring than in the fall", and

Resolved, "That it is more desirable to raise Shorthorn cattle for beef, than to raise Herefords."

The debate tournament is based on the elimination principal and the contest is the idea of Philip Ljungdahl and Bob Paige.

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WHAT'S IN A FIGHT?

The Future Farmer organization has come into existence in Kansas as in other states at a time when civilization is probably moving more rapidly than at any period in the history of the world. The problems of everyday life, whether on the farm or in the city, are more complex and difficult of solution than ever before. There is nothing to indicate these problems will become less complex or less difficult to solve. Advancement of civilization seems to increase the number, as well as the complexity, of problems. Probably it is well this is the case. People develop mental alertness and sturdiness of character more readily when battling with difficult problems.

One never heard of developing a strong football team by the players leading a life of physical and mental ease. Hard persistent physical and mental effort is the price paid for gridiron supremacy. Over confidence of a football team is usually rewarded with disaster. Lack of confidence is usually paralleled with lack of accomplishment. Where is the proper medium? The job of the individual and the group is to locate it as nearly as possible.

The deer, of the wilds, owes its most admirable qualities - alertness, speed and gracefulness - to its ever present problem of self preservation and sustenance. Without this ever present problem as a stimulus, the deer in a few generations would lose its admirable qualities and become a creature of weakness.

While civilization increases the number and complexity of problems, these problems are in turn the source of strength in those who battle for their solution.

So let us as Future Farmers look upon the problems of our generation not as something at which to become discouraged or to be avoided, but as a challenge to the best that is in us and glory in the fact that we have a strength developing character-building battle to fight. The kind of fight we wage will determine the quality and quantity of our service to mankind. - Lester B. Pollom, State Supervisor.

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FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA IN THEIR FIRST YEAR

During the recent National Convention of the American Vocational Association some three hundred busy vocational agriculture workers stopped in their program of speeches, problems and theory and listened very attentively to the reports and plans on the Future Farmer Movement. In fact these men became so interested that several large committees got to work and accomplished a lot for the future. Every one there was impressed with the favorable progress made in the first year of this organization's existence. Reports all indicated that the idea behind the work is both attractive to the boys and to the general public. The words "Future Farmers" is in itself attractive and catchy.

Prof. Henry Groseclose of Virginia, National Executive Secretary, was present and gave brief summarizations and reviews of the outstanding achievements during the year. He stated that

The organization had over 30,000 members, had organized in more than thirty states, Illinois alone will have by first of year over 4,000 paid up memberships, application for Federal charter pending, and plans under consideration for a national F.F.A. magazine. Also national dramatic contest planned for Future Farmers, and had received much favorable publicity both national and in respective states.

Kansas has furnished hard working committeemen for the various committees that have done so much for furthering this work. Our Professor Davidson served on one of these national committees. Kansas has more than kept pace in this movement. However there is much left to be done. Kansas has over 100 departments but only about twenty-five chapters are organized. Kansas has over twenty-five hundred boys actively studying agri-

culture and that many more who have completed the work and are still interested in agricultural education. However, we have only about 700 members in Kansas. If Kansas is to keep her high rank in agricultural education, our Future Farmers of Kansas must keep up with the pace. - Henry W. Schmitz, Adviser, Manhattan Future Farmer Chapter.

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We sincerely thank all who have contributed news to our paper. It helps make it interesting. - State Reporter.

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