

NEWSLETTER

FUTURE FARMERS OF KANSAS

Affiliated with

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Lewis Evans, President  
Washington

Frank Sawyer, Reporter  
Atwood

Byron Brownell, Vice-President  
Concordia

W.E. Grimes, Adviser  
Manhattan

Maurice Humes, Sec.-Treas.,  
Beloit

A.F. Davidson, Executive  
Adviser  
Manhattan.

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\* SEND IN THE NEWS \*  
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\* It is very difficult to make up a news letter \*  
\* without news. I would appreciate it very much \*  
\* if each local chapter would report news on the \*  
\* blanks promptly. \*  
\* Frank Sawyer, State Reporter. \*  
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THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE

The American Farmer degree is the highest degree in the organization of Future Farmers of America. It is a position that commands respect from anyone who knows the significance of it. It is an exclusive position and should be the goal of every wide awake and conscientious Future Farmer. The standards of the degree are set high because we want the position to mean something to those who are elected each year. As you will notice in the qualifications for the American Farmer degree, leadership, scholarship, and project work are outstanding. The accomplishments of some of the boys elected this year were such that many farmers would be proud to have equalled. If Kansas obtains a total membership of over one thousand by next year, she will be entitled to two candidates for the American Farmer degree.

Lewis Evans.

AMERICAN ROYAL NOTES

The F.F.A. house of delegates at Kansas City adopted a ruling that no Future Farmer could be raised to the degree of State Farmer and to the degree of American Farmer in the same school year. Some states raise their State Farmers in the fall prior to the Kansas City meetings. Those fortunate enough to be elected American Farmers were being raised two degrees the same school year. The new ruling will prevent this practice.

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Leslie Fry, Louisiana, Missouri, is the new president of the Future Farmers of America. This young man had a high school grade record of 94. He was president and secretary of the Missouri Future Farmers. He owns twelve head of livestock, has a partnership with his father and rents eighty acres of land. Leslie was a distinguished high school debater and public speaker, and this training will stand him in good stead in conducting the annual national F.F.A. meetings.

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Lewis Evans, President of Kansas Future Farmers, brought favorable recognition and honor to the state in being elected to the degree of American Farmer. (He was also chosen "Star Farmer of Kansas".) The record of this high school farm boy which was sent in to the national executive committee of the F.F.A. by the Kansas Future Farmer executive committee follows. Read it carefully. Think! A fine cooperative spirit on the part of his parents, able leadership, and a will to do on the part of the boy are factors which make this record possible.

"Lewis is interested primarily in dairying along with the production of beef calves and the growing of corn. His labor income from his three years' project work amounted to over \$600.00. His investments in farming and his savings amount to over \$800.00. His report states that he has been responsible for the terracing of 30 acres of land on his father's farm, feeding of balanced rations to the dairy herd, the keeping of dairy records, and for starting a soil management program on the home farm.

"He has been active in school affairs, has been class president, president of the local F.F.A., president of the National Honor Society, member of the Athletic Honor Society, Forensic Club, orchestra, on the track team and basketball team, and a member of the town band. He has also shown ability in stock judging, having been high individual in the state contest in 1930 and second high individual in the state dairy contest in 1930. He was elected president of the Kansas Future Farmers. Lewis has shown unusual ability as a student, having won a scholarship letter three years with an average of 95 maintained in all school subjects."

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A buffet supper was held at the Shrine Temple, Tuesday, November 18, at 6 o'clock. There were about twelve hundred Future Farmer boys at the supper. The Marion County, Ohio, F.F.A. Band played several selections and then everybody sang Future Farmer songs.

Street cars were chartered to take all the boys to the American Royal Building, where they organized for the parade.

The Marion County, Ohio, F.F.A. Band led the parade with the Future Farmer March; next came some twenty-five head of baby beeves typifying the project program; then the forty-nine boys who had won the American Farmer degree, from whom were to be chosen the "Star American Farmer" and the seven "Star Farmers"; twelve hundred boys marching four abreast followed.

After this procession marched around the arena, prizes were awarded by Mr. Cochel, representing the Kansas City Star. David Johnson of Ridgeway, New Jersey, was declared the "Star American Farmer" and received a \$1000 prize. Lewis Evans of Washington, Kansas, President of Kansas Future Farmers, was declared the "Star Farmer of Kansas" and received a \$200 scholarship.

Frank Sawyer, State Reporter.

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Last spring the Hill City team won first place in the livestock division of the state contest at Manhattan. This gave us the privilege of representing Kansas in the national contests at the American Royal. There were two contests, livestock judging and meat identification.

The livestock judging contest was held in the morning of November 17. There were eight classes, two of horses, two of beef cattle, two of sheep, and two of hogs. Score cards were used. We are sorry to report that we placed near the bottom in this contest.

The meat identification contest was held in the afternoon the same day. There were twenty-five cuts of meat to identify. We had to give the name of the cut and the kind of carcass it came from. We placed ninth in this contest.

There were thirty-two teams entered in livestock judging and about twenty-five in meat identification. Illinois won first place in both contests.

We had a very nice trip and we think it was well worth while. We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks for the loyal support of the vocational agriculture departments of the state of Kansas. Yours for better judging,

Robert Griffith, Reporter  
Hill City.

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The matter of the official Creed for F.F.A. came before the house of delegates at the Future Farmer meeting in connection with the Royal. The creed printed in the F.F.A. Manual is not official. In some manner an error was made in compiling this material and the American farm boy creed substituted for the official F.F.A. creed. The official creed of the F.F.A. is the same as the one embodied in the mimeograph material sent out from state headquarters.

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The present supply of F.F.A. manuals is exhausted. A new manual is being printed and will be available at an early date.

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Did you listen in on the National Future Farmer Public Speaking Contest? If not, you are the loser. The arguments were sound, the English near perfection, and the diction faultless. Ed. Drace, Bill Smith, Bob Jones and Dave Warfield, representing the four regions of the United States and finishing in the order listed, deserve much credit for demonstrating to the citizens of our country the high quality of attainment in the field of public speech. Senator Capper appeared well pleased, and announced the continuance of the contest for the next school year.

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The house of delegates of the F.F.A. at Kansas City adopted a uniform, but left the wearing of this uniform optional with the states and chapters. Pool Manufacturing Company, Sherman, Texas, was given the contract to furnish uniforms. The price of this uniform is: oversea cap, 50¢; shorts \$2.00; pants, \$2.45; Necktie, 80¢. The uniforms are in the national colors, blue and gold. The tie is gold. The shirt resembles somewhat the army shirt in design; trousers are regular. Colors are guaranteed.

The uniforms are used to considerable extent in several states. Sentiment was not strong for the use of a uniform at the Kansas City meeting. The principal use seemed to be in connection with special occasions. Some chapters wear them for regular school purposes. Soiled and unpressed uniforms do not add much dignity.

However the uniform is official.

Cheap F.F.A. caps will be available again at next year's national congress in Kansas City in order to assume uniformity.

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The Star Farmer contest received much deserved publicity throughout the week of the Royal. The programs of work of the winners are worthy of your careful study. Leadership, scholarship and project program constituted the principal factors involved in selecting these young men.

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The vocational Live Stock Show this year was larger and better than ever before. The quality of the livestock was greatly superior to that shown in past years and the number exhibited was somewhat greater. The schools from Kansas making outstanding exhibits were: Marysville, Waterville, Shawnee Mission, and Manhattan. The champion beef steer was shown by Lester Schlagle from Missouri. The champion barrow was shown by Gerald Doak of Missouri. The winning fat lamb was shown by Frank Marcy of Manhattan. Later in the week this high quality live stock was sold in an auction sale. The fat Angus steer of the vocational show sold for 50¢ per lb. He was finally made junior reserve champion. The fat barrow, also junior champion, sold for 21¢ per lb. as did the champion lamb. Many vocational agriculture boys showed their project livestock in the open classes where they gave good account of themselves and won many prizes.

Darrell Morcy, Reporter  
Manhattan.

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One of the high points of the National Future Farmers' Congress was the first National Public Speaking Contest. This contest was held at the Shrine Temple. The music for the program was furnished by the F.F.A. Band of Marion, Ohio. The four contestants in this program were winners of elimination contests held in the four districts of the United States. Mr. John F. Case, editor of the Missouri Ruralist, introduced each contestant and at the conclusion of the orations, he introduced Senator Arthur Capper, who sponsored the contest. Senator Capper made a short but interesting and impressive talk after which he announced the winners and awarded the prizes.

Edward Drace, Keytesville, Missouri, won first; William Smith, Mt. Zion, Georgia, second; Robert Jones, Hooper, Utah, third; and David Wafrield, Jr., Muddy Creek Forks, Pa., fourth. Each oration was well prepared and well delivered, and each boy was worthy of the award he received. The audience was hardly as large as it should have been, but what it lacked in numbers was made up by the attention it gave each speaker and the interest it showed in each oration.

This first oratorical contest was a fine beginning and it was a big step in the right direction toward developing the boys' ability of self-expression.

Watson, Weniger, Reporter  
Kingman.

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Have you read about the Rotary Combine Milking System used on the Walker Gordon Farms, Plainsboro, N.J.? Articles on this system may be found in the December issue of Breeders Gazette, December issue of Better Farm Equipment and Methods, and other journals. Stimulating, to say the least.

Northwest Kansas to Organize a  
District Association of Future Farmers

A meeting was held at Atwood on November 12 to consider plans for a northwest Kansas District Future Farmer Association for the purpose of tying up more closely the Future Farmer Chapters now active in the district.

Atwood, Colby and McDonald had delegates at the meeting. Other chapters will be invited to come in as the association progresses.

The following officers were elected:

- President . . . . . Elbert Lyman, McDonald
- V. Pres. . . . . Frank Sawyer, Atwood
- Treasure. . . . . Harry Robinson, Colby
- Secretary. . . . . Gail Wederski, Atwood
- Watch Dog . . . . . Wayne Trail, Colby
- Reporter. . . . . Claude Bell, McDonald
- Adviser . . . . . A. H. Hilpert, Atwood

Several committees were appointed: one on standards to be set up, an executive committee, and an advisory committee. The next meeting will be held at Atwood, January 19, 1931 when further plans will be made.

A. H. Hilpert  
Advisor, Atwood Chapter

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### Future Farmers Active at Miltonvale

The Miltonvale Future Farmers held their regular monthly meeting November 3, 1930. Nine new members were initiated as Green Hands. The members have been helping beautify lawns and planning parkings for people living on North 40 and in this way they have been earning money to pay for their banner. Ray Hauch, one of the members, was high individual at the Central Kansas Free Fair at Abilene, winning two medals and a free trip to the American Royal and \$5 toward expenses. Dana Winsett placed second in swine judging and won a silver medal. Our members also won a 14" silver loving cup at the Ottawa County judging contest.

Leslie Collins, Reporter.

### Atwood Chapter Makes Good Record

The eighteen projects of the first year's work of the Atwood Future Farmers were completed, and a total income of \$2699 was made.

The F.F. Barnwarmer, a joint party with the members of the home economics department has proven so successful that it has been decided to make it an annual affair.

The chapter held initiation for four new members, September 6. The ritual was carried out in full. Refreshments were served.

Nine boys accompanied their adviser, A. H. Hilpert, to Kansas City to attend the Future Farmer activities at the American Royal.

Herman Foche, Reporter.

### Manhattan Future Farmers Initiate Neighbors

On November 13 the Manhattan Future Farmers initiated officers from six neighboring chapters into the Future Farmer degree. Officers from the following chapters were present to receive the work: Wamego, St. George, Frankfort, Blue Rapids, Ramona, Westmoreland.

The Green Hand degree was given twenty-four new members and the initiation was held on an abandoned farm near Zeandale.

The Future Farmers cooperated in the annual county fair and are planning next year on sponsoring a judging contest.

Darrell Morey, Reporter.

### Colby Future Farmers Charter Pickwick Bus

The Colby chapter together with the Atwood chapter chartered a Pickwick bus to make the trip to the Future Farmer convention at the American Royal.

This chapter is beginning to lay plans for the Colby regional judging contest.

Roy Robinson, Reporter.

Carbondale Future Farmers View Movies

A father and son banquet was held early in December. A.P. Davidson addressed the group and showed the Future Farmer film and the Class Project film. The boys had an opportunity to see themselves in the movies, as the chapter's poultry class project was a part of the film.

Winfield Chapter Honors Kenneth Waite

The November meeting of the Winfield Future Farmers was given over to honoring Kenneth Waite. The State Farmer key was presented by the state executive adviser of Future Farmers. Kenneth won second place in the regional Public Speaking Contest at St. Louis, being defeated by Edwin Drace, who later won first place in the National Contest at Kansas City.

Harper Future Farmers Plan Father Son Banquet

The Future Farmer boys are planning a father and son banquet for December 31, at which time the State Farmer key will be presented to Wayne Jacobs. Wayne is a freshman at K.S.A.C. this fall, and the Harper chapter will make the award during the Christmas holidays in order that Wayne may be present.

The Harper chapter held initiation, November 3, for seven new members.

Supervisor Pollom addressed the chapter, October 30.

Harper chapter was host to ten judging teams at the Harper Co. Fair, October 22.

Arthur Jacobs was awarded the Missouri Pacific trip to Kansas City.

Marion Brown, Reporter.

Shawnee Mission Future Farmers Banquet Parents

The second annual Parents' Supper was given in the high school auditorium by members of F.F.A. for their parents. Eighty-one parents, members and guests were present. The tables were decorated in autumn colors, and the stage with the electric emblem of F.F.A. Girls from the home economics department served the two course meal. John New, Jr., chapter president, welcomed the parents and Mr. E. T. McGaw responded for the parents. Mr. B. C. Biggerstaff gave a short talk. A. L. Berger gave the principal speech in which he compared European systems of education with American, as observed on his last summer's trip abroad. William Trager was toast master. Other boys on the program with music and reading were Fred Klausen, Earl Fitzjarrel, Milton McGrew, and Forrest Trager. At the close of the program two films showing the state judging contest at Manhattan were shown.

The Shawnee-Mission chapter met recently and initiated fourteen Green Hands. Members and candidates met at the vocational agriculture shop where they boarded trucks and were taken to the farm of J.D. New, father of John New, Jr., the chapter president. Candidates were blindfolded for the trip, being led to believe they were being taken "for a ride" into Kansas City. The "run down" farm was a hog lot with real pigs in it, and an old unused farm

Shawnee Mission (Cont.)

building on the New farm. After leading the candidates with proper admonitions through the herd of squealing pigs, over fences, and beside a running stream, they were taken to a clearing where the blind-folds were removed. The balance of the evening at the New farm was spent with a wienie roast and a snipe hunt. After fortifying themselves for the ordeal to come, the candidates were taken back to the vocational agriculture classroom where the ceremony was given for the Green Hand degree.

The November meeting of the Shawnee-Mission P.T.A. featured the vocational agriculture of the high school. The purpose and program of the local chapter of Future Farmers of America was explained in a short talk by Forrest Trager, last year's school representative at the state oratorical contest. Benson McGaw explained the Capper Club which the Shawnee-Mission F.F.A. is sponsoring. Mr. George Catts, Agriculture commissioner of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce spoke. The stage was appropriately decorated with an electrically lighted F.F.A. emblem and a display of ribbons and trophies won by boys of the department. Following the program refreshments were served in the vocational agriculture classroom by mothers of Aggie boys.

Winfred Totton, Reporter.

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Something to Think About

With times difficult, prices high for what we have to buy and ruinously low for what we have to sell; with drought, insects and disease taking their toll; and with project plans going awry, we are likely to become discouraged and want to throw over the job, run away from responsibilities, go some place where better opportunity offers. Before we dispose of our projects and pack our grips for the trip to Elysian fields, let us consider the following poem taken from H. M. Railsback's "Songs of the Soil":

No bread line's on our eighty,  
No kitchen dolin' soup,  
No hunger problems weighty,  
No starvin', wide-eyed group  
Awaitin' blasts that summon--  
(The fact'ry whistle-call)  
When wheels will start a-hummin',  
And furnish work for all.

The world e'er will be needin'  
The products of our soil.  
Demand will be exceedin'  
The yield, soon, of our toil.  
There can't be any reapin'  
Unless some sowin's done--  
By fightin' -- not by weepin'  
The battle's always won.