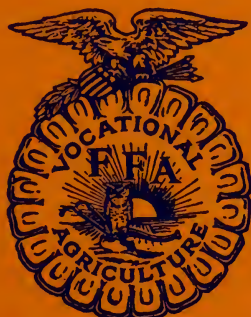


NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-FOUR

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION



Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

FUTURE FARMERS of AMERICA

HELD AT
MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM
KANSAS CITY - MISSOURI

October 8-11, 1944

*Prepared and published by the Future Farmers of America
in cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education,
Federal Security Agency*

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MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS



NATIONAL OFFICERS, 1943-44
Constituting the
NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT-----ROBERT BOWMAN
 Buttonwillow, California

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT-----O. BEVERLEY ROLLER
 Weyers Cave, Virginia

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT-----RALPH H. SALZMAN
 Ashton, Illinois

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT-----ARTHUR E. CLIFFORD
 Bristol, Vermont

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT-----ROBERT BARTHELMESS
 Olive, Montana

STUDENT SECRETARY-----BYRON FREEMAN
 Westboro, Missouri

ADVISER-----W. T. SPANTON
 Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-----A. W. TENNEY
 Washington, D. C.

TREASURER-----D. J. HOWARD
 Winchester, Virginia

PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT-----MARVIN JAGELS
 Buhl, Idaho

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL, 1943-44

W. T. SPANTON, Chairman, U. S. Office of Education, Vocational Division,
 Washington, D. C.

H. B. SWANSON, U. S. Office of Education, Vocational Division,
 Washington, D. C.

J. H. PEARSON, U. S. Office of Education, Vocational Division,
 Washington, D. C.

D. M. CLEMENTS, U. S. Office of Education, Vocational Division,
 Washington, D. C.

E. J. JOHNSON, U. S. Office of Education, Vocational Division,
 Washington, D. C.

R. E. CAMMACK, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education,
 Montgomery, Alabama

J. M. LOWE, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education,
 Charleston, West Virginia

L. M. SASMAN, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education,
 Madison, Wisconsin

A. W. JOHNSON, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education,
 Bozeman, Montana

INTRODUCTION

The Future Farmers of America is the national organization of boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts. Launched at Kansas City in November, 1928, the organization has continued to develop rapidly. On June 30, 1944, the active membership totaled 204,175 in 6,502 local chapters of 47 States, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico.

The primary aim of the Future Farmers of America organization is the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation, citizenship, and patriotism. Other purposes include: strengthening the confidence of farm boys and young men in themselves and their work; more intelligent choice of farming occupations; creating and nurturing a love of country life; improving the rural home and its surroundings; encouraging cooperative effort; encouraging thrift; improving scholarship; providing organized recreational activities for rural people; and supplementing, by means of boy-initiated and boy-directed activities, the systematic instruction offered to prospective young farmers regularly enrolled in day-school vocational agriculture courses.

The Future Farmers of America organization of voluntary membership has taken its place with other agencies interested in the upbuilding of agriculture, the improvement of country life, *and the winning of the war*. National Headquarters of the Future Farmers of America is located in the U. S. Office of Education, Federal Security Agency, Washington 25, D. C. National conventions are held annually at Kansas City, Missouri.

The "streamlined" Seventeenth National Convention of the Future Farmers of America was held at the Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri, October 9, 10, and 11, 1944. Delegates were present from 45 chartered associations. The total registration was only 423 as compared to over 6,000 in 1941. This voluntary decrease was made in the interests of relieving transportation facilities, as well as saving tires, gasoline, and money during wartime.

These Proceedings constitute a yearbook on organization activities. The complete minutes of the Convention sessions are included along with certain other important material which is supplementary to or explanatory of the Convention activities. Press releases, as well as certain newspaper accounts, were used in compiling parts of this publication. Thanks are due Mr. D. L. MacDonald, Mr. J. H. Pearson, Mr. D. M. Clements, Mr. E. J. Johnson, Mr. J. L. Perrin, Mr. G. C. Cook, Mr. Howard McClarren, and Miss Dorothy J. Souder for their assistance in the preparation of material for this publication.

A. W. TENNEY,
National Executive Secretary.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
National Directory.....	Inside Cover
Official Delegate List.....	VI
Program	VIII
Minutes of the 17th National Convention:	
Monday, October 9.....	11
Tuesday, October 10.....	17
Wednesday, October 11.....	19
Committee Reports:	
American Farmer Applications.....	24
Auditing	25
Chapter Contest	25
Farm Mechanics.....	26
F.F.A. Foundation.....	26
Manual	26
Merchandise	27
Nominating	28
Proceedings	28
Program of Work.....	29
Public Relations.....	36
Public Speaking Contest.....	37
Radio Program.....	37
Resolutions	38
Special Convention Report:	
National F.F.A. Camp.....	42
National Student Officer Reports.....	45
Report of National Executive Secretary.....	56
Report of the National Treasurer.....	66
Awards and Contests.....	72
Star Farmer Awards.....	73
The Chapter Contest.....	80
Citations for Honorary American Farmers.....	90
Farm Mechanics Awards.....	94
Public Speaking Contest.....	99

OFFICIAL DELEGATES

Alabama	Louie Chapman Rt. 2, Midland City, Ala.	Thad Salmon Auburn, Ala.
Arizona	Louis Tryon Tempe, Ariz.	Alvin Browning Willcox, Ariz.
Arkansas	Denver Johnson Leachville, Ark.	Bobby Miller Paragould, Ark.
California	Marvin Cassady, Jr. Gridley, Calif.	Eugene Starkey Coming, Calif.
Colorado	Clyde Brunner Arvada, Colo.	William Norton Holly, Colo.
Connecticut	Francis Lutwinas Thompsonville, Conn.	William Russell Brookfield, Conn.
Delaware	Ralph Draper Greenwood, Dela.	Wilson Webb Ellendale, Dela.
Florida	Howard Rogers R. F. D., Bonifay, Fla.	Grant Godwin Rt. 1, Atmore, Ala.
Georgia	Glenn Dorris Douglasville, Ga.	Robert Dees Moultrie, Ga.
Idaho	Roger Vincent Filer, Idaho	Milan Bush Rt. 1, Malad, Idaho
Illinois	Dwight Zehr R. R. 1, Normal, Ill.	Glyndon Stuff R. R. 3, Polo, Ill.
Indiana	Dick Balser West Lafayette, Ind.	Roger Doerstler Cambridge City, Ind.
Iowa	Vernon Paustian Tipton, Ia.	Wayne Walters Mount Ayr, Ia.
Kansas	Irwin Alefs Great Bend, Kan.	Jack Hall Tecumseh, Kan.
Kentucky	Robert S. Smith Hodgenville, Ky.	Robert Cleveland Pleasureville, Ky.
Louisiana	Ewell Paul Roy Hessmer, La.	John Brister, Jr. Sikes, La.
Maine	Richard Ward Limestone, Me.	Richard Saunders Monmouth, Me.
Maryland	George C. Fry Laytonsville, Md.	J. Homer Remsberg Middletown, Md.
Massachusetts	Edward Lynch, Jr. 162 Abbott St., Lawrence, Mass.	Norman D. Erickson 363 Lincoln St., Worcester, Mass.
Michigan	Donald Allen Williamston, Mich.	A. J. Robinson Decatur, Mich.
Minnesota	Sigvald J. Sandberg Ortonville, Minn.	Albert Wines Mountain Lake, Minn.
Mississippi	William Morgan Morgan City, Miss.	Frazier Landrum Rt. 2, Mize, Miss.
Missouri	Charles Hoffman Trenton, Mo.	Edgar Cline, Jr. Memphis, Mo.
Montana	Gene Coombs Laurel, Mont.	Oscar Donisthorpe Christina, Mont.

Nebraska-----	Bob Beck-----	Lloyd Bevans-----
	Fremont, Neb.	Waverly, Neb.
Nevada-----	Amelio Bell-----	Virgil Getto-----
	Fallon, Nev.	Fallon, Nev.
New Jersey-----	Samuel Patrick-----	Elwood Fox-----
	Salem, N. J.	Salem, N. J.
New Mexico-----	Lonnie Beyer-----	Fred Bamert, Jr.-----
	Mesilla Park, N. Mex.	Las Cruces, N. Mex.
New York-----	Donald Martin-----	Stanley Sturgess-----
	Perry, N. Y.	South Kortright, N. Y.
North Carolina-----	John Tart-----	Franklin Quinn-----
	State College, Raleigh, N. C.	R.F.D. 1, Seven Springs, N. C.
North Dakota-----	John Colby-----	Osborne J. Arlien-----
	Velva, N. Dak.	Pleasant Lake, N. Dak.
Ohio-----	Lloyd Householder-----	John Spreng-----
	Bremen, Ohio, Rt. 1	Rt. 2, Bucyrus, Ohio
Oklahoma-----	Ray Tucker-----	James Slatten-----
	Finley, Okla.	Cordell, Okla.
Oregon-----	Reed Vollstedt-----	Delmer Eisert-----
	Rt. 4, Albany, Oreg.	Rt. 3, Box 929, Portland 6, Oreg.
Pennsylvania-----	David B. Jameson-----	Boyd R. Mellott-----
	New Castle, R. D. 5, Pa.	Warfordsburg, Pa.
South Carolina-----	William Price-----	Douglas Barfield-----
	Gaffney, S. C.	Westville, S. C.
South Dakota-----	Robert Koller-----	Dean Sanderson-----
	Parker, S. Dak.	Aurora, S. Dak.
Tennessee-----	Billy McClain-----	Tom Vaughan-----
	Nolensville, Tenn.	Yorkville, Tenn.
Texas-----	Keesey Kimball-----	Lynn Foster-----
	Alpine, Tex.	Meridian, Tex.
Utah-----	Eugene Sanford-----	Merrill J. Hallam-----
	Delta, Utah	Spanish Fork, Utah
Vermont-----	Neal Tarbox-----	Frederick Kinsey-----
	Orleans, Vt.	Barton, Vt.
Virginia-----	George B. Baggarly-----	Jerome Gagner-----
	Front Royal, Va.	Franklin, Va.
West Virginia-----	Howard Dorsey-----	James Lewis-----
	Summersville, W. Va.	Kaylong, W. Va.
Wisconsin-----	Orville Murphy-----	Delbert Myren-----
	Cushing, Wis.	Rt. 3, Eau Claire, Wis.
Wyoming-----	Eugene Perkins-----	Al Asay-----
	Sheridan, Wyo.	Lovell, Wyo.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 THROUGH SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Executive Sessions, F. F. A. National Board of Trustees, President Hotel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:00 A. M.—Executive Session, F. F. A. National Advisory Council, President Hotel.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00 A. M.—Executive Session, Board of Trustees, Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated, President Hotel.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:00 A. M.—Registration, Grand Foyer, Municipal Auditorium.

2:00 P. M.—Meeting of F. F. A. State Advisers, President Hotel.

6:30 P. M.—Get-together Dinner, National F. F. A. Officers and Delegates, Aztec Room, President Hotel.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:00 A. M.—Registration, Grand Foyer, Municipal Auditorium.

9:00 A. M.—Opening Session, 17th National Convention of F. F. A., Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

Opening ceremony

Invocation

Music or entertainment

Report on delegate credentials

Roll call of States and seating of delegates

Address of Welcome

Minutes of the 16th Convention

Officers' Reports—

President

Vice Presidents (in order of seniority)

Student Secretary

Treasurer

Executive Secretary

Adviser

Nominations for the American Farmer Degree

Appointment of constitutional committees

Announcements

1:30 P. M.—Second Session, F. F. A. National Convention, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

Call to order

Music or entertainment

Special reports

Greetings from guests

Unfinished business

Election of active and Honorary American Farmers

Raising of active members to Degree of American Farmer

Announcements

Closing ceremony

8:00 P. M.—“Award Night” Program, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.
Special American Farmer Awards
Star Farmer Awards
Conferring Honorary American Farmer Degrees
Farm Mechanics Award
Chapter Contest Awards
J. A. Linke Award
Entertainment

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

National F. F. A. Day

9:00 A. M.—Third Session, F. F. A. National Convention, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

Opening ceremony
Music or entertainment
Announcements
Reports (continued)
Unfinished business (continued)
New business
Address

1:30 P. M.—Fourth Session, F. F. A. National Convention, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

Call to order
Music or entertainment
Announcements
Appointment of special committees
Committee work

8:30 P. M.—F. F. A. National Public Speaking Contest, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

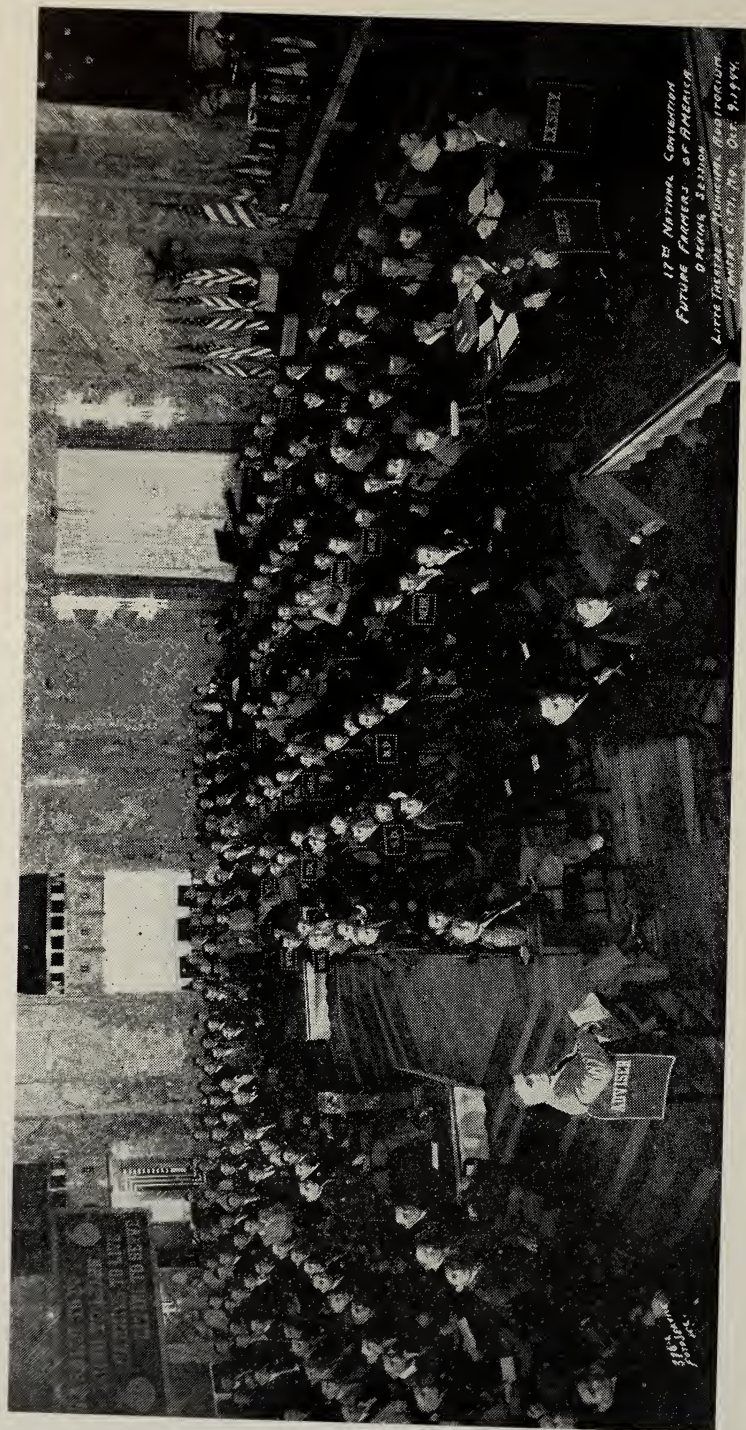
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

9:00 A. M.—Fifth Session, F. F. A. National Convention, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.

Opening ceremony
Music or entertainment
Address
Committee reports
New business (continued)
State reports
Address by retiring president
Election of officers
Signing of scroll by new officers
Greetings by incoming officers
Presentation of past officers' pins and certificates
Closing ceremony and convention adjournment

4:30 P. M.—Joint Executive Session, 1943-44 and 1944-45 F. F. A. National Boards of Trustees. (Place to be announced.)

6:30 P. M.—Annual Banquet. Guests of Kansas City, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce, President Hotel. (Tickets obtained at time of registration.)



17th National Convention
Future Farmers of America
District Session
Little Theatre - Municipal Auditorium
Chicago, Ill., Oct. 9, 1934.

1934

Minutes of the Convention

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1944

Morning Session

The Seventeenth National Convention of the Future Farmers of America convened at 9 o'clock in the Little Theater of the Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Missouri, President Robert Bowman of Buttonwillow, California, presiding. First Vice President O. Beverley Roller; Second Vice President Ralph H. Salzman; Third Vice President Arthur E. Clifford; Fourth Vice President Robert Barthelmess; Student Secretary Byron Freeman; Adviser W. T. Spanton; Executive Secretary A. W. Tenney; and, Treasurer D. J. Howard were present.

Following the regular opening ceremony, President Bowman called upon Past President Marvin Jagels to pronounce the invocation.

Musical selections were rendered by Clifford Litka and Rodney Houghton of California.

The Georgia delegate, Glenn Dorris, was recognized and presented President Bowman with a gavel made from a magnolia tree from the farm of the late Honorable Dudley M. Hughes, in memory of two Georgia statesmen, Senator Hoke Smith and Honorable Dudley M. Hughes of the House of Representatives, originators of the Smith-Hughes Act.

The report of the Committee on Credentials was then called for and Student Secretary Freeman reported 84 official delegates present from 42 chartered associations. The roll call and seating of the delegates followed.

The address of welcome was given by Mr. L. P. Cookingham, City Manager of Kansas City, Missouri.

Vice President Roller assumed the chair. The next order of business was officer reports. President Bowman presented his report which was approved as read. The President resumed the chair.

The rules were suspended and Student Secretary Freeman read a telegram of greeting from Past Vice President George Stelter of Kansas.

The minutes of the Sixteenth National Convention as read by Student Secretary Freeman were approved unanimously in their entirety.

The reports of Vice Presidents Roller, Salzman, Clifford, and Barthelmess, and Student Secretary Freeman were approved as read. The reports of Treasurer Howard and Executive Secretary Tenney were adopted as read.

Adviser Spanton presented his report and concluded by reading the list of those recommended to receive the Degree of American Farmer. Those nominated were as follows:

(From the Active Membership)

Alabama

Alton Lowe, Route 2, Oneonta
Martin Moates, Route 1, Enterprise
W. C. Myrick, Jr., Route 2, Lyerly,
Ga.

Arizona

Joe A. Lamb, Route 2, Box 113,
Mesa

Arkansas

Ewell Ray Coleman, Dowdy
Dean Evans, R.F.D. 1, Fountain Hill
D. W. Harris, Nola
Marvest Lawson, Calico Rock

California

Floyd Bidwell, McArthur
Marvin J. Cassady, Jr., R.F.D. 1,
Gridley
Arthur Vernon Conrad, Route 1, Box
679, Reedley
Leland Roy Davis, Corning
Morris L. Doty, McArthur
Eddie Marugliano, Route 1, Box 255,
Linden
Delbert L. Olson, Route 1, Box 1161,
Elk Grove

Colorado

Sam Portner, Fort Collins

Connecticut

Francis Matthew Lutwinas, R.F.D.,
Thompsonville

Florida

Ralph W. Bishop, Clewiston
Grant M. Godwin, Route 1, Box 137,
Atmore, Ala.
Charles Rufus Howes, Route 4, Box
92, Live Oak
Scott Lee, Lake Harbor

Georgia

Charles Segars, Route 2, Jefferson
Frank Alston Walker, Box 35, New-
ington
Paul Irvin, Route 2, Leary
Horace Forshee, Jr., Sumner
R. L. Luckey, Dearing

Idaho

Roger D. Vincent, Route 1, Filer

Illinois

Edward Andrew Bowman, Wood-
lawn Farm, Oneida

Clair Wayne Canterbury, Cantrall

Lyle Deuth, R.F.D. 3, Polo
Henry R. Kaiser, Greenview
Donald H. Metzger, R. R. 1, Ham-
mond

John E. Rath, R. R. 1, Marseilles

Robert G. Rhoades, Hudson

J. Glyndon Stuff, R.F.D. 3, Dixon

Robert Calvin Temple, Serena

George Dick Wheeler, Mt. Zion

Indiana

Roger F. Doerstler, Route 2, Cam-
bridge City

Iowa

Harold E. Dahlke, Manson
Richard Gene Mickelson, Lamoni
David Noller, Route 2, Sigourney
Vernon Alfred Paustian, R.F.D. 1,
Tipton

Kansas

Calvin Clifford Jarrett, Baxter
Springs
Irwin Alefs, Rural Route 4, Great
Bend
Erwin Eugene Thalmann, R.F.D. 1,
Haven
Robert Sawatzky, Buhler

Kentucky

John V. Barnett, Bagdad
Robert Newton Cleveland, Frank-
linton
Henry Craig Robertson, R.F.D. 1,
Augusta
F. Presley Sauer, Stanley
Robert S. Smith, Route 5, Hodgen-
ville

Maine

Richard Saunders, Monmouth

Maryland

George C. Fry, Gaithersburg

Michigan

Donald Allen, Route 2, Williamston
Douglas Barlund, Albion
George Andrew Eifert, Route 1, Box
175, 180 Noble Road, Williamston
George Ernest Fogle, Mason
Merle William Harris, Edwardsburg
Arthur Jaquette, Charlotte

Minnesota

Donald Wayne Hasbargen, Jackson
Sigvald J. Sandberg, Ortonville
Howard Troy Tyrrell, R.F.D. 3,
Browerville

Mississippi

Walter Lewis Abel, Jr., Duck Hill
Travis Cartwright, Booneville
Billie Pat Henry, R.F.D. 2, Pontotoc
Derwood McCullough, Houlka
Ora Walter Scott, Jr., Box 128, Duck
Hill
Roy Frank Smith, R.F.D. 1, Como

Missouri

Raymond Lee Atkinson, Rural
Route 3, Rogersville
Joseph Eugene Espey, Maryville
John J. Flehmer, Pierce City
Lynn Daris Kirkpatrick, Arbela
M. Lloyd Langley, Harviell
Ralph Edward Schnetzler, Salisbury
Elbert J. Siler, Weston
Elza Winter, Jr., R.F.D. 5, Neosho

Montana

Eugene Edward Coombs, Route 1,
Laurel
Dean A. Elliott, Box 262, Fort Ben-
ton

Nebraska

Lloyd Bevans, Waverly
Elmer Guy Guilliat, Auburn
Merlin W. Hansen, Neligh

Nevada

Amelio Bell, Fallon

New Jersey

Elwood Fox, Jr., Star Route 2, Sa-
lem

New Mexico

Lonnie Beyer, Mesilla Park

New York

Philip Comings, R. D. 1, Bainbridge
R. Nathan Mosher, Munnsville
Arby Rowley Swift, Cuba
Bruce Widger, Spencerport

North Carolina

Hoyt Callicutt, Pisgah
Philip Hege, R.F.D. 4, Lexington
Hobart Lynn Hill, R.F.D. 4, Lexing-
ton
Carmel Hollingsworth, Waynesville
Richard Theron Ledbetter, Jr., Uree
James Thomas Moss, Youngsville
Billy Nix, Route 3, Rutherfordton
Franklin Quinn, Seven Springs
David Thomas Stadler, Route 1,
Reidsville
Romie M. Turner, Route 2, Nash-
ville

North Dakota

Calvin Konzak, Devils Lake

Ohio

Carl Cecil Bratton, Route 3, Delta
Robert Walter Carr, Route 1, Fre-
mont
Frederick Henry Deering, Route 1,
Monroeville
Vernon C. Hiller, Route 4, Kenton
Curtis Klingler, Junction City
Robert Linn Lawyer, Mt. Gilead
Asa Murphy, Upper Sandusky
Donald Switzer, Canal Winchester

Oklahoma

Pete Gunn, R.F.D. 2, Temple
Gene Stanley Guyer, R. R. 1, Kil-
dare
Vernon Alpha Hatley, Shawnee
Oliver H. Kinzie, Cushing
Howard Klump, Clinton
Jack McLane, Jr., Route 1, Ana-
darko
Ben Rickey, Route 2, Pauls Valley
Paul G. Schnaithman, Jr., Garber
James Scott, Verden

Oregon

Fred Bernet, Route 13, Box 99, Port-
land 9
John Straughan, Pendleton

Pennsylvania

Owen E. Heiss, Mifflinburg, R. D. 2
David B. Jameson, R. D. 5, New
Castle
Lawrence A. Lathrop, Granville
Summit
Theodore Macafee, R. D. 1, Milan
Boyd R. Mellott, Warfordsburg
Judson W. Neill, Eighty Four, R.
D. 1
Robert Glenn Ranck, Washington
Boro, R. D. 1

Puerto Rico

Benjamin Rodriguez, Orocovis
Juan Cabeza Rodriguez, Toa Alta
Victor Rodriguez, Corozal

South Carolina

William Homer Coker, Woodruff
Lamont Fred Hamrick, Route 3, Box
41, Gaffney

South Dakota

Marion Russell Johnston, Brook-
ings

Tennessee

Don Miller Manier, Allisonia
Charles Edward McCurry, Route 3,
Bulls Gap
William Rex Seneker, Route 2, Mos-
heim
Tom Vaughan, Yorkville
Walter Wampler, R.F.D. 1, Bristol
John Harlan Wheeler, Route 2, Ool-
tawah

Texas

Archie Bardin, Route 5, Kaufman
 Larry L. Boswell, Whitney
 James Arthur Davidson, Route 4, Granger
 Urfa Agneu Domsch, Jr., Poteet
 Elton Ellison, Star Route, Ralls
 Johnnie L. Fitzgerald, Plains
 Spicer Gripp, Panhandle
 Roy Richard Henke, Kerrville
 Gabe Herndon, Panhandle
 Ansel Holmstrom, Granger
 James Henry Horton, Timpson
 H. W. Jacoby, Eden
 Carroll L. Jones, Spring Lake
 Jim McCabe, Dawn
 Allison Foster Reed, Route 1, Azle
 Garland Strain, Guthbert
 Edward Sugarek, Beeville
 George Walchar, Weimar
 Billy Glenn Ware, Lockney

Utah

Wayne Roundy Cardon, R.F.D. 1, Smithfield
 Merrill J. Hallam, Spanish Fork
 R. J. Rickenbach, Glenwood

Vermont

John Freeman Hill, Jr., Woodstock

Virginia

Joseph Ernest Chudoba, Prince George
 William Hank Courtney, Kinsale
 Garland Burke Barrette, Appomattox
 William H. Parcell, Jr., Rocky Mount
 Epes Orton Rainey, Sutherland
 C. N. Wine, Timberville

West Virginia

James Harold Lewis, Kaylong
 J. Kenneth McDonald, Route 1, Martinsburg
 Robert M. Ours, Buckhannon

Wisconsin

Gene E. Giddings, Route 2, Omro
 Robert H. Haile, Knapp
 Kenneth J. Kopp, Galesville
 Arnold D. Nokes, Helenville
 Paul De Roy, Baldwin

Wyoming

Clarence O. Reed, Powell

(Honorary American Farmer Candidates)

Hon. Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
 Albert S. Goss, Master, National Grange, Washington, D. C.
 Edwin J. Sommer, President, Mid-States Steel & Wire Company, Crawfordsville, Indiana.
 H. M. Railsback, Director of Advertising, Deere & Company, Moline, Illinois.
 Edwin F. Flato, Corpus Christi, Texas.
 Kerlin O. Judy, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Hurricane, West Virginia.
 Thomas W. Glaze, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.
 J. A. Johnson, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Buhler, Kansas.
 John Welbes, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Albany, Oregon.
 R. C. Mitchell, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Alpine, Texas.
 A. W. Tenney, National Executive Secretary, Future Farmers of America, Washington, D. C.
 E. J. Johnson, Federal Agent, Pacific Region, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.

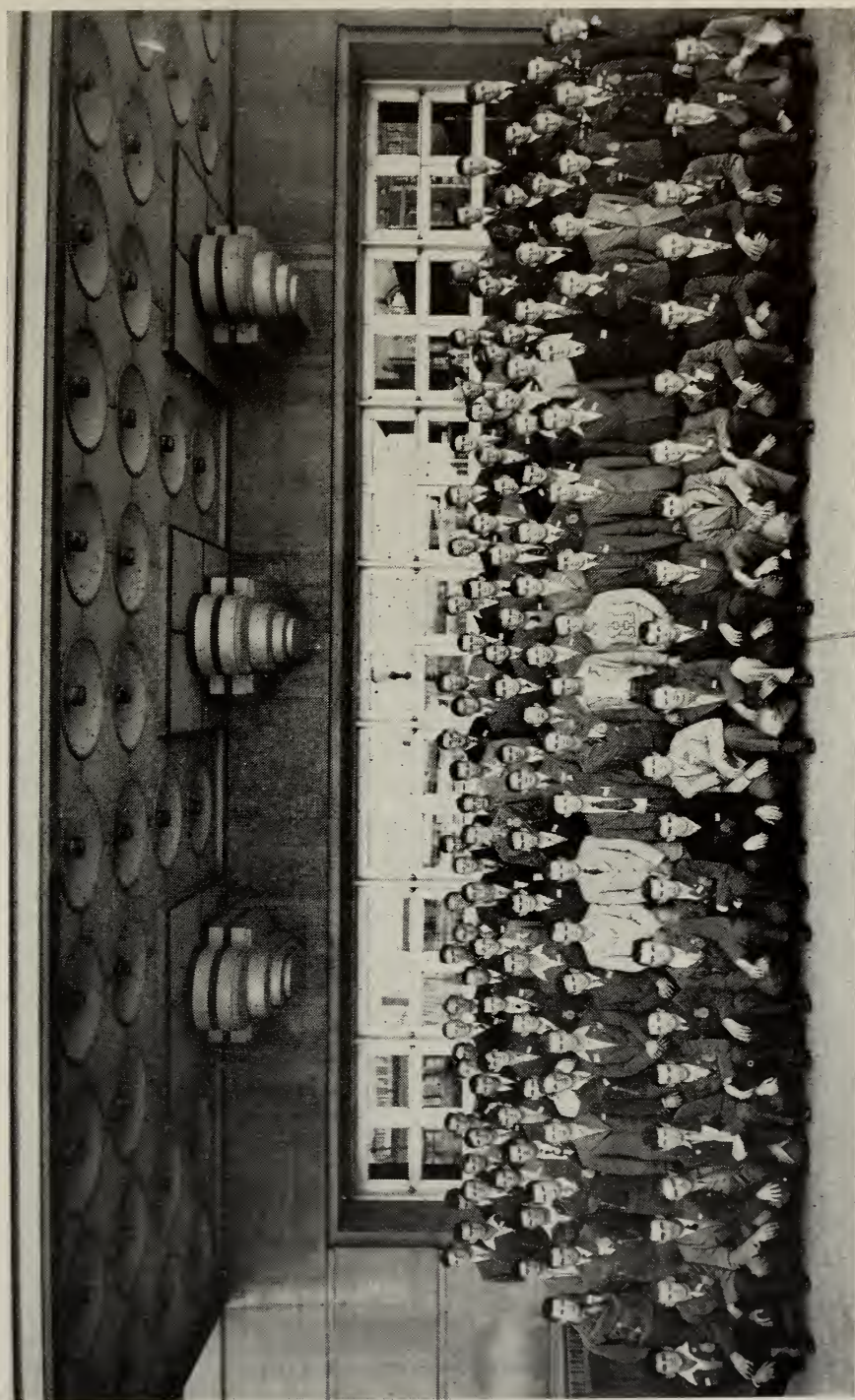
President Bowman announced the appointment of the following Constitutional Committees: Auditing, Program of Work, and Nominating.

Upon motion of Dorris of Georgia, the convention adjourned at 12:10 o'clock.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1944

Afternoon Session

The second session was called to order at 1:35 p. m., President Bowman presiding.



1944 AMERICAN FARMERS

Musical selections were rendered by the Wisconsin State Quartet.

Following the regular opening ceremony, a very inspiring address was delivered by Mr. Albert S. Goss, National Master of the National Grange.

The rules were suspended and Wayne Booth, 1943 Star Farmer of America from Oklahoma, was introduced.

Executive Secretary Tenney presented a report on the National F.F.A. Camp, moving its adoption; motion seconded and carried.

Following this, Mr. Harry N. Rosenfield, Assistant to the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency was introduced and extended greetings to the delegates.

President Bowman introduced Mr. W. A. Ross, Past National Executive Secretary, temporarily on leave from that office, who said a few words to the members present.

Mr. Joseph Ackerman, Associate Managing Director of the "Farm Foundation" and Mr. Earl J. Cooper of "Country Gentleman" were introduced.

The rules were suspended and President Bowman declared a ten-minute recess. The meeting was called to order under the heading of Unfinished Business. Student Secretary Freeman read the proposed amendments to Article IV, Sections C and D, paragraph 1, regarding the length of time each F.F.A. degree should be held. Hallam of Utah moved that the matter be referred to a committee; motion was seconded and lost. Roy of Louisiana moved to amend the constitution by striking out the words, "for at least one year immediately"; motion was seconded. Hoffman of Missouri moved to amend the motion to read that those words be eliminated, and "six months immediately preceding the election of Chapter Farmer" be inserted; motion seconded. The amendment to the motion was voted on and a division of the house was called for. The amendment was lost by a vote of 52 to 32. After considerable discussion, the question was called for, and the original amendment to the constitution was voted on; motion was carried by a two-thirds vote.

The next order of business was an amendment to Article VI of the By-laws, second paragraph which would allow a chartered chapter of F.F.A. to operate officially for a period not to exceed 36 months from date of the discontinuance of the department of vocational agriculture in the school. Bush of Idaho moved to accept the amendment; motion seconded and carried by a two-thirds vote.

The next order of business was official merchandise. Mr. W. M. Tolan of the Universal Uniform Company was introduced and discussed the uniform and material situation with the delegates. Student Secretary Freeman read a recommendation made by the Board of Trustees that a suitable "T" shirt and sport shirt be manufactured. Tykenson of Oregon moved that a committee be appointed by the Chair to figure out a design for the shirts and report as soon as possible. His motion was withdrawn. Tykenson of Oregon moved

that the recommendation of the Board of Trustees be accepted; motion was seconded and carried.

The election and raising of successful candidates from the active membership to the Degree of American Farmer was the next order of business. The candidates took their places and the regular Fourth Degree Ceremony was carried through.

Following the closing ceremony, the convention adjourned at 5 o'clock to reconvene at 9 a. m. the following morning.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1944

Morning Session

The third session of the convention was called to order at 9:10 a. m. with the opening ceremony.

The Wisconsin State Quartet rendered several selections. Vice President Bob Barthelmess was introduced and lead the delegates in singing several numbers.

President Bowman introduced Mr. I. W. Duggan, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration, who addressed the delegates.

President Bowman then introduced Sra. Francisca Rodrigues of Brazil who delivered a greeting in Portuguese to the Future Farmers of America, which was translated by an interpreter. Vice President Roller moved that the convention send greetings to the farm boys and girls of Brazil; motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, it was moved by Sanford of Utah that the matter of the 1945 American Farmer application be referred to a committee; motion was seconded. Roy of Louisiana moved to amend the motion by making it a committee of three appointed by the Chair. The amendment was withdrawn. The original motion was passed.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Kimball of Texas moved that the matter of the 1944-45 National Chapter Contest Rules be referred to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, it was moved by Morgan of Mississippi that the matter of the 1944-45 National Public Speaking Contest rules be referred to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Eisert of Oregon moved that the matter of the Official Manual be referred to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Gagner of Virginia moved that the matter of the Farm Mechanics Award be referred to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Carlisle of Alabama moved that the matter of the 1944 Proceedings be referred to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, the matter of the national radio programs was referred to a committee by motion of Patrick of New Jersey; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Tart of North Carolina moved to refer the matter of Resolutions to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Roy of Louisiana moved to refer the matter of Official Merchandise to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Mickelson of Iowa moved that the matter of employing a Public Relations Director be referred to a committee; motion was seconded. Vice President Roller moved that the delegation go into a committee of a whole for fifteen minutes to discuss the idea of having a Public Relations man. Tucker of Oklahoma stated that Vice President Roller was out of order. The original motion was put to a vote and carried.

Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees, Quinn of North Carolina moved to refer the matter of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc., to a committee; motion seconded and carried.

President Bowman introduced Mr. E. H. Bakken who brought a greeting from the Boy Scouts of America.

President Bowman announced the committee appointments.

Mr. E. J. Johnson, Federal Agent for the U. S. Office of Education, introduced a number of guests to the delegates.

President Bowman then gave instructions to the committees. Following this Mr. Gerald Bray, French-Bray Printing Company, was introduced and discussed official printed merchandise with the delegates.

Mr. Walter B. Anderson of the L. G. Balfour Company was introduced and discussed the manufacture of official jewelry.

Mr. E. J. Johnson introduced another guest and then a recess was declared.

The meeting was called to order at 11 o'clock and a special session of the convention was opened by the regular ceremony. Vice President Roller assumed the chair. He delivered a very inspiring address following which the F.F.A. Service Flag was unveiled by two Future Farmers, Private Chester Asay of Lovell, Wyoming, and Seaman Jim Hutchins of Estelline, Texas.

Clifford Litka and Rodney Houghton rendered several musical selections.

At this time Mr. Jim McCoy of the Blue Network was introduced and he gave instructions for the National Farm and Home Hour broadcast which went on the air at 11:30. The Honorable Claude R. Wickard was the honor guest of the day and he delivered a very inspiring address to the delegates. President Bowman conferred

the Honorary American Farmer Degree on him.

The radio broadcast was followed by the regular closing ceremony and adjournment at 12 o'clock.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1944

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session of the convention was devoted to committee work.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1944

Morning Session

The convention was called to order at 9 o'clock with the opening ceremony.

Group singing was led by Vice Presidents Salzman and Barthelmess.

President Bowman and Adviser Spanton introduced several guests to the delegates. Student Secretary Freeman read greetings from Joe W. Jarvis, Lt. Earl E. Walters, David Walker, and Lt. Fred M. Quillen.

The meeting was declared open under the heading of committee reports. Spreng of Ohio presented the report of the Committee on Official Merchandise and moved that the report be adopted as read; motion was seconded. Sandberg of Minnesota moved to amend the report by striking out the words concerning the manufacture of a State Officer's pin; motion seconded. After considerable discussion Eisert of Oregon moved the previous question; motion seconded and carried. The amendment to the original motion was voted on and lost. The original motion was put to a vote and carried.

Tucker of Oklahoma presented the report of the Committee on the National Chapter Contest Rules for 1944-45 and moved its adoption; motion seconded and carried.

Webb of Delaware presented the report of the Committee on 1944-45 Public Speaking Contest Rules and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded and carried.

Mr. Ray Cuff was introduced to the delegates and delivered a very educational address on livestock loss prevention.

Vice President Clifford presented a special resolution to the delegates and moved its adoption; motion seconded and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the death of Dr. C. H. Lane, Regional Agent for the North Atlantic States, is recognized as a severe loss to the field of Agricultural Education and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Lane was the first National Adviser of the Future Farmers of America and gave his wise counsel and guidance, not only in the early days of the F.F.A., but throughout its development, and

WHEREAS, his death is recognized as a severe loss to the organization;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Future Farmers of America assembled in Kansas City, Missouri, at this, their Seventeenth National Convention do hereby express to Mrs. C. H. Lane, his wife, their heartfelt sympathy at this time of her great sorrow.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mrs. C. H. Lane and that a copy be spread on the minutes of this Convention.

A ten-minute recess was declared. The meeting was called to order and guests were introduced.

Perkins of Wyoming presented the report of the Committee on American Farmer applications and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded and carried.

Dorris of Georgia presented the report of the Committee on the Official Manual and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded. Quinn of North Carolina moved to amend the motion so that the report could be discussed item by item; motion seconded and lost. Tykenson of Oregon moved to amend the motion by striking out the section dealing with the cover of the Manual; motion seconded. Eisert of Oregon moved the previous question on all pending matters before the house; motion was seconded and carried. The amendment to the motion was put to a vote and carried. The original motion as amended was put to a vote and carried.

Alefs of Kansas presented the report of the Committee on the 1944 Proceedings and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded. Norton of Colorado moved to amend the motion so that a picture of the national officers would be included in the Proceedings; amendment was seconded. The motion was withdrawn with the consent of the second. Lewis of West Virginia moved the previous question; motion was seconded and carried. The original motion was put to a vote and carried.

Tucker of Oklahoma moved that the report of the Committee on the Official Manual be reconsidered; motion seconded and lost.

Morgan of Mississippi presented the report of the Committee on the National Radio Program and moved that it be accepted as read; motion seconded and carried.

Jameson of Pennsylvania presented the report of the Auditing Committee and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded

and carried.

Allen of Michigan presented the report of the Committee on the 1944-45 National Program of Work and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded and carried.

The convention recessed.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1944

Afternoon Session

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 p. m., President Bowman presiding.

The meeting was declared open under the heading of committee reports. Bell of Nevada presented the report of the Committee on Public Relations and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded. Hoffman of Missouri moved the previous question after lengthy discussion; motion seconded and carried. The original motion was carried.

Following entertainment by Clifford Litka and Rodney Houghton, Gagner of Virginia moved that the delegation express appreciation to the boys for their entertainment during the convention by a rising vote of thanks.

Cline of Missouri presented the report of the Committee on the F.F.A. Foundation and moved that it be adopted as read; motion seconded and carried unanimously.

At this point it was voted that the convention extend recognition and a vote of thanks to the Wisconsin Quartet for its contribution of entertainment at the convention.

Johnson of Arkansas presented the report of the Committee on Farm Mechanics and moved that the report be adopted as read; motion seconded and carried unanimously.

Vice President Barthelmess moved that the delegates send a greeting to the Hawaiian and Puerto Rican Associations; motion seconded and carried.

Balser of Indiana moved that the report of the Committee on American Farmer applications be reconsidered; motion lost for lack of a second. Balser then moved that the Report of the Committee on Official Merchandise be reconsidered; motion seconded and lost.

Executive Secretary Tenney read the proposed budget for 1944-45 and moved its adoption; motion seconded. Hoffman of Missouri moved to amend the motion to read that any additional funds needed to carry out the program for the coming year be taken out of the reserve funds; motion seconded and carried. The motion as amended was then put to a vote and carried.

NATIONAL F.F.A. BUDGET**November 1, 1944 through October 31, 1945****Anticipated Revenue:**

Membership dues	\$19,000.00
Royalties	5,000.00

Total anticipated revenue.....	\$24,000.00
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Estimated Disbursements:

I. Travel expense	\$ 4,500.00
II. Convention	4,350.00
III. American Farmer Keys	1,500.00
IV. Prizes, Awards, Exhibits	1,500.00
V. Printing	2,200.00
VI. National Radio Program	500.00
VII. National Office Expense	3,815.00
VIII. National Camp	2,360.00
IX. Public Relations	10,000.00

Total Estimated Disbursements.....	\$30,725.00
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Hallam of Utah moved that the recommendation of the Board of Trustees should be accepted to keep the dues as they have been for the past seventeen years (10c per member); motion seconded and carried.

Starkey of California moved that authority be delegated to the Board of Trustees to edit all committee reports; motion seconded and carried.

Roy of Louisiana moved that authority be given the Board of Trustees to act on any business coming between conventions; motion seconded and carried.

Cassady of California presented the report of the Committee on Resolutions and moved that it be accepted as read; motion seconded. Alefs of Kansas moved to amend the motion to give authority to the Secretary to include all the names which might have been missed and which should be added; motion seconded and carried. The original motion as amended was put to a vote and carried.

President Bowman presented his very inspiring farewell address.

Getto of Nevada presented the report of the Nominating Committee. Alefs of Kansas moved that the Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the names submitted; motion seconded and carried. The following Student Officers were declared elected as the National Officers for 1944-45:

PRESIDENT—Oliver H. Kinzie, Cushing, Oklahoma.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT—Sigvald J. Sandberg, Ortonville, Minnesota.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT—David B. Jameson, New Castle, Pennsylvania.

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT—Merrill J. Hallam, Spanish Fork, Utah.

FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT—Tom Vaughan, Yorkville, Tennessee.

STUDENT SECRETARY—George C. Fry, Laytonsville, Maryland.



1944-45 NATIONAL F.F.A. OFFICERS

(Seated, left to right): PRESIDENT OLIVER H. KINZIE, Cushing, Okla.; 4TH VICE PRESIDENT TOM VAUGHAN, Yorkville, Tenn.; STUDENT SECRETARY GEORGE C. FRY, Laytonsville, Md. (Standing): ADVISER W. T. SPANTON, Washington, D. C.; 2ND VICE PRESIDENT DAVID B. JAMESON, New Castle, Pa.; 3RD VICE PRESIDENT MERRILL J. HALLAM, Spanish Fork, Utah; 1ST VICE PRESIDENT SIGVALD J. SANDBERG, Ortonville, Minn.; TREASURER D. J. HOWARD, Richmond, Va.; and, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY A. W. TENNEY, Washington, D. C.

President Bowman called upon each of the newly elected officers and they delivered their acceptance speeches. The retiring officers then delivered their farewell addresses.

President Bowman turned the gavel over to the new president, Oliver Kinzie, who then presented each of the past officers with official national officer pins and certificates.

At this point, the officers-elect signed the scroll of officers.

The new officers took their stations. The convention was adjourned at 5 o'clock with the regular closing ceremony.

Committee Reports

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN FARMER APPLICATIONS

We, the Committee on American Farmer applications, do hereby recommend the following changes in the American Farmer application blank:

1. **Pages 2 and 3, Sections A and B.**
 - a. Strike out totals in Columns A, B, and C.
 - b. Change wording in column F from "Labor amount actually received by candidate" to read "Labor income actually received by candidate."
2. **Page 4, Section C.**

Insert the explanation "not using any projects from page 2."
3. **Page 5, Section D.**

Insert the explanation "not using any projects from page 3."
4. **Page 10, Part III, Section A, line 11.**

Actual investment in growing crops (specify) (page 18).
Change to "value of investment in growing crops owned by candidate (page 18)."
Insert another statement between line 11 and 12: "Value of investments in growing crops owned by the candidate in partnership. (Candidate's share only. Page 18.)"
5. **Page 15, Part 5 in the certification division.**
 - a. Change the word "credentials" to "application."
 - b. Instead of "chairman" put "chairman or member of the State Executive Committee."
6. **Page 15.**

Transfer "Statement of Candidate and Parent" from bottom of page 16 to the bottom of page 15.
7. **Page 16.**
 - a. "Information and reactions of the State Committee reviewing this application" changed to: "State Committee reviewing this application and certifying to its neatness, completeness and accuracy."
 - b. Transfer committee signatures from the middle of page to the top of the page.
 - c. Transfer items on page 19 to the middle of page 16.

8. Page 18.

Label the four divisions: A, B, C, and D.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE PERKINS, Wyoming, *chairman*
 SIGVALD SANDBERG, Minnesota
 ROBERT S. SMITH, Kentucky
 LONNIE BEYER, New Mexico
 JEROME GAGNER, Virginia
 HOWARD ROGERS, Florida
 GEORGE C. FRY, Maryland

REPORT OF THE AUDITING COMMITTEE

We, the members of the Auditing Committee, have thoroughly reviewed and examined the National F.F.A. Treasurer's books as kept by the Treasurer, Mr. D. J. Howard.

The Committee, in checking over Mr. Howard's records found that they are complete and in neat order from November 1, 1943, through September 30, 1944 and are in fine shape to be audited by a qualified accountant.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID B. JAMESON, Pennsylvania, *chairman*
 DICK BALSER, Indiana
 GENE COOMBS, Montana

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL CHAPTER CONTEST

The National Chapter Contest Committee recommends that the 1944-45 rules and regulations for the National Chapter Contest shall be the same as 1943-44, except that a chapter entering the contest will not be permitted to submit a scrap book, and that the third paragraph of form 666 be eliminated. And, furthermore, that the chapter story be limited to not more than ten double-spaced pages.

Respectfully submitted,

RAY TUCKER, Oklahoma, *chairman*
 ROBERT KOLLER, South Dakota
 ROGER D. VINCENT, Idaho
 JIMMY LEWIS, West Virginia
 BOBBY MILLER, Arkansas
 DWIGHT ZEHR, Illinois
 WILLIAM PRICE, South Carolina

FARM MECHANICS COMMITTEE

We, the members of the John Deere Mechanics Award Committee, having carefully reviewed and studied the score sheet and other material pertaining to the award do hereby recommend that the Award be carried out in 1944-45 as in 1943-44, providing there are sufficient funds in the treasury of the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

DENVER JOHNSON, Arkansas, *chairman*
TOM VAUGHAN, Tennessee
DEAN SANDERSON, South Dakota
LYNN FOSTER, Texas
STANLEY STURGESS, New York
ROBERT CLEVELAND, Kentucky

REPORT OF THE F.F.A. FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

I hereby submit the report of the Future Farmers of America Foundation Committee. The Committee met Tuesday, October 10, 1944, and carefully and accurately studied and debated the By-Laws, Certificate of Incorporation, and Administrative Policies of the Future Farmers of America Foundation which were adopted by the Board of Trustees, Wednesday, July 19, 1944, Washington, D. C.

We, the Committee, hereby recommend the approval by the assembly of the development of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,

EDGAR CLINE, JR., Missouri
RICHARD W. WARD, Maine
EWELL P. ROY, Louisiana
DONALD MARTIN, New York
CLYDE BRUNNER, Colorado
DELBERT MYREN, Wisconsin
EUGENE SANFORD, Utah
JOHN L. TART, North Carolina

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL MANUAL

We, the Committee on Official Manual, recommend the following changes:

1. Be it enacted that all amendments which received a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at the 17th National Convention be added to the constitution.
2. Be it enacted that wherever the word "Watch Dog" is used, the word "Sentinel" be substituted.

3. Be it enacted to change the title of our second ranking degree from "Future Farmer" to "Chapter Farmer."
4. Be it enacted, that when the Manual is revised, that more history of the organization be included.
5. Be it enacted that, when the Manual is revised a quiz be presented on the contents of the Manual.
6. Be it enacted that, when the Manual is revised, a list of subjects for debate be included.
7. Be it enacted that the material under the headings: Hobbies, Collegiate Chapters, Radio, News Writing, Building a Chapter Library, and Conducting Chapter-operated Thrift Banks be more concise, insomuch, that the Manual will not be enlarged.

Respectfully submitted,

GLENN DORRIS, JR., Georgia, *chairman*
RICHARD MICKELSON, Iowa
BOYD R. MELLOTT, Pennsylvania
JACK REMSBERG, Maryland
THEODORE SMITH, Arizona

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE

The Official Merchandise Committee wishes to submit the following report for delegate consideration.

After learning from Mr. Tolan of the Universal Uniform Company information concerning the material and labor situation the Committee recommends:

1. A white "T" shirt of knitted fabric with a five-inch F.F.A. emblem on the front. If desired the chapter or State association name could be put on but if that is the case they would have to be ordered in lots of not less than fifteen or twenty shirts.
2. A white sport shirt with short sleeves and a small emblem on the front and lettering on the back.
3. The purchase of band uniforms as soon as conditions deem it advisable.

After conferring with Mr. Anderson of the L. G. Balfour Company, manufacturers of F.F.A. jewelry, the Committee recommends:

1. Past State Officers' pins appropriate for the office held. Samples to be submitted to the national office by the L. G. Balfour Company.
2. That in the future the American Farmer keys be engraved with the boy's name, year, and State, before time of presentation.

We also recommend that on all of the above recommendations the National Office make a final decision after samples and prices have been submitted to them.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN SPRENG, Ohio, *chairman*
 FREDERICK KINSEY, JR., Vermont
 MERRILL HALLAM, Utah
 EDWARD J. LYNCH, JR., Massachusetts
 BILLY MCCLAIN, Tennessee
 SAMUEL R. PATRICK, New Jersey

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, the Nominating Committee, do hereby submit the following candidates for national F.F.A. offices for the year 1944-45. After having given careful and deliberate consideration to all applicants, we offer the following slate of candidates for the delegates' consideration:

President.....	Oliver H. Kinzie, Oklahoma
First Vice President.....	Sigvald J. Sandberg, Minnesota
Second Vice President.....	David B. Jameson, Pennsylvania
Third Vice President.....	Merrill J. Hallam, Utah
Fourth Vice President.....	Tom Vaughan, Tennessee
Student Secretary.....	George C. Fry, Maryland
Treasurer.....	D. J. Howard, Virginia
Executive Secretary.....	A. W. Tenney, Washington, D. C.
Adviser.....	W.T. Spanton, Washington, D. C.

Respectfully submitted,

VIRGIL GETTO, Nevada, *chairman*
 RALPH DRAPER, Delaware
 FLOYD E. HOUSEHOLDER, Ohio
 GEORGE B. BAGGARLY, Virginia
 OSCAR DONISTHORPE, Montana
 THAD SALMON, Alabama
 REED VOLLSTEDT, Oregon
 J. HOWARD DORSEY, West Virginia
 JOHN COLBY, North Dakota

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PROCEEDINGS

We, the Committee on Proceedings for 1944, hereby submit the following report:

Include the contents of the Proceedings of the Sixteenth National

Convention, plus the following:

Picture of the Service Flag unveiling.

Picture of the Farm Mechanics Winners.

Picture of President Bowman presenting the Honorary American Farmer Degree to the Honorable Claude R. Wickard.

Omit the picture of the Delegates' Get-Together Dinner.

Respectfully submitted,

IRWIN ALEFS, Kansas, *chairman*

JOHN BRISTER, JR., Louisiana

OSBORNE J. ARLIEN, North Dakota

ROGER DOERSTLER, Indiana

FRANKLIN QUINN, North Carolina

FRANCIS M. LUTWINAS, JR., Connecticut

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON 1944-45 PROGRAM OF WORK

We, the Committee on 1944-45 Program of Work, being fully aware of the *absolute necessity for keeping the F.F.A. a live and active organization* contributing the utmost in this war time, recommend the following activities, goals, and ways and means for 1944-45:

I. SUPERVISED FARMING

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
1. Producing food for victory	100% member participation	a. Assist in increasing production of food commodities as recommended by Secretary of Agriculture. b. Use improved farming methods. c. Arrange for adequate credits in order to achieve these goals. d. Produce more agricultural products for home consumption. e. Develop home victory gardens and wherever possible on F.F.A. plots of ground.
2. Increasing size of farming programs.	100% member participation	a. Every chapter member increase the size and scope of his investment. b. Urge every individual to develop a farming program to the limit of his opportunities and ambitions.
3. Improving livestock and crop production	100% member participation	a. Use improved breeding practices. b. Urge members to use improved sires.

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Urge higher quality foundation animals. d. Urge members to use improved strains of seeds. e. Urge members to market crops more efficiently to prevent losses.
4. Preventing livestock losses	100% chapter participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Urge careful handling of all livestock by members. b. Urge humane and practical stock devices made as farm mechanics projects.

II. COOPERATION

1. Cooperating with other groups on war-time effort	100% chapter cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assist where possible with the W.P.B., U. S. Treasury, and O.C.D., and other governmental agencies in war effort. b. Cooperate with High School Victory Corps. c. Cooperate with other organizations in the community.
2. Providing experience in cooperative effort	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Encourage members to cooperate in chapter activities. b. Urge members to buy and sell cooperatively.

III. COMMUNITY SERVICE

1. Salvaging needed war materials.	100% member and chapter participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cooperate actively with W.P.B. and other wartime agencies. b. Arrange chapter campaigns for systematic collection of paper, rags, metals, and the like. c. Impress members and chapters with seriousness of situation. d. Urge every State to set up definite goals. e. Discourage the hoarding of scrap in a community.
2. Assisting with farm labor shortage	100% chapter participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chapters assist in the training of inexperienced city youth to do farm work. b. Cooperate with U. S. Employment Service in registration and placement of farm help. c. Encourage members to make the best possible use of machinery and labor.
3. Repairing and re-conditioning farm machinery	100% member and chapter participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chapters assist in repair of machinery in the community.

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Encourage members to offer their services to farmers. c. Encourage members to protect farm machinery from wear, weather, etc. d. Assist agriculture instructors in farm machinery repair courses for farmers.
4. Guarding and protecting life and property	100% of State associations with safety programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cooperate with agencies promoting safety. b. Encourage books on first aid and safety in chapter libraries. c. Encourage members to enroll in first aid courses. d. Encourage chapter discussions and demonstrations on fire prevention. e. Secure and distribute material on farm fire prevention. f. Encourage safety campaigns at home, on highway, in the shop, and in fields against fire, saboteurs, and other destructive forces.
5. Conserving resources	100% of chapters and members participating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Urge cooperation with various conservation agencies. b. Emphasize the need for conservation on both chapters and individuals. c. Discourage unnecessary use of gasoline, rubber, metals, and other vital war materials.
6. Repairing farm buildings and equipment	100% member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Encourage all members and chapters to discover needed repairs and undertake same. b. Encourage chapters to provide cooperatively available materials needed for home maintenance.
IV. LEADERSHIP		
1. Advancing members to higher degrees	100% of States naming full quota of qualified American Farmer applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Urge careful and early explanation of progressive features of degree work to Green Hands and members and plan long-time farming programs. b. Encourage members to keep scrap book records of their achievements. c. Urge each State to provide uniform State Farmer application blank.

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
2. Providing chapter libraries	100% of the chapters with libraries which include 5 or more F.F.A. books	a. Prepare and distribute suggested list of books for F.F.A. chapters. b. Send out suggestions on establishing and maintaining libraries. c. Suggest discussion of chapter libraries at leadership training schools and conferences.
3. Participating in public speaking	100% of chapters and States holding public speaking contests	a. Encourage every chapter to hold a contest with a high percentage of members participating. b. Stress the value of participation to the individuals regardless of prizes or honors. c. Encourage all States to participate in regional contest.
4. Following parliamentary procedure	100% of the chapters conducting meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure	a. Urge individual members to study parliamentary procedure. b. Encourage chapter discussion of parliamentary procedure. c. Encourage local parliamentary procedure demonstrations and contests. d. Urge chapters to include at least one book on parliamentary procedure in chapter library.
5. Building programs of work	100% of States and chapters with written continuing programs of work giving special emphasis to war effort	a. Encourage more carefully built programs and closer attention to them. b. Urge special emphasis on program building in leadership schools c. Print and distribute the national program of work immediately following the National Convention. d. Encourage more chapters to compete in National Chapter Contest. e. Adapt programs of work to war needs.
6. Providing State publications	100% of States with an official publication	a. Encourage the maintenance of State F.F.A. publications. b. Encourage exchange of State publications with other associations as far as possible. c. Offer constructive suggestions on improving present publications. d. Include in publications copies of winning State

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
7. Providing leadership training	100% State participation	<p>and national F.F.A. speeches of the year.</p> <p>e. Serve as media of information of national organization activities.</p> <p>f. Include helpful agricultural hints.</p> <p>a. Encourage State and district leadership training schools and conferences.</p> <p>b. Encourage States to provide leadership training in connection with State meetings.</p> <p>c. Encourage all chapters to provide at least one leadership school or conference during the year.</p> <p>d. Urge special leadership training for State officers.</p> <p>e. Provide special leadership training school for national officers.</p>
8. Maintaining public relations	Keep the public informed on what the F.F.A. is and does	<p>a. Encourage more extensive and regular use of local, county, and State newspapers by chapters and State associations.</p> <p>b. Secure more articles in national magazines.</p> <p>c. Urge taking of more and better pictures of F.F.A. work and their use as illustrations.</p> <p>d. Continue National F.F.A. Radio Program and encourage States and chapters to provide similar broadcasts where possible.</p> <p>e. Encourage wider use of windshield stickers.</p> <p>f. Continue to maintain contact with such organizations as the New Farmers of America, and other organizations patterned after the F.F.A.</p> <p>g. Each chapter sponsor at least one decorated window display per year in a downtown section.</p> <p>h. Keep in touch with former F.F.A. members.</p>

V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS

1. Buying war bonds and stamps	100% of members, chapters, and associations participating. \$7,000,000 investment by Oct. 1, 1945	<p>a. Send out U. S. Treasury literature on how and where to make purchases.</p> <p>b. Suggest member savings and chapter accumulations be used for purchases.</p>
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Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
2. Practicing thrift	100% of chapters and members participating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Urge State associations and chapters to put on drives to encourage members and others in buying bonds and stamps. d. Recommend war bonds and stamps as awards in the F.F.A. contests. a. Stimulate interest in regular systematic savings for all. b. Encourage chapter members to earn money cooperatively to help finance chapter activities. c. Urge every State association and chapter to have a budget and safeguard its funds. d. Encourage members to invest earnings in productive enterprises, war bonds and stamps.

VI. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. Using Official Manuals	100% of members having access to official Manuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Urge State associations to secure Manuals in quantities for distribution and sale to chapters. b. Emphasize the need for having up-to-date Manuals with which to work. c. Urge that new Manuals be included in every chapter library. d. Urge discussion of revised 1944 constitution at chapter meetings and conventions. e. Urge study of Manual as phase of leadership training schools and conferences.
2. Using Official Secretary and Treasurer books	100% of chapters using both books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Call further attention to the value of these books. b. Urge filing copies of completed books as permanent chapter records. c. Urge discussion of both books at chapter meetings and at leadership training schools and conferences.
3. Providing Official meeting paraphernalia, equipment and supplies	100% of chapters and State associations having standard materials with which to work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Send out lists with information on how and where to obtain. b. Stress loyalty to the national organization and urge the use of official materials.

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
4. Using Official ceremonies	100% of the chapters using opening and closing, and degree ceremonies, according to the official Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Urge discussion of standard materials at leadership training schools. d. Point out advantages in patronizing official companies. a. Urge that all officers learn their parts and that ceremonies be rehearsed. b. Suggest special training on ceremonies for new officers. c. Recommend discussing the meaning and significance of ceremonies at chapter meetings and leadership schools. d. Urge practice on unison parts, especially Flag salute.
5. Holding meetings and conventions	100% of the chapters and State associations holding regular meetings and conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Arrange chapter meetings to keep travel to a minimum. b. "Streamline" State, district, and federation meetings.
6. Meetings	Every member attend at least 75% of chapter meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Have at least one regular meeting date per month scheduled in school calendar. b. Special meetings for emergencies. c. Prepare well-planned program beforehand. d. Have one good entertainment feature for 100% participation at each regular meeting.

VII. SCHOLARSHIP

1. Improved scholarship	100% of members show outstanding ability as evidenced by scholastic activities, and have a satisfactory record as certified to by the local school superintendent or principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Devote one chapter meeting annually to scholarship. b. Encourage members to strive for scholastic honors. c. Post an F.F.A. honor roll each month. d. Have advanced boys assist new students. e. Offer chapter awards to outstanding scholars.
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VIII. RECREATION

1. Encourage supervised recreation	100% membership ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Organize athletic teams and encourage chapter competition. b. Sponsor parent and son banquets.
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Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Cooperate with home economics department. d. Organize supervised camping trips. e. Cooperate with the National Committee on Physical Fitness of the Federal Security Agency. f. Sponsor recreation programs in local community.
2. Continuing National F.F.A. Day	100% of State associations participating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Set aside first day of Convention as National F.F.A. Day. b. Send out suggested materials for F.F.A. Day programs.
3. Maintaining National Camp	Keep camp buildings and grounds in good condition during war	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Follow National Executive Secretary's convention report on the camp.

IX. GENERAL

1. Maintaining membership	204,000 active members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Urge establishment of chapters in all departments of vocational agriculture. b. 100% of all boys enrolled in vocational agriculture be members of F.F.A. c. Retain 75% of graduated members for three years after graduation. d. Urge full payment of national dues on the part of all associations on or before June 30. e. Encourage establishment of collegiate chapter in every recognized teacher-training department.
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Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. ALLEN, Michigan, *chairman*
 RICHARD SAUNDERS, Maine
 ORVILLE L. MURPHY, Wisconsin
 J. GLYNDON STUFF, Illinois
 VERNON A. PAUSTIAN, Iowa
 WILLIAM RUSSELL, Connecticut
 LOUIS TRYON, Arizona
 KEESEY KIMBALL, Texas

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

We, the Committee on Public Relations, go on record as recommending the organization of Future Farmers of America to employ

a public relations man to work out of the national office in Washington, D. C., with an appropriation of \$10,000.00 by the National F.F.A. Treasury to cover his salary and operating expenses.

We also recommend that the decision of employing this public relations man be left up to our National Adviser, with the approval of the National Board of Trustees and Advisory Council.

Respectfully submitted,

AMELIO BELL, Nevada, *chairman*
NEAL TARBOX, Vermont
CHARLES HOFFMAN, Missouri
LOUIE CHAPMAN, Alabama
EUGENE E. STARKEY, California
ELWOOD FOX, New Jersey
BOB BECK, Nebraska

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

We, the Committee on the National Public Speaking Contest, have thoroughly considered the present rules and regulations governing this event and wish to recommend the following addition and changes:

Article 5, Section 2. Three competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the contest, one of the three judges where possible being a teacher of speech, and at least one judge should have definite agricultural background. Each judge will formulate, ask, and score his own questions.

Article 5, Section 5. Contestants shall draw for places on the program. The program chairman shall then introduce each contestant by number only, in the order of the drawing and announce his subject. The identity of the speakers should not be made known to the judges.

Respectfully submitted,

WILSON W. WEBB, Delaware, *chairman*
JACK HALL, Kansas
WILLIAM NORTON, Colorado
DOUGLAS BARFIELD, South Carolina
LLOYD BEVANS, Nebraska
FRED BAMERT, JR., New Mexico

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL RADIO PROGRAM

We, the Committee on the National Radio Program, recommend the following items:

1. That F.F.A. programs be broadcast over other available networks in addition to the Blue Network.
2. That State associations plan a series of radio programs for local chapters to promote F.F.A. interests.
3. That local chapters submit items of interest to State Advisers to be broadcast and State associations submit items of interest to the National Executive Secretary to make up the National F.F.A. broadcasts.
4. That State associations and local chapters respond to these broadcasts by writing cards and letters to the stations, thus encouraging future broadcasts.
5. That the Star Farmers, representatives of the Gold Emblem Chapters, and the National Officers be given the opportunity to broadcast over national and local networks.
6. That the traveling expenses of State representatives participating in national broadcasts be paid by the national organization of F.F.A., the expenses not to exceed \$50.00 per State, per broadcast. The broadcasts are to be arranged in such a way as to cut down the distance of travel as much as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM MORGAN, JR., Mississippi, *chairman*
ALBERT WIENS, Minnesota
NORMAN ERICKSON, Massachusetts
DELMER EISERT, Oregon
JAMES SLATTEN, Oklahoma

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

We, the Committee on Resolutions for 1944, on behalf of the Future Farmers of America wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the following organizations and especially to the 17th National Convention thereof:

1. To the 1943-44 National Officers and the 17th National Convention Committees for their excellent effort in making this year and this convention the best of this time.
2. To the members of the Advisory Council and the Kansas City Advisory Committee for their splendid work in making this year another historic milestone in the progress of F.F.A.
3. To Mr. Walter Atzenweiler and the Kansas City, Missouri, Chamber of Commerce for the courtesies provided the F.F.A.

4. To Mr. J. A. Linke for his special award to the chapter supplying the Star Farmer of America.
5. To Mr. W. A. Cochel and the *Weekly Kansas City Star* for their liberal support in providing appropriate prizes to "Star Farmers."
6. To the *Agriculture Education Magazine*, *American Farm Youth*, *Country Gentleman*, the *Furrow*, *Agricultural Leader's Digest* and other magazines maintaining sections devoted to F.F.A. activities.
7. To the Santa Fe Railroad and other railroads that are encouraging F.F.A. efforts and offering valuable educational awards.
8. To Mr. L. P. Cookingham, City Manager of Kansas City, for his most hearty and warming welcome.
9. To Mr. E. J. Sommer, President, Mr. H. E. Nickloy, Mr. C. O. Gipson, and the Mid-States Steel & Wire Company for their splendid assistance and awards.
10. To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cuff of the Kansas City Livestock Exchange for all of their help and assistance.
11. To the businessmen, city officials, and the management of the Municipal Auditorium of Kansas City for their efforts in making this a most enjoyable trip to Kansas City and for the various services rendered.
12. To Mr. George J. Stewart and Swift & Company for their splendid banquet and for the souvenirs given us.
13. To the John Deere Company for their donations of miniature plows to local chapters and for the Farm Mechanics Award.
14. To the judges of the National Public Speaking Contest.
15. To the Washington, New Hampshire, Hawaiian and Puerto Rican Associations we express our deepest regrets that their representatives were unable to attend this, the Seventeenth National Convention.
16. To the judges of the National Chapter Contest.
17. To the States visited by our National Officers for their assistance in making these trips possible.
18. To the Wisconsin quartet and their accompanist for their splendid entertainment.
19. To Bob Barthelmess for his songs and guitar music.
20. To Clifford Litka and Rodney Houghton for their most enjoyable entertainment.

21. To the management and employees of the President Hotel for their splendid services and hospitality to most of those present at the National Convention.
22. To Miss Dorothy J. Souder, Secretary to the Executive Secretary, Mr. A. W. Tenney, and to Miss Pauline M. Dick, Secretary to Mr. D. J. Howard, go our sincere appreciation for their interest and able work.
23. To Mr. E. H. Bakken of the Boy Scouts of America for his message to the delegates.
24. To Mr. Frank Lenkes, Vice President, and Mr. A. C. Segforth, Manager, Consumer Relations of the International Harvester Company.
25. To Miss Francisco Rodrigues of Brazil who gave us a very inspiring talk.
26. To Gerald Bray of the French-Bray Printing Company.
27. To Mr. Walter B. Anderson of the L. G. Balfour Company.
28. To the Honorable Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture, for his stimulating address.
29. To Robert B. White and the Blue Network for their cooperation in broadcasting the address of Secretary Wickard.
30. To Mr. Albert S. Goss, Master of the National Grange for his inspiring message.
31. To Mr. Harry Kaufman and station WDAF for making time available to the Future Farmers of America during the convention.
32. To all other donors of prizes not previously mentioned and to all other individuals serving the F.F.A. and assisting with the Seventeenth National Convention.
33. To those Future Farmers of America who are in the Armed Forces and those who have made the supreme sacrifice, our hearts' most sincere thanks for keeping up the standards of the F.F.A.

Respectfully submitted,

MARVIN CASSADY, California, *chairman*
AL ASAY, Wyoming
ROBERT DEES, Georgia
MILAN BUSH, Idaho
FRAZIER LANDRUM, Mississippi
GRANT GODWIN, Florida
A. J. ROBINSON, Michigan



1915 Bureau, District
Office, Chicago, and
Representatives of the
American People, Chicago, 1915

1915
Chicago
Bureau

Special Convention Report

REPORT ON NATIONAL F.F.A. CAMP

by A. W. Tenney, Acting National Executive Secretary

The National Program of Work for 1943-44 carried as item 28 the following:

Activity	Goals	Ways and Means
Maintaining National Camp.	Keep camp buildings and grounds in good condition during the war.	a. Follow National Executive Secretary's convention report on the camp.

The complete report of the Acting Executive Secretary on the National Camp may be found on pages 42-44 of the Proceedings of the Sixteenth National Convention. In this report the following plan was suggested for maintaining and improving the national F. F. A. Camp in 1943-44:

- "1. Continue to employ one man to serve primarily as a caretaker and maintenance man.
- "2. Due to labor shortage and the need for establishing a good lawn grass, it is recommended that no major farming activities be carried out on camp land next year.
- "3. Plant a soil improving crop.
- "4. Level and smooth areas for diamond ball and other games. Plant grass seed on these areas.
- "5. Open entrance to camp from Mt. Vernon highway and close entrance on U. S. Highway No. 1.
- "6. Maintain buildings and equipment.
- "7. Keep the camp closed during the summer of 1944 unless national conditions improve enough to justify opening it.
- "8. Fence the camp property and purchase a few sheep to help keep down weeds and undergrowth."

These recommendations have been carefully followed during the past year.

Mr. George Scott has been continued as caretaker of George Washington's Old Grist Mill and the National F. F. A. Camp. Mr. Scott sleeps in the residence at the Camp, thus taking care of it night and day.

The Camp and Old Mill were both closed for the entire summer of 1944 due to war conditions. There has been but little demand to have either the Old Mill or the Camp reopened. Only one request

came to the national office concerning the use of the Camp. An F. F. A. chapter nearby wanted to know if the Camp could be used for a camping trip.

No major farming activities were carried out at the Camp this year due to a shortage of labor. There is also a need to put the soil in good condition preparatory to planting a good lawn grass.

The areas that will be used for play were plowed, disked, leveled, and planted to lespedeza. The lespedeza is growing nicely and will produce abundant seed for a heavy crop next spring. By disking the lespedeza the soil should be in excellent condition for the planting of a lawn grass in the spring of 1946. This should make it possible to have a nice lawn by the time the camp is opened again to F. F. A. chapters.

An entrance to the Camp from the Mt. Vernon Highway has not yet been completed due to a shortage of labor.

The buildings are being kept in good condition. The grass is kept cut near the buildings to help protect them from fire. All buildings are covered by "fire" and "extended coverage" insurance. This insures the property for damage by fire, wind, cyclone, tornado, hail, and other such damage.

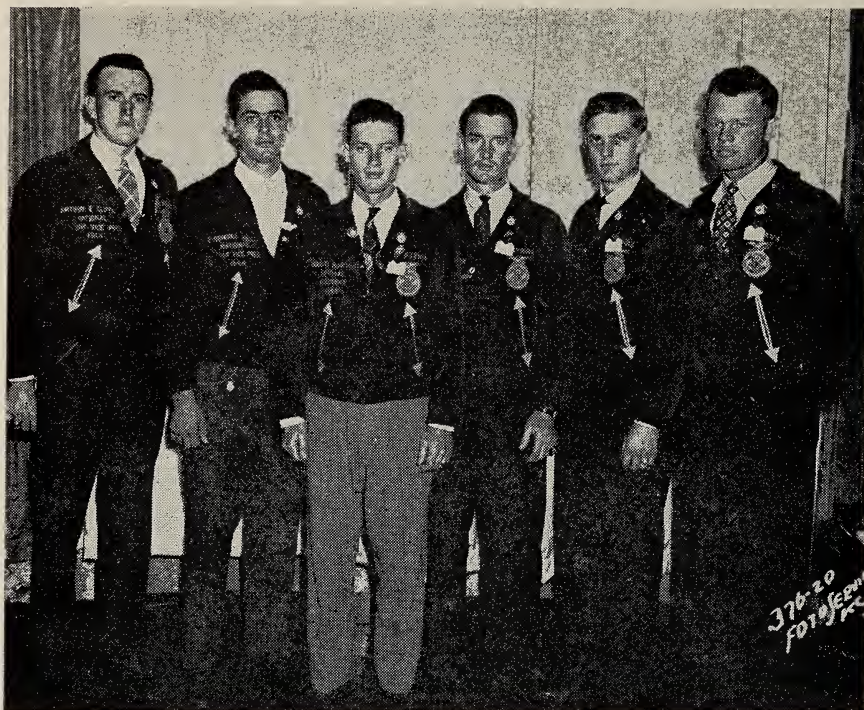
An attempt was made to fence the Camp property so that a few sheep could be purchased to keep down the weeds. Available fencing could not be found so this activity was abandoned. The weeds and underbrush are being cut and burned this fall.

I am glad to report to you that it has been necessary to spend only \$1,752.21 of the \$3,500.00 allotted in the budget for the National Camp and Old Mill. This represents a saving of \$1,747.79.

Based upon present conditions, I recommend the following plan for maintaining and developing the National F. F. A. Camp and George Washington's Old Grist Mill for the year 1944-45:

1. Continue to employ one man to serve primarily as a caretaker and maintenance man.
2. Keep lespedeza on the play areas next summer.
3. Top a few tall trees near buildings.
4. Maintain buildings and equipment.
5. Carry out recommendations made previously if labor and materials become available.
6. Keep the camp closed during the summer of 1945 unless national conditions improve enough to justify opening it.

By carrying out these and other plans which have been made for the further development of the Camp, it will be kept in good condition and will be ready for use as soon as war conditions permit.



1943-44 NATIONAL F. F. A. OFFICERS

Left to right: Third Vice President ARTHUR E. CLIFFORD, Bristol, Vt.; First Vice President O. BEVERLEY ROLLER, Weyers Cave, Va.; President ROBERT BOWMAN, Buttonwillow, Calif.; Student Secretary BYRON FREEMAN, Westboro, Mo.; Second Vice President RALPH H. SALZMAN, Ashton, Ill.; and Fourth Vice President BOB BARTHELMESS, Olive, Mont.

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National Student Officer Reports

Report of the President

Delegates to the 17th National F. F. A. Convention :

On October 14, 1943 I was elected to the office of National President of the Future Farmers of America to succeed Marvin Jagels of Idaho. Like the other national officers elected, I promised the delegates of the 16th National Convention that I would administer the duties and assume the responsibilities of this office to the best of my ability. It was also my hope that I would be able to pay back in a small way the many experiences I had received as a member and officer of this organization in the previous 5 years. Today as I make this report to the convention I know that my debt of gratitude has only increased many-fold, for the many trips and associations I have made are an education in themselves and I know will always have a bearing upon my character.

The following is a brief summary of my activities as a national officer. November 10, 1943 I received word from Dr. Spanton, our National Adviser, that I had been invited to speak at the National Grange Convention in Grand Rapids. This was a double privilege for me since I was a local and county officer and would also have the opportunity of representing the F.F.A. I spoke on October 15th before a delegate body of approximately 200. Returning by way of Chicago, I attended the Victory Gardeners' Conference, October 16, 1943, with Dr. Spanton.

December 1, 1943 I attended the Great Western Livestock Show in Los Angeles, serving as toastmaster of the exhibitors banquet and speaking at a noon meeting of the Los Angeles Kiwanis Club of about 500 members.

December 4, 1943 I left California for Chicago to attend the American Farm Bureau Convention and the American Vocational Association meetings. December 8th, I spoke at the American Farm Bureau Federation Convention of 4,000 delegates. December 9th Mr. Arthur Turner, President of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, invited me to speak before their meeting. December 15th I was one of the speakers on the banquet program of the American Vocational Association in the Morrison Hotel before approximately 4,000 people. December 17th the Agriculture Teachers' Section was discussing the F.F.A. and I spoke on Future Farmer possibilities. On December 17th, with the temperature at 5° F., I boarded the train for sunny California.

January 24th found the six national officers in Washington, D. C., for the National Officers' training course under the direction of Mr. Tenney, our National Executive Secretary. During this week we absorbed a semester course in leadership and general knowledge

about the F.F.A., besides holding two Board of Trustees' meetings and conferring with officials of the Grange. Through the influence of Congressman Elliott we were able to meet many high government officials including Speaker Sam Rayburn, Paul V. McNutt, and Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard.

January 6th it was my privilege to present Governor Earl Warren of California the Honorary State Farmer degree in Sacramento.

March 24th, I spoke at the Modesto Chapter banquet enroute to Reno, Nevada. March 26, 27, and 28 I helped carry out the well-planned Nevada Convention. March 30, 31, and April 1, I participated in the Wyoming Convention program at Casper, Wyoming. Here again the leadership ability and enthusiasm of Future Farmers was demonstrated.

April 13th my own chapter at Bakersfield held their annual Father and Son banquet with approximately 600 present. I had the honor of being selected as the main speaker of the evening.

On April 27th a number of California agriculture teachers and myself welcomed Mr. Tenney to our State. We visited a group of chapters in Southern California and the following day drove to Bakersfield where Mr. Tenney spoke to the officers of the Kern County chapters.

May 3, 4, and 5, I attended the Oregon State Convention in Portland. Mr. Tenney also attended this meeting and we appeared on a number of programs together. It was obvious that the F.F.A. is supported 100% by the farm and civic organizations in the State. I was also impressed by the number of boys who were leaders and members of adult farm organizations.

July 6 to 14 was the date of the mid-year Board of Trustees meeting in Washington, D. C. The American Farmer applications were reviewed and passed upon and the tentative plans for the National Convention were made. I returned by way of New Orleans so as to represent the national organization at the Mississippi State Convention. Here I was extended the true Southern hospitality and regretted to leave the State where I had made so many friends. On August 1st, I flew from Bakersfield to Los Angeles, then by train to Tucson, Arizona, and the Arizona State Convention, August 2, 3, and 4.

September 26, 27, and 28, I attended the California State Convention at San Luis Obispo with 146 chapters represented.

In addition to these trips I have spoken before a number of civic and social clubs, written newspaper and magazine articles and have endeavored to bring the F.F.A. before the public as much as possible.

My other activities and duties in condensed form are as follows:

Days spent in the interest of the F.F.A.....	83
State Conventions attended.....	5
Letters received.....	275

Letters sent.....	146
Telegrams received	8
Telegrams sent.....	10
Radio program participation.....	10
Speeches made (approximately).....	42
Number of people addressed (approximately)....	16,300
Miles traveled (approximately).....	40,700
Total expenses.....	\$1,470.88

My activities as a national officer have been to a certain extent curtailed because of the war emergency. I have not been able to devote as much time to the organization as I would have liked, yet I cannot help but feel proud to have served as an officer during this period. You, the members of the largest farm boy organization in the world, have proven beyond all doubt that we can meet any crisis and emerge stronger in determination to achieve our ultimate goals.

Many honors have been bestowed upon me as a national officer—too numerous to list. I can only offer my most humble thanks to Future Farmers and friends in the North, East, South and West. One of the greatest pleasures this year has been the chance to work with Dr. Spanton and his staff of Regional Agents, Mr. Tenney and all the Student National Officers. Their support and advice has been splendid and I only hope that I have warranted it.

At the conclusion of this convention I shall turn this gavel over to a new president who will assume the duties and responsibilities of this office. My time as an active member of the F.F.A. will then be concluded. However, I shall remain a loyal supporter and willing servant of the F.F.A. I am certain that no boy could possibly receive the six years of training and experiences I have had and still not be affected by the many friendships and associations. However, let us look not to the past but to the future; to the day when all farmers will have been graduated from the ranks of the F.F.A. and the Future Farmers of America will be an integral part of every community. Let this be your challenge, Future Farmers, and with your indomitable spirit I am sure it can and will be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT BOWMAN,
National President.

Report of the First Vice President

Delegates to the 17th National Convention:

In giving you a summarization of my year's activities as a National Officer of the greatest farm boy organization in the world, the Future Farmers of America, it is with both joy and regret that I make this report. Joy, because of the great opportunities and associations I have had with a fine group of boys, with my fellow

officers, and adult leaders. Then, too, the past year's experiences will be a source of constant joy in my life. Regret, because my active membership as a Future Farmer of America does end at the conclusion of this convention, knowing that I will not mingle with the members of this organization as I have done for the past six years. When you elected me to the office of First Vice President, I hoped to accomplish more for the welfare of the F.F.A. than I have, but due to the existing conditions my activities were curtailed to a great extent.

Immediately after I returned home from the National Convention, I began to receive invitations to visit chapters throughout my own State. During the year I have visited 32 chapters.

From January 23-31 I spent eight of the most delightful as well as educational days that I have ever enjoyed attending our Leadership Conference in the Nation's Capital, under the capable guidance of Mr. A. W. Tenney, our Executive Secretary. Here I became better acquainted with the other members of the Board of Trustees, and I was very much honored in having the pleasure of taking lunch with the Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard, the Speaker of the House, Sam Rayburn, and other members of Congress, due to the courtesy of Congressman Elliott of California.

On March 15-17 I visited several chapters in Eastern Virginia, speaking at their chapter meeting or banquet. It was noted that the chapter's program of work was outstanding and that much progress was being made by the members.

July 10-14 found me in Washington again attending the National Board of Trustees' meeting and Advisory Council meeting, at which time we reviewed American Farmer applications and made tentative plans for the Seventeenth National Convention. At this time we had the pleasure of enjoying a night at our National F.F.A. Camp through the courtesy of Mr. A. W. Tenney.

July 24-28, I was going to and attending the very fine convention and Leadership Training Conference of the Florida Association, which was held in conjunction with the Forestry Training School. Much success was realized by the association in their annual report.

On August 5th I attended the evening session of the National Convention of the New Farmers of America, held at Petersburg, Virginia. When I arrived for the meeting I was pleased to find that Dr. Spanton, Mr. Tenney, and Mr. Howard were also present for the most enjoyable occasion. It was easily detected that this is a young but progressive organization patterned to a great extent after the Future Farmers of America.

August found me attending a streamlined, impressive, and well-planned State Convention of West Virginia F.F.A. Here, too, much leadership was stressed by the members of the organization. I was to attend the Virginia State Convention in August, which has not been held at the present time due to conditions beyond our control. However, I hope to enjoy the Convention when it convenes.

My other activities of the year may be summarized in the following:

Days spent in interest of F.F.A. (including the National Convention).....	52
Letters received.....	179
Letters written.....	133
Telegrams received.....	4
Telegrams sent.....	2
Speeches made.....	29
Total people addressed (approximately).....	2,260
Miles traveled.....	7,000
Radio broadcasts.....	2
Total expenditures.....	\$360.00

I appreciate very much the confidence you placed in me when you elected me National First Vice President. I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity and I only wish that I could express to you in words how much I feel indebted to this great organization. Wherever I have gone the past year, I was very much pleased with the outstanding and friendly boys that I had contact with. To all of those who treated me so courteously and friendly during my visits, I sincerely thank you. At the close of this Convention my career as a Future Farmer will end. Even though I will no longer be an active member of this organization, my heart and thoughts will always be for the Future Farmers of America. I have said it many times, and I'll say it many more, that the Future Farmers of America organization has given me opportunities and challenges that I could not have received anywhere else. Future Farmers, it has been great to be a member and an officer of this organization. With pride I shall always say that I am, and always will be, a firm supporter of the Future Farmers of America.

Respectfully submitted,

O. BEVERLEY ROLLER,
National First Vice President.

Report of the Second Vice President

Delegates to the 17th National F.F.A. Convention:

It will no doubt sound contradictory to you when I say that it is both with pleasure and regret that I give you this summary of my year's activities with the F.F.A.—but it is true indeed.

I regret to have to make this report to you in that it means that my active membership with the Future Farmers of America is nearing an end. No longer will I be able to serve you as a Student Officer and no longer can I participate in F.F.A. activities as an active member. Yes, it is with regret that I must submit this report to you.

On the other hand, however, I am pleased to be able to make this summary as it is something that will live long in my memory for all of the pleasures it has afforded me. During the past year I have had the pleasure of working with Future Farmers from many States; I have participated in State conventions; I have made many new friends; and, have been given the opportunity to realize the full benefits of our wonderful organization.

The following is a brief account of my travels during my term of office. To date I have traveled a total of 6,730 miles at an expense of \$323.47 to the national organization. This included not only my travel within the North Central Region but also two trips to Washington, D. C., to attend meetings of the National Board of Trustees. The first trip I was to make as your National Second Vice President was on January 24th to our national office to attend the Leadership Training Conference, as well as the Executive Committee meetings. While in Washington we experienced many thrills that will be long remembered, including visits to the Capitol, Department of Agriculture, and other places of interest. It was also our privilege to meet with high officials of leading farm organizations.

F.F.A. State conventions came into the spotlight for me at least, during March and April and they, along with the Executive Committee meetings, made up the greatest portion of my traveling. The Ohio Association started the ball rolling with a really streamlined meeting on March 24th and 25th. A great deal was accomplished in a short period of time and delegates went home with renewed inspiration in their organization. March 31 and April 1 were the days chosen by the Iowa Association for their convention at Des Moines. A splendid attendance together with fine member participation made the "tall corn" State's meeting a real success. East Lansing was the scene of the Michigan Association's convention on April 5th and 6th. A very well-planned program with good leadership provided the delegates with plenty of material to take back to local chapters. An overnight trip found me on familiar grounds at the University of Illinois where the Illinois Future Farmers were holding a two-day session on the 7th and 8th. Here again I found much enthusiasm being displayed by the large delegation in attendance. That in brief is a summary of the State conventions that I was able to attend.

The Nation's Capital was again the scene of our second National Board of Trustees meeting which was from July 7th to 14th. American Farmer Degrees were the order of the day, or rather I should say the order of the week. To me one of the highlights of our meeting was the night that we spent at our National F.F.A. Camp. This memorable experience was made possible by our Executive Secretary, Mr. Tenney, who saw to it that we were really taken care of in a fine manner. So much for my travels.

The following is a summarized statement of my activities for the year:

Days spent on official F.F.A. business.....	51
State conventions attended.....	4
National Board of Trustees meetings attended.....	3
Speeches made.....	12
Letters written.....	131
Letters received.....	143
Telegrams sent.....	1
Telegrams received.....	2
Radio broadcasts.....	4
Miles traveled.....	6,730
Total expenditures.....	\$323.47
Photographs taken.....	75

Extremely busy farming conditions prevented me from visiting a number of State conventions to which I had been invited. I am really sorry that I was unable to attend them all but I am sure that you realize that food production comes first.

This is my report to you, Future Farmers, and I would like to thank each of you individually for making it possible for me to serve you as Second Vice President. Yes, it is with regret that I leave but with the splendid experiences that I have been afforded during the past year, I can only leave by saying, "Thanks for everything" and I know that our organization will make great strides forward as a direct result of the genuine enthusiasm and hard work which you are showing.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH H. SALZMAN,
National Second Vice President.

Report of the Third Vice President

Delegates to the 17th National Convention:

The time has come when I must report to you on the most important year's work I have ever done. I say work, but fellow Future Farmers, anything as enjoyable as the past year's activities can never be truly classified as work.

For a time after the Convention last fall there was only the correspondence that made up the work. My first trip in an official capacity was in January, at which time I attended the Pennsylvania State Convention at Harrisburg. The convention was streamlined to meet the needs of the present day and was very ably conducted. My stay was brief but it was none the less a very good one.

From Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, I continued on to Washington, D. C., for the National F.F.A. Leadership Conference and Board of Trustees meeting. Under the able leadership of Mr. Tenney we spent a week which is treasured in my memory.

On April 27th I journeyed out of the still cool north to Delaware where spring was truly abundant. The Delaware convention like the others had to be cut to a minimum but was still inspiring and very effective. It was a real pleasure to work with the Delaware Future Farmers.

Then came our State convention in Vermont in May. This was held in Randolph Center at the State Agriculture School.

The next trip was a return to Washington, D. C., in July—the 6th to the 15th—to attend the National Board of Trustees meeting and review the American Farmer candidates' applications.

About two months later we had our Regional Public Speaking Contest. At this time the contestants, their advisers, myself, and others interested were the guests of the New Jersey Association, under the supervision of Mr. H. O. Sampson at the Rutgers College.

On October 1, I again left home to attend my last meeting in the capacity of a national officer of the F.F.A.

During the past year, up until the National Convention, I have devoted 44 days to the F.F.A.; delivered eleven speeches; appeared on one National radio program and six local broadcasts; have written 104 letters; sent 5 telegrams; and have traveled approximately 8,000 miles going through 14 different States. My expenses to date are \$424.20.

I wish to acknowledge the many fine and cherished gifts received during the course of my travels and term of office.

Although time has passed swiftly and work has been pressing and difficult, I still find time to reflect upon the contacts and many unusual experiences I have had. "We are a part of all we have met," so said a poet, and truly I have come to be a part of my past year's experiences, just as they are now a part of me.

And now a word of appreciation—appreciation for the great opportunity of serving you as a national officer for the past year and for the many kindnesses shown me wherever I have been. I wish to say "Thanks" to you all! May the splendid organization continue to grow and render that type of service so closely associated with it. May this organization continue ever forward and aid our Country in winning a just and lasting peace in order that the things for which we stand shall not perish.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR E. CLIFFORD,
National Third Vice President.

Report of the Fourth Vice President

Delegates to the 17th National F.F.A. Convention:

This report, compiled from my records, is a brief summarization of my F.F.A. activities for the past year. The presentation of this

report I deeply regret for it brings to a conclusion, in a sense, my active participation in the most progressive of youth organizations. I say with the utmost sincerity that the past twelve months have been the most educational and the most enjoyable of any like period of my entire life and has contributed more to the attainment of life goals and objectives than I have ability to calculate.

I deeply appreciate and am proud of the fact that I was born in a Nation where youth can belong to an organization of this calibre, where educational facilities are directed toward real proficiency of human living, as God meant it and where any citizen can enjoy the privilege of free living. I am proud to be a Future Farmer of America and will always cherish the benefits I have derived from this short six-year period I have been an active member.

Conditions caused by this war have curtailed my travels to a great extent and I regret not being able to spend more time in behalf of our organization.

Following the Sixteenth National Convention my first trip was to Washington, D. C., where I attended the first of two meetings of the National Board of Trustees in our Nation's Capital.

I attended a streamlined, highly successful convention of Montana Future Farmers at Bozeman, Montana, in March.

In April I attended a successful convention of the progressive Idaho Future Farmers in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Nebraska's convention was next on my list but due to a rush period at home and the entering of the armed services of my second brother, I was unable to attend. I deeply regret having to miss their convention but know under the able leadership of Paul Hammer, they lived up to the Future Farmer reputation.

I next attended the Minnesota State Convention in St. Paul and saw a swell bunch of serious-minded Future Farmers conduct a very impressive convention.

The meeting of the National Board of Trustees in Washington in July brought to an end my travels in the interest of the F.F.A., with exception of this convention.

The summary of my activities is as follows:

Days spent in interest of the F.F.A.....	63
State conventions attended.....	3
Letters received.....	261
Letters written.....	189
Telegrams sent.....	8
Telegrams received.....	6
Radio programs—National.....	2
Local.....	11
Speeches made.....	18
Approximate number of people addressed.....	3,160

As a national officer I have felt greatly indebted to the F.F.A. and have tried to put back that which I took out. My only hope is

that I have justified the faith and confidence you have placed in me.

I will always cherish my associations within the F.F.A. and am hoping this grand organization of agriculture youth will continue to progress along the road of success in its high endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,

BOB BARTHELMESS,
National Fourth Vice President.

Report of the Student Secretary

Delegates to the 17th National Convention:

As this, the 17th National Convention of the Future Farmers of America, gets under way I realize that my duties as Student Secretary are drawing to a close. I sincerely say this has been the most enjoyable year of my life.

My first official travel as a National Officer began on January 21 when I left home bound for Washington, D. C., to attend the Leadership Training Conference, being held from January 24th through the 31st. It is impossible for me to find words to describe the benefits I obtained from this conference. The honor, courtesies, and privileges bestowed upon us, can be described only by experiencing them as we did. I returned home on February 2nd determined to do everything in my power to fulfill my obligations as a national officer of the F.F.A.

On March 30th, I left home destined for Fargo, North Dakota, where I attended the very streamlined and impressive North Dakota State Convention. I returned home April 3rd and left for Lafayette, Indiana, on April 5th where I attended the well-conducted Indiana State Convention. By this time my farming program was needing my attention very badly and I was forced to cancel my invitations to attend the Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma State conventions. My humble appreciation for the chance to attend those conventions is at least in order.

On April 27 and 28 I attended my home State convention at Columbia, Missouri. My next travel was to Washington, D. C., to attend the Board of Trustees meeting held from July 7th through the 14th. This was a very busy, but enjoyable, week.

My last travel before our present convention was to Camp Couchdale near Malvern, Arkansas, where I attended the very pleasing and well-situated Arkansas State Convention held at their State camp.

I spent from August 19th through the 27th traveling and attending the Arkansas State Convention. It was my pleasure to enjoy the company of Mr. Tenney and Mr. Clements at this convention.

The following is a summary of my activities as Student Secretary for the past year:

Days spent on official F.F.A. business.....	57
State conventions attended (North Dakota, Indiana, Missouri, and Arkansas).....	4
National Board of Trustees meetings attended...	3
Radio broadcasts	5
Letters written.....	181
Letters received	257
Telegrams sent.....	4
Telegrams received	3
Total expenditures.....	\$563.24
Miles traveled.....	12,000
Speeches given.....	30
Total number addressed (approximately)	2,500
Long distance phone calls—Sent.....	1
Received.....	1

As your National Secretary, I have made many reports, but this is the hardest of all for me to give. I wish I could express my indebtedness and strong feeling for the Future Farmers of America organization. I could never return as much good as I have received from this organization, but wherever I go and whatever I do, I shall always be a strong backer, and deep down in my heart still an active member of the Future Farmers of America. I shall always cherish my many relationships and experiences gained by being a Future Farmer member.

I wish the best for you all and may the Future Farmers of America gain ever higher achievement through the ever increasing efforts of young men like yourselves.

Respectfully submitted,

BYRON FREEMAN,
National Student Secretary.

• • •

Report of National Executive Secretary

On November 1928 a small group of farm boys, who were studying vocational agriculture, met in the old Baltimore Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri and organized the Future Farmers of America. The growth and achievements of this great farm boy organization during the past sixteen years has won the gratitude and respect of the Nation.

It is a pleasure to report to you that members of the Future Farmers of America are continuing to work and serve in a most commendable manner. During the past year it has been my privilege to visit a number of State associations and local chapters and see some of the worthwhile achievements that are being made. I have been impressed by the manner in which the Future Farmers of America have adapted their programs to best meet the needs of their communities and assist in the war effort.

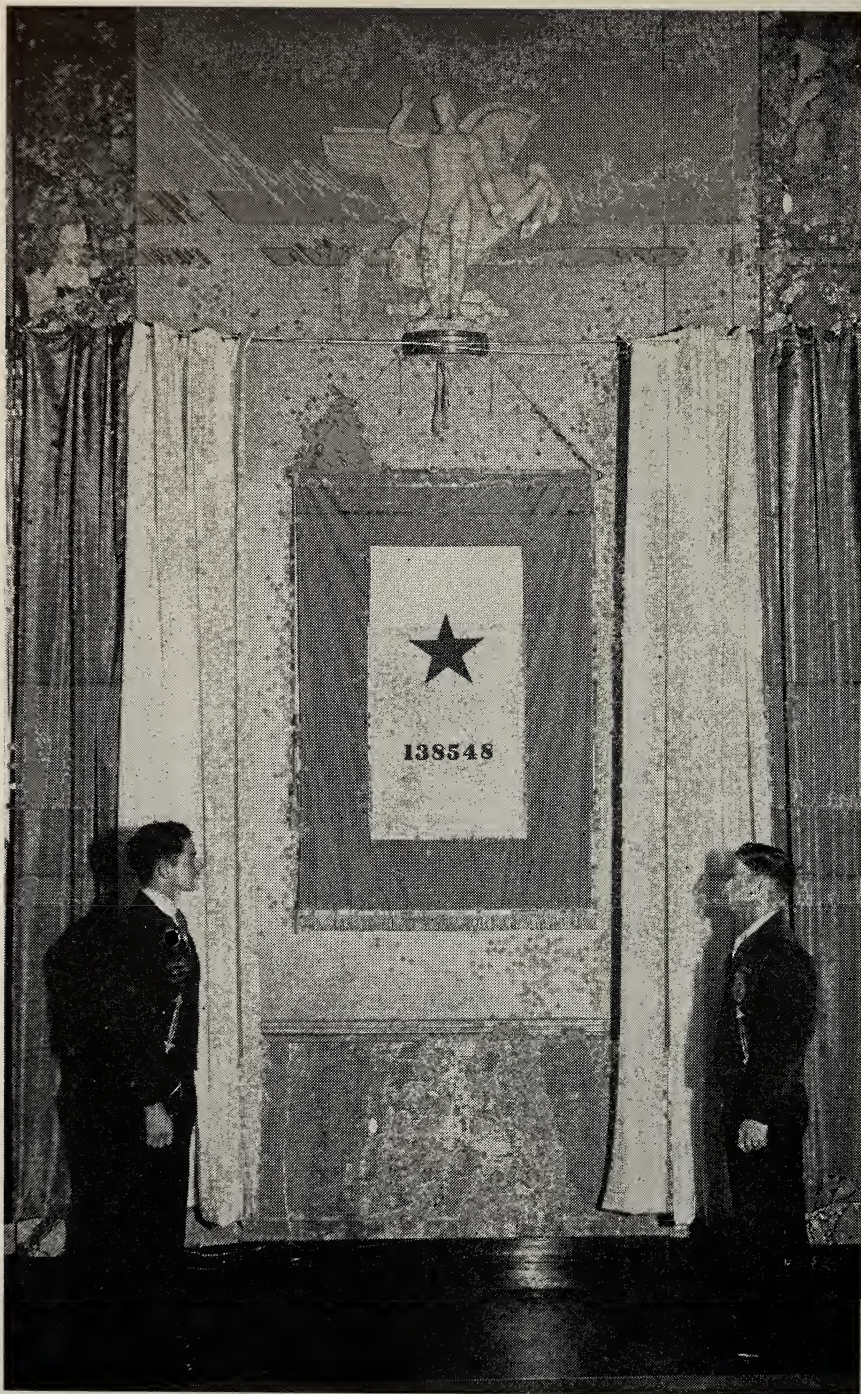
At the 16th National Convention a national program of work was prepared that was challenging in scope and adjusted to the needs of the times. It should be borne in mind that the activities performed by the Future Farmers of America and the summary of accomplishments included in this report were achieved in spite of many handicaps and discouragements.

Our regular peacetime program has not been entirely abandoned. We have, however, increased our efforts and redirected many of our activities to the war effort.

The following results are submitted on the 1943-44 National Program of Work:

Activity	Goal	Accomplishment
1. Producing Food for Victory	100% member participation	78.2%
2. Salvaging needed war materials	100% member and chapter participation	69.3% members 76.5% chapters
3. Assisting with farm labor shortage	100% chapter participation	65.4%
4. Repairing and re-conditioning farm machinery	100% member and chapter participation	54.5% members 76.0% chapters
5. Buying war bonds and stamps	100% of members, chapters, and associations participating \$6,500,000 invested by October 1, 1944	66.1% members 60.2% chapters 61.2% associations \$8,185,276.78 invested
6. Guarding and protecting life and property	100% of State associations with safety programs	53.0%
7. Conserving resources	100% of chapters and members participating	43.0% members 55.6% chapters

Activity	Goal	Accomplishment
8. Cooperating with other groups on wartime effort	100% chapter cooperation	71.1% chapters
9. Increasing size of farming programs	100% member participation	52.3% members
10. Improving livestock and crop production	100% member participation	53.6% livestock 49.2% crops
11. Preventing livestock losses	100% chapter participation	48.6% chapters
12. Repairing farm buildings and equipment	100% member participation	48.3% members
13. Maintaining membership	210,000 active members	204,175
14. Using Official Manuals	100% of members having access to Official Manual	84.4% members
15. Using Official Secretary and Treasurer Books	100% of chapters using both books	72.4% Treasurer's 75.7% Secretary's
16. Advancing members to higher degrees	100% of States naming full quota of qualified American Farmer applicants	81.6%
17. Providing chapter libraries	100% of the chapters with libraries which include 5 or more F. F. A. books	83.7%
18. Practicing thrift	100% of chapters and members participating	43.0% members 53.2% chapters
19. Participating in public speaking	100% of chapters and States holding public speaking contests	28.2% chapters 89.7% States
20. Providing Official meeting paraphernalia, equipment and supplies	100% of chapters and State associations having standard materials with which to work	76.6% chapters
21. Using Official ceremonies	100% of the chapters using opening and closing, and degree ceremonies according to the Official Manual	87.4%
22. Following parliamentary procedure	100% of the chapters conducting meetings according to accepted parliamentary procedure	89.6%
23. Building programs of work	100% of States and chapters with written continuing programs of work giving special emphasis to war effort	77.9% chapters 87.7% associations
24. Holding meetings and conventions	100% of the chapters and State associations hold regular meetings and conventions	85.9% chapters 36 associations reported conventions
25. Providing State publications	100% of States with an official publication	75.5%
27. Continuing National F. F. A. Day	100% of State associations participating	42.8%
26. Providing leadership training	100% State participation	71.4%



The F. F. A. Service Flag which was unveiled at the 17th National Convention. Standing, left to right, 1943-44 National First Vice President O. Beverley Roller, Weyers Cave, Virginia, and 1943-44 National President Robert Bowman, Buttonwillow, California.

28. Maintaining National Camp	Keep camp buildings and grounds in good condition during war	
29. Maintaining public relations	Keep the public informed on what the F. F. A. is and does	16 associations gave radio programs
30. Meetings	Every member attend at least 50% of chapter meetings	62.7%

Members of the Future Farmers of America are proud of their wartime achievements. F. F. A. chapters and members have placed major emphasis on war activities. The following national summaries show the scope of these achievements:

1. Total maturity value of war bonds purchased in the name of the State Association.....	\$ 63,715.00
2. Total maturity value of war bonds and stamps purchased by chapters and individual members....	8,121,561.78
3. Total maturity value of war bonds and stamps sold by chapters and individual members.....	8,106,607.21
4. Pounds of scrap metal collected by chapters.....	62,343,443
5. Pounds of paper collected by chapters.....	20,625,448
6. Pounds of rags collected by chapters.....	1,179,559
7. Pounds of rubber collected by chapters.....	2,721,694
8. Number of burlap bags collected by chapters.....	735,017
9. Number of members serving in the armed forces of the United States (active and associate)....	138,548
10. Number of Victory Gardens grown by F. F. A. members	6,442
Total acreage.....	63,411.4
Number of Victory Gardens grown by F.F.A. chapters	89,220
Total acreage.....	4,769.0
11. Number of farm workers placed on farms through the aid of the F.F.A.....	19,849
12. Number of F.F.A. members who helped Victory Farm Volunteers to become acquainted with farm life	14,325
13. Number of Victory Farm Volunteers helped by F.F.A. members to become acquainted with farm life	20,588
14. Number of farm machines repaired by F.F.A. members	245,807
15. Number of pieces of farm equipment constructed	95,932
16. Number of food conservation centers constructed and equipped with the assistance of F.F.A. chapters	1,091
17. Number of No. 2 cans of food processed by F.F.A. chapters	2,482,806

The F.F.A. has received recognition from the U. S. Treasury, Office of Civilian Defense, and National Safety Council in connection with war bond campaigns, assistance rendered in defense activities, and for achievements in the field of safety.

State Associations have again made outstanding records in the purchase of war bonds. Hawaii has purchased \$11,000 worth in the name of the association; California, \$9,000; Mississippi, \$5,000; Texas, \$4,000; and Virginia, \$4,000. Impressive records have been made by F.F.A. chapters and members in many States in the purchase of war bonds and stamps. The following States have made significant contributions in this respect: Texas, \$689,906.88; Illinois, \$606,961.30; California, \$584,154.42; Ohio, \$461,773.12; Oklahoma, \$350,423.05; and North Carolina, \$314,210.00. Many State associations have been active in the sale of war bonds and stamps. Alabama sold \$1,480,291.95; South Carolina, \$935,841.96; California, \$850,000.00; Kentucky, \$522,397.00; and Mississippi, \$500,000.00.

In scrap metal collections Texas reported 6,724,450 pounds; Oklahoma, 4,277,198; Ohio, 3,973,128; Kentucky, 3,830,506; and Mississippi, 3,484,000.

Members of the Future Farmers of America are doing their part on the battlefronts of the world. We receive many thrilling stories of their activities. First Lieutenant Mack Bunderson, State Farmer from Ferron, Utah, won the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oakleaf clusters for distinguished service in the U. S. 13th Air Force in the South Pacific. Mack was escorting Liberator bombers on a raid in Japanese territory when several Zeros attacked him and the escorted Liberators. His compass was knocked out, he was injured in the right forearm and the controls were likewise damaged. Mack flew homeward with the sun in the general direction of his base and numerous Zeros followed him. He guided the plane with his knees and made a wheels-up landing and was immediately rushed to a hospital.

Lieutenant Colonel Chesley Gordon Peterson, one of the top fighter pilots in the European theater of operations, was an active member of the Future Farmers of America in Santaquin, Utah. Colonel Peterson is the youngest fighter group commander in the Eighth Air Force, and has a row of British and American decorations. The German Luftwaffe pilots have special instructions to shoot him down at all costs. "Future Farmers" are proud of Colonel Peterson's outstanding accomplishments.

Ralph Hanks, former member of the Red Bluff, California, Chapter, recently became an "ace" by downing five Jap Zero planes in the South Pacific. However, Lieutenant (j.g.) Hanks got his five in a most peculiar way—all in one 24-hour period!

For gallantry in action last July 30th, the War Department has announced award of the Silver Star to First Lieutenant Donald W. Hedrick of Willapa, Pacific County, Washington. Lieutenant Hedrick

won his decoration when, single-handed, he attacked a formation of twenty-four Japanese bombers and thirty fighter planes over Heng Yang. He is credited with destruction of five bombers and one probable fighter plane in the attack. On the second run against the enemy he was forced to retire when five of his guns were disabled. Lieutenant Hedrick is a graduate of Valley High School, where he majored in vocational agriculture. Don was made a State Farmer in 1934, and served as State president for the year 1934-35. He was a State delegate to the National Convention the same year.

Members of the Future Farmers of America serving in the armed forces have not forgotten the F.F.A. Private Mack Collins, a former member of the West Buncombe, North Carolina, Chapter, has organized a Future Farmers of America chapter in New Guinea, according to a letter received by R. H. Lankford, vocational agriculture teacher at West Buncombe High School. The letter stated that he had met several F.F.A. boys from this and other States and that the group decided to form a chapter and install him as its president and wanted information as to what kind of crops would grow there.

You have a just right to be proud of the service being rendered by the members of the F.F.A. in the armed forces of our Country. These hard-hitting troops from the farm are helping write today's history on the battlefronts of the world in a thrilling manner with their heroic deeds.

This is a young man's war—on the farm as well as on the fighting front. The record of achievement by members of the F.F.A. in helping to produce food, buying war bonds, protecting life and property, collecting scrap, repairing farm machinery, and in helping perform other essential activities has proven vital to our success on the battlefronts of the world.

OFFICER TRAVEL

The national officers have presented their interesting reports. We appreciate very much the excellent work done by our officers. They have served the F.F.A. most effectively under great handicaps. It has been difficult at times for them to leave their farming programs but each of their records shows that many appearances have been made. We regret that in a few cases we were unable to comply with a request from a State for a visit by a national officer.

STATE CONVENTIONS

Most State associations reported that a streamlined State convention had been held during the past year. Such conventions have proven to be essential in the carrying out of a strong State program.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Renewed emphasis has been placed on training in leadership. A number of States reported excellent results from leadership schools for State officers. Training schools have also been held in many States for local chapter officers.

CAMPS

Many State F.F.A. camps have been operated this year. Farm work and restrictions on travel have made it impractical for some camps to be operated this year. The national F.F.A. camp has been closed for the duration.

RADIO

The National Farm and Home Hour has been discontinued as a daily feature by the Blue Network. It is presented only on Saturdays. The time allotted to the F.F.A. on that program on the second Saturday of each month has been reduced to four minutes. This time is used for the presentation of news items about the Future Farmers of America. Many State associations and local chapters presented regular radio broadcasts during the past year.

NATIONAL CONTESTS

Forty-two chapters from twenty-four States submitted reports in the National Chapter Contest for 1943-44.

Our National Public Speaking Contest continues to be one of our most valuable and popular national events in this classification.

SUMMARY

A summary of the work done by the various State associations for the year ending June 30, 1944, based on the information obtained from their annual reports, is as follows:

Total number chartered active local chapters.....	6,502
Total reported active membership in chartered chapters.....	204,175
Total number of active members now holding Green Hand Degree	102,086
Total number of active members now holding Chapter Farmer Degree.....	97,481
Total number of active members now holding State Farmer Degree	4,220
Total number of active members now holding American Farmer Degree.....	388
Total number of Associate members (local).....	147,107
Total number of Honorary members (local).....	21,113
Total number of Honorary members (State).....	2,264
Grand total of members reported.....	374,659
Number of members who participated in producing food for Victory	158,624
Number of members who participated in salvaging needed war materials.....	140,601
Number of chapters that participated in salvaging needed war materials.....	4,974
Number of chapters that assisted with the farm labor shortage	4,253
Number of members who repaired and/or reconditioned farm machinery.....	110,410

Number of chapters that participated in the repair and/or reconditioning of farm machinery.....	4,939
Number of members who purchased war bonds and stamps	134,085
Number of chapters that purchased war bonds and stamps	3,912
Number of members engaged in organized conservation work	87,276
Number of chapters engaged in organized conservation work	3,619
Number of chapters cooperating with other groups on war-time effort.....	4,621
Number of members who increased the size of their farming programs during the year.....	106,030
Number of members who used improved livestock practices	108,711
Number of members who used improved crop production practices	99,857
Number of chapters engaging in organized livestock loss prevention work.....	3,160
Number of members who repaired farm buildings and/or equipment	97,853
Number of members who have access to the official manuals including the revised 1943 constitution.....	171,209
Number of chapters using official chapter secretary's book	4,921
Number of chapters using official chapter treasurer's book	4,705
Number of chapters having libraries with 5 or more F.F.A. books	5,441
Number of members carrying out definite thrift practices..	87,285
Number of chapters participating in thrift practices.....	3,461
Number of chapters holding a public speaking contest.....	1,836
Number of chapters possessing full meeting equipment as listed in the manual.....	4,980
Number of chapters using the official opening and closing ceremonies and degree ceremonies for regular meetings	5,681
Number of chapters using accepted form of parliamentary procedure in conducting chapter meetings.....	5,828
Number of chapters having definite continuing written program of work giving special emphasis to war effort....	5,065
Number of chapters holding regular meetings.....	5,587
Number of members who have attended at least 50% of chapter meetings.....	127,094
Number of chapters that have listened to one or more national F.F.A. radio programs during the year.....	2,739
Number of chapters that have prepared and given one or more radio programs.....	874
Number of chapters issuing news sheets or news letters....	1,617
Number of chapters preparing publicity material regularly	3,334
Number of State associations providing leadership training schools or conferences for local chapter officers and members	35

Total number of chapters participating in State leadership training schools or conferences.....	2,676
Number of State associations holding public speaking contests	44
Number of State associations sponsoring radio broadcast series	16
Number of State associations having a regular State paper, periodical, or news sheet.....	37
Number of printed State F.F.A. publications.....	21
Number of mimeographed State F.F.A. publications.....	16
Number of State associations having a written continuing program of work giving special emphasis to war effort	43
Number of State Associations having a safety program in operation	26
Number of chapters within States visited by State officers	756
Total amount reported as invested in farming by active members as of January 1, 1944.....	\$20,988,468.33
Number of collegiate chapters of F.F.A. reported in operation	12
Reported membership in collegiate chapters.....	278

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA FOUNDATION, Incorporated

Since the Smith-Hughes Act was passed in 1917, many friends of the Future Farmers of America, the New Farmers of America, and other students of vocational agriculture have requested the privilege of making awards and prizes available to these farm boys. The Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated, was organized to serve as a medium between the Future Farmers of America, the New Farmers of America, students of vocational agriculture, and commercial companies, organizations and individuals desiring to make awards and grants to these groups.

The purposes of this Foundation as stated in the Articles of Incorporation are "to receive, maintain, and hold, by bequest, devise, gift, or otherwise, either absolutely or in trust, for any of its purposes, any property, real or personal, fund or funds, without limitation as to amount or value; to convey such property and to invest and reinvest any principal; and to deal with and expend the income and/or principal of the Corporation for such educational activities and in such manner as in the judgment of the Board of Trustees will stimulate and promote the best interests of students and former students of vocational education in agriculture on a local, State, or national basis."

The direction and management of the affairs and business of the Corporation, including the control and disposition of its property and funds, is vested in a Board of Trustees, fifteen in number. This Board is composed of individuals who are familiar with the agricultural education program and capable of conducting the affairs of the corporation in a manner satisfactory to the agricultural education program and to the donors to the Foundation.

The Foundation will place major emphasis on assisting young men, who are students or former students of vocational agriculture, in becoming established in farming. Other appropriate activities and awards as limited by funds made available will be sponsored by the Foundation.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Due to war conditions it has been necessary to continue closing a number of departments of vocational agriculture. This has led to a decrease in the number of F.F.A. chapters and membership in the organization. A total of 243 chapters was dropped last year and the total national membership declined 3,810. In spite of the war-time handicaps a number of State associations have increased their membership. The following States were outstanding in this respect: Oklahoma Association increased its membership over last year, 1511; Alabama, 987; Florida, 706; Puerto Rico, 535; and Michigan, 525.

This year a total of 247,059 boys were enrolled in in-school classes of vocational agriculture and were thus eligible for membership in the F.F.A. If all of them had become members our membership would have increased instead of declining. There were 451 departments of vocational agriculture without F.F.A. chapters. This is indeed a fertile field for expansion. Many State associations reported an active F.F.A. chapter in each department of vocational agriculture. It is hoped that associations not attaining this record will try to do as well.

In closing I wish to compliment the student officers for their effort and achievements this year. It has been a pleasure to work with them. I wish to express my appreciation to the National Board of Trustees, the National Advisory Council, to State Advisers and Executive Secretaries, and to our office force for their cooperation and assistance.

The Future Farmers of America organization has accomplished much in the past. Its wartime program is constructive and challenging. Let us continue to work together and build a greater F.F.A. for tomorrow—an F.F.A. that will provide superior training for farm boys and maximum service to rural America.

Respectfully submitted,

A. W. TENNEY,
National Executive Secretary.

Report of the National Treasurer

November 30, 1944.

The Officers and Directors,
Future Farmers of America,
Richmond, Virginia.

Gentlemen :

We have made an examination of the books of account and record of

D. J. HOWARD, TREASURER, FUTURE FARMERS OF
AMERICA,

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

for the year ended October 31, 1944, and have submitted a detailed report thereon.

In connection with our examination we have reviewed the system of internal control and the accounting procedures of the organization and, without making a detailed audit of the transactions, have examined or tested accounting records of the organization and other supporting evidence, by methods and to the extent we deemed appropriate.

In our opinion, the statements herewith submitted, subject to the comments contained in our detailed report referred to above, present fairly the position of Future Farmers of America at October 31, 1944, and the results of its operations for the year, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Respectfully submitted,

LEACH, CALKINS & SCOTT,
Certified Public Accountants
Richmond, Virginia.

BALANCE SHEET
October 31, 1944

EXHIBIT "A"

A S S E T S

CASH IN BANK:

Shenandoah Valley National Bank (Exhibit "C").....	\$15,281.55
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INVESTMENTS:

U.S. Savings Bonds, Series F: Maturity Value.....	\$40,000.00	
Less: Reserve for Unearned Interest.....	10,180.00	29,820.00

TRADE-MARK.....		500.00
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FIXED ASSETS:

National Camp:

Land.....	\$12,343.23	
Buildings.....	15,317.16	
Equipment.....	2,283.43	\$29,943.82
Office Furniture and Equipment.....	212.90	30,156.72
		\$75,758.27

LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH

**INCOME TAX WITHHELD
FROM EMPLOYEES:**

On October Salaries.....	\$ 30.10
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SURPLUS:

Balance—Nov. 1, 1943.....	\$65,637.52
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Additions:

Capital Expenditures
from Revenue:

U.S. Savings Bonds.....	\$3,700.00	
Mimeograph Duplicator...	112.90	3,812.90

Excess of Revenue over Expenditures (Exhibit "B")	6,277.75
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Balance—Oct. 31, 1944.....	75,728.17
	\$75,758.27

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended October 31, 1944

EXHIBIT "B"

REVENUE:

	Revenue Collected		Budget Estimate	Excess Over Estimate
	Detail	Total		
Membership Dues (Schedule 1)...		\$20,425.10	\$18,000.00	\$ 2,425.10
Royalties:				
L. G. Balfour Company.....	\$4,983.50			
Chapter Supply Company.....	99.61			
French-Bray Printing Company..	434.46			
St. Louis Button Company.....	30.93			
Staunton Novelty Company.....	411.37			
U. S. Recording Company.....	.81			
Universal Uniform Company	1,249.93			
Totals—Royalties.....		7,210.61	4,000.00	3,210.61
Interest Earned:				
On U. S. Savings Bonds.....		170.00		170.00
Miscellaneous Revenue:				
Sundry Items.....		127.60		127.60
Total Revenue.....		\$27,933.31	\$22,000.00	\$ 5,933.31

EXPENDITURES:

	Expended		Appro- priations	Unexpended Balance
	Detail	Total		
Traveling:				
National Officers.....	\$4,481.17		\$ 3,500.00	\$ (981.17)
Advisory Committee.....	387.30		500.00	112.70
Totals—Traveling.....		\$ 4,868.47	\$ 4,000.00	\$ (868.47)
Convention:				
Delegates' Expense.....	\$2,203.09		\$ 2,450.00	\$ 246.91
Entertainment.....	243.71		300.00	56.29
Buttons, Badges, Programs....	30.04		450.00	419.96
Miscellaneous.....	1,114.68		1,100.00	(14.68)
Totals—Convention.....		3,591.52	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 708.48
American Farmer Keys:				
Total Expenditure.....		1,514.77	\$ 1,400.00	\$ (114.77)
Prizes and Awards:				
Public Speaking Contests.....	\$ 205.56		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 794.44
Plaques, Pins, Emblems.....	14.56		300.00	285.44

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

[69]

Miscellaneous.....	\$ 27.00	\$ \$200.00	\$ 173.00	
Totals—Prizes.....		\$ 247.12	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,252.88
Printing:				
Literature.....	\$1,313.97	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 186.03	
Stationery, Forms, etc.....	305.40	700.00	394.60	
Totals—Printing.....		1,619.37	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 580.63
Radio Program:				
Total Expenditure.....		382.75	\$ 500.00	\$ 117.25
National Office:				
Telephone and Telegraph.....	\$ 204.92	\$ 150.00	\$ (54.92)	
Postage and Express.....	72.05	75.00	2.95	
Bond Premiums and Taxes....	80.00	125.00	45.00	
Publicity Materials.....	40.15	75.00	34.85	
Supplies and Equipment.....	210.82	150.00	(60.82)	
Miscellaneous.....	49.49	325.00	275.51	
Totals—National Office...		657.43	\$ 900.00	\$ 242.57
Clerical Assistance:				
Regular Salaries.....	\$2,626.71	\$ 2,520.00	\$ (106.71)	
Extra Help.....		480.00	480.00	
Totals—Clerical.....		2,626.71	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 373.29
National Camp:				
Salaries and Wages.....	\$1,260.00	\$ 1,260.00		
Insurance.....	329.86	400.00	\$ 70.14	
Light and Power.....	37.83	200.00	162.17	
Fuel and Oil.....	6.26	150.00	143.74	
Telephone.....	34.97	60.00	25.03	
Maintenance.....	191.09	1,430.00	1,238.91	
Totals—Camp.....		1,860.01	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,639.99
Contingent:				
Audit.....	\$ 100.00			
Service Flag.....	65.00			
F. F. A. Foundation.....	390.62			
U. S. Savings Bonds.....	3,700.00			
Miscellaneous.....	31.79			
Totals—Contingent.....		4,287.41	9,843.70	5,556.29
Total Expenditures.....		\$21,655.56	\$31,143.70	\$ 9,488.14
EXCESS OF REVENUE				
OVER EXPENDITURES				
		\$ 6,277.75	\$ (9,143.70)	\$15,421.45
(Exh. "A")				

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
For the Year Ended October 31, 1944

EXHIBIT "C"

BALANCE—November 1, 1943..... \$ 9,165.00

RECEIPTS:

Membership Dues (Schedule 1).....	\$20,425.10	
Royalties.....	7,210.61	
Income Tax Withheld from Salaries—		
October.....	30.10	
Miscellaneous Items.....	127.60	
		<hr/>
Total Receipts.....		27,793.41
		<hr/>
		\$36,958.41

DISBURSEMENTS:

Traveling Expense.....	\$ 4,868.47	
Convention.....	3,591.52	
American Farmer Keys.....	1,514.77	
Prizes and Awards.....	247.12	
Printing.....	1,619.37	
Radio Program.....	382.75	
National Office Expense.....	657.43	
Clerical Assistance.....	2,626.71	
National Camp Expense.....	1,860.01	
Audit.....	100.00	
Service Flag.....	65.00	
National F. F. A. Foundation Expense....	390.62	
U. S. Savings Bonds Purchased.....	3,700.00	
Miscellaneous Expense.....	31.79	
Payment of Account Payable 10-31-43....	21.30	
		<hr/>
Total Disbursements.....		21,676.86
		<hr/>

BALANCE—October 31, 1944 (Exhibit "A")..... \$15,281.55

MEMBERSHIP DUES COLLECTED
For the Year Ended October 31, 1944

SCHEDULE 1

Association	Amount	Association	Amount
Alabama.....	\$ 673.00	Nevada.....	18.80
Arizona.....	50.00	New Hampshire....	17.80
Arkansas.....	622.60	New Jersey.....	73.00
California.....	689.70	New Mexico.....	82.40
Colorado.....	101.60	New York.....	476.10
Connecticut.....	32.00	North Carolina....	1,052.20
Delaware.....	30.80	North Dakota.....	70.20
Florida.....	406.10	Ohio.....	800.00
Georgia.....	880.80	Oklahoma.....	860.70
Hawaii.....	194.70	Oregon.....	166.40
Idaho.....	149.50	Pennsylvania.....	733.50
Illinois.....	1,002.30	Puerto Rico.....	403.30
Indiana.....	150.10	South Carolina....	418.20
Iowa.....	411.50	South Dakota.....	92.90
Kansas.....	434.80	Tennessee.....	747.70
Kentucky.....	488.90	Texas.....	2,167.40
Louisiana.....	663.70	Utah.....	262.30
Maine.....	92.70	Vermont.....	32.70
Maryland.....	138.30	Virginia.....	650.70
Massachusetts.....	46.40	Washington.....	306.60
Michigan.....	554.70	West Virginia.....	279.30
Minnesota.....	307.40	Wisconsin.....	715.30
Mississippi.....	614.00	Wyoming.....	56.70
Missouri.....	782.50		
Montana.....	156.70		
Nebraska.....	266.10		
		TOTAL DUES	
		COLLECTED	
		(Exhibits "B"	
		and "C").....	\$20,425.10

Awards and Contests

Monday evening, October 9, was designated as "Award Night" of Convention week. Delegates, guests, and friends of the F.F.A. organization gathered in the Little Theater and listened attentively for it was here that the results of competition for the year, on a national basis, were revealed.

Chapter Contest winners were announced by Beverley Roller and Bob Barthelmess, the results being shown on page 80.

Mr. H. F. Linde of the Educational Division of Deere & Company presented brief citations on the following boys who were winners of the John Deere Farm Mechanics Awards:

National Winner—George Fogle, Okemos, Michigan.

North Atlantic Regional Winner—Owen E. Heiss, Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania.

Southern Regional Winner—Roy Richard Henke, Kerrville, Texas.

Pacific Regional Winner—Dean Elliott, Ft. Benton, Montana.

A check for \$500.00 was given to George Fogle and a check for \$250.00 was given to each of the three other winners.

The next event of the evening was the presentation of \$25.00 checks to successful American Farmer candidates by Mr. H. E. Nickloy, Sales Manager, and Mr. C. O. Gipson, Director of Priorities, in behalf of the Mid-States Steel and Wire Company.

Following this Mr. W. A. Cochel, Editor of the "Weekly Kansas City Star," announced the winners of the "Star Farmer" awards for 1944. They were as follows:

Star Farmer of America—Elton Ellison, Ralls, Texas.

Star Farmer, Western Region—Amelio Bell, Fallon, Nevada.

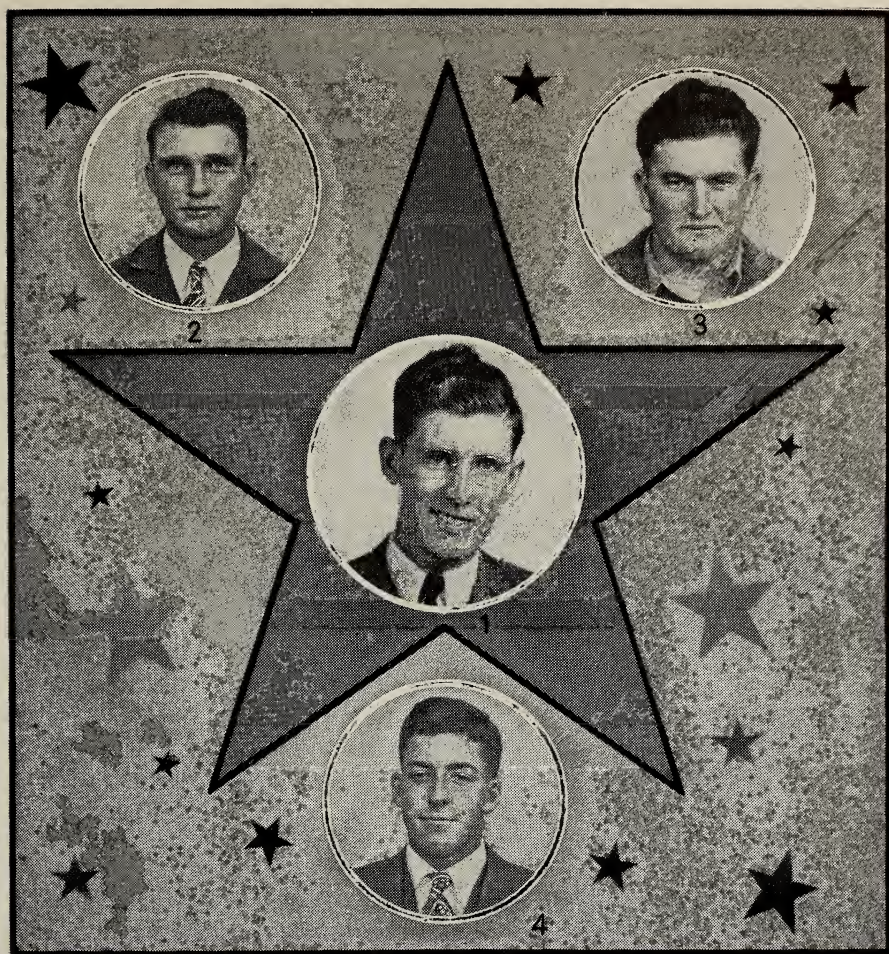
Star Farmer, North Central Region—Erwin E. Thalmann, Haven, Kansas.

Star Farmer, North Atlantic Region—Robert L. Lawyer, Mt. Gilead, Ohio.

A check for \$500.00 went to Ellison and checks for \$100.00 were given the other three Star Farmers named.

The J. A. Linke Award in the form of a native cherry plaque made by Past National Adviser, J. A. Linke, went to the Cooper, Texas, Chapter where Elton Ellison, Star American Farmer for 1944 held membership. This special award gave recognition to the "home" chapter of the Star American Farmer.

Honorary American Farmer Keys were presented by National President Robert Bowman to Albert S. Goss, Edwin J. Sommer, H. M. Railsback, Kerlin O. Judy, Thomas W. Glaze, J. A. Johnson, John Welbes, R. C. Mitchell, A. W. Tenney, and E. J. Johnson.



- 1—ELTON ELLISON, of Ralls, Texas—1944 Star Farmer of America.
- 2—ERWIN EUGENE THALMANN, Haven, Kansas—Star Farmer of North Central Region for 1944.
- 3—AMELIO BELL, Fallon, Nevada—Star Farmer, Pacific Region, 1944.
- 4—ROBERT LINN LAWYER, Mt. Gilead, Ohio—Star Farmer of North Atlantic Region for 1944.

Star Farmer Awards

Since 1929, Star Farmers have been selected annually from the American Farmer candidates receiving the Degree at the time of the national F.F.A. convention. The records of outstanding candidates are reviewed by a committee acting for the *Weekly Kansas City Star*. The records of the four winners follow.

ELTON ELLISON**Star Farmer of America**

Elton Ellison, 20-year-old Future Farmer of Ralls, Texas, has been selected as the 1944 Star Farmer of America. Elton, a graduate of the Cooper High School in 1941, developed an outstanding farming program during the years he was in high school that led to his establishment in farming. In addition, he has been active as a leader in Future Farmer work both on the local and State levels and since graduation he has taken an active part in community life.

When this young farmer enrolled in vocational agriculture in 1937, he had enough money of his own to purchase a gilt but it was necessary for him to borrow money from the local bank with which to finance his 8-acre cotton project. He paid off the loan that fall and made enough profit each year to increase the scope of his project program while in high school.

After graduation from high school, Elton continued to expand his farming operations. In 1942 he purchased a tractor and the following year used his earnings to purchase some dairy cows and a pick-up truck. All this time the Ellison family had been renters but in 1943 they had an opportunity to purchase a 260-acre farm and Elton advanced \$2,000 that he had made in his supervised practice program toward the purchase of the farm. In addition to aiding in the purchase of the home place, Elton rented an adjoining 270 acres from which he is farming 100 acres of cotton, 160 acres of milo, and 10 acres of Sudan. He pays one-third rent on the feed crops and one-fourth on the cotton to the landlord. On the home place he is farming 120 acres of cotton, 105 acres of milo, 17 acres of Sudan, 10 acres of hegari, and he has 64 hogs, 4 dairy cattle, 2 beef cattle, and 350 white Leghorn hens.

In 1943, Elton realized \$3,805.97 labor income from his program. His prospects this year are for a larger labor income.

Elton has terraced the home farm and contoured the land he is renting. He does all of the repair work on the farm machinery and according to the person who inspected this candidate's program, the equipment was all in a good state of repair. His hogs are registered and his dairy cattle are purebred Jerseys. Since Elton started his supervised practice program he has always used certified seed for all crops grown on his farm.

Elton has been a leader in his school and is developing into a leader in his community since graduation from high school. During the first year he was in high school, he was president of his class; he has served as secretary, vice-president, and president of his Future Farmer chapter; and he was also selected as secretary of his area and president of his Future Farmer district. This Future Farmer has been active in the cooperative ventures of his chapter which purchased large amounts of tankage and milo and cotton

seed. Elton has carried this training over into his farming program by becoming a member of the cotton gin cooperative and the consumers cooperative. He sells his hogs through the Lubbock County Cooperative Association.

In July of this year Elton was married and he and his wife are living in an attractive home which is equipped with modern conveniences. He is making plans for the improvement of the home and farm for several years in advance.

ERWIN E. THALMANN

Star Farmer—North Central Region

Progress in becoming a successful breeder of purebred livestock, the development of outstanding leadership in the Future Farmers of America, and participation in cooperative activities made it possible for Erwin E. Thalmann, 18-year-old Future Farmer from Haven, Kansas, to be selected as the 1944 Star Farmer of the North Central Region.

Erwin started his supervised farming program in vocational agriculture in the fall of 1939 with 2 Angus heifer calves that he already owned and 2 more Angus heifers, a Chester White sow, and 9 western ewes that he purchased. Erwin expanded his supervised farming program through the natural increase of livestock, the growing of crops, and reinvesting in farming the profits from the sale of his livestock and crops. Profits from his livestock enterprises enabled him to expand his registered Angus herd very rapidly. He started a herd of registered Berkshire hogs using the returns from his grade sow and litter. He developed his western ewe flock to over 50 head which he sold and purchased a flock of registered Southdown sheep.

At the present time, Erwin has 17 head of Aberdeen Angus cattle, consisting of 8 cows, 2 bulls, and 7 other cattle; 20 purebred Berkshire sows and gilts, 3 boars, and 69 fattening hogs and pigs; 17 Southdown ewes, 1 ram, and 31 lambs; 20 acres of oats, 5 acres of Atlas sorgo, and 18 acres of barley. His labor income for his supervised farming program while in school amounted to \$6,970.06. His present farming operations are a continuation of the program he started while a high school student of vocational agriculture. His present financial statement shows assets of \$6,947.20 which indicates that he is becoming well established in farming.

Erwin has been a very outstanding leader in F.F.A. activities. He has held the offices of vice president and president of his local chapter and was elected vice president of the Kansas Association of Future Farmers. The president of the State Association was called to the armed forces and Erwin was named acting president of the State association. Erwin demonstrated his ability to work with others by engaging in a large number of F.F.A. cooperative

activities which included the purchase of livestock and feed, building and operating a sheep dipping vat. He has participated in a large number of F.F.A. leadership events such as public speaking contests, district officer training schools, livestock judging contests, State association meetings, and the National F.F.A. Convention. He has served on or acted as chairman of a large number of committees and participated in many recreational activities.

His interest in improved livestock is shown by his active membership in the American Aberdeen Angus Breeders' Association, American Berkshire Association, Southdown Sheep Breeders' Association. He has exhibited his livestock at the Kansas State Fair and other fairs.

Erwin was elected president of his high school junior class and president of the senior class. He was a leader in the Walther League, a member of his high school basketball team, track team, and glee club and mixed chorus.

AMELIO BELL

Star Farmer—Pacific Region

The State of Nevada may not be rated among the leading agricultural States but in spite of the desert and mountains which cover a considerable portion of the State there are irrigated areas which are highly productive. These irrigated valleys, though limited in area, and the livestock from the ranges contribute no small portion to the Nation's agricultural needs. The energy and vision of such young men as Amelio Bell of the Churchill County F.F.A. Chapter at Fallon will do much to improve the quality and increase the quantity of agricultural production in this State which in turn will lift the standard of rural life.

Amelio is a typical 22-year-old farm youth imbued with the spirit to excel. He was handicapped by the loss of his father which placed unusually heavy responsibilities upon him that delayed his graduation from high school. He was 20 years old when he graduated in 1942, but he was among the honor students of his class. Aided and abetted by desirable farm land and an interested cooperative mother, Amelio has wrought wonders on the farm he operates and manages.

Starting with a rather modest livestock program in 1938 as the beginning of his long-time supervised farming program, there has been a growth in Amelio's farming program consistent with the potential possibilities at hand. Beginning in the fall of 1938 with the start of his high school career, the projects in his farming program consisted of two dairy cows and a sow that produced a litter of shoats for market. From the net returns of slightly less than \$300 from these projects, funds were made available to add new projects. During his in-school program, Amelio had a labor

income of \$2,220.35 from his projects and a net profit of over \$1,400.

Looking to the future and building for it in a sound manner has been Amelio's plan. Upon his graduation from high school, therefore, he rapidly expanded his farming activities. He now operates and manages 320 acres of land on a 50-50 basis with the owners and on which he produced alfalfa, pasture, wheat, barley, garden products, potatoes, orchard fruits, poultry, dairy cattle, beef cattle, and swine. For the two crop years, 1942 and 1943, the total net profit was slightly in excess of \$8,000. The labor income actually received by Amelio during these 2 years totaled \$5,257.85.

It has been estimated in reports that Amelio's home farm has improved more than 100 percent under his management and operation during the past 6 years. The livestock has been improved, the buildings and other facilities have been remodeled as has the farm home, all as a result of Amelio's efforts. The full respect of his neighbors has been gained because of his foresight, thrift, and good farming methods inaugurated through study and careful planning. He has soundly demonstrated his ability as a leader, student, and farmer. Since graduation from high school, he has been recognized as a community leader and worker—one who is always willing to do more than his part. Amelio, by making the most of his opportunities, is a credit to rural America and the organization he so ably represents.

A summary of a few reasons why Amelio is a Star Farmer includes the following:

1. President of the State F.F.A. Association.
2. President of the local F.F.A. Chapter.
3. Served as a delegate to the State and National conventions.
4. Four years on livestock judging teams.
5. Captain of football team, also on track team.
6. Student body president.
7. President of the Chapter Purebred Swine Cooperative.
8. Member of parliamentary team that won district and State contests.
9. Public Speaking contestant.
10. Member of Honor Society—average grade about 90.
11. Rotary Club honorary member.
12. Donations show him to be thoughtful of others.
13. Completed 4 years of vocational agriculture.
14. Received over \$2,200 from in-school farming programs.
15. Received over \$5,200 in 2 years from out-of-school farming program.
16. Farming program shows continuous development.
17. Has 50 percent partnership in 324 acres of land.
18. Has 50 percent ownership of 141 head of livestock.
19. Has 50 percent ownership of 1,103 head of poultry.

20. Share value of farm machinery \$2,392.50.
21. Total assets over \$25,000.
22. Third farming season out of school.
23. Age 22—therefore mature in years as well as ability.
24. Outstanding improvement projects during period of in-school farming program.
25. Outstanding improvement projects during period of out-of-school farming program.
26. Supplementary farm practices very practical.

ROBERT LAWYER

Star Farmer—North Atlantic Region

The ambition to develop an outstanding farming program coupled with a firm determination to preserve his F.F.A. chapter and its activities in spite of adverse conditions, resulted in the selection of 19-year-old Robert Lawyer of Mt. Gilead, Ohio, as the Star Farmer of the North Atlantic Region.

Miscellaneous gifts from his grandparents which amounted to \$12.50 gave Robert his start in farming. Robert's father has been regularly employed for the past several years in a local factory. Up to the time Robert entered high school the fields on the farm had been rented to local farmers. During his first year in high school he took over the active management of the 60-acre home farm. He started his supervised farm practice program by purchasing a Chester White gilt for \$10. He added 4 head of feeder steers and 10 acres of corn to complete his first year's program. His labor income for this year was \$234.12.

The next year his farming program included 8 head of feeder steers, 9 head of dairy cows, 12 head of feeder hogs, 6 head of sheep, and 9 acres of corn.

In his third year he had 8 head of feeder steers, 8 head of dairy cattle, 2 sows and litters, 24 head of sheep, 20 acres of corn, and 14 acres of oats.

In his senior year in high school he had 28 head of feeder steers, 8 head of dairy cattle, 7 head of sheep, 5 feeder pigs, 4 sows and litters, 10 acres of soybeans, 32 acres of oats, and 36 acres of corn.

During his first year out of high school he had further expanded his program until he had 6 feeder steers, 8 beef heifers, 13 head of dairy cattle, 16 head of feeder hogs, 8 sows and litters, 10 sheep, 15 acres of wheat, 70 acres of corn, 43 acres of oats, 37 acres of soybeans, and 23 acres of hay. He has twelve different projects during the current year. In addition to the enterprises which he had the previous year, he now has 200 White Leghorn laying hens and 350 pullets. His farming program has shown consistent growth in scope and in managerial responsibility.

During the 4 years in school, his crop projects were shared on a 50-50 basis with his father. His total labor income from the in-school supervised farming program was \$4,133.56. As soon as he finished high school he purchased all the farm machinery from his father and in addition he bought a new grain drill, hammer mill, and a combine. He rented his father's farm and also a neighbor's farm of 63 acres for cash. This year he has purchased a 190-acre farm for which he has the entire responsibility for the interest, taxes, insurance, repairs, and payments on the loan. The farming unit of 275 acres which Robert is operating this year is approximately twice the size of the average unit in his home county.

This farming program has been accompanied by the use of outstanding crop, livestock, and soil improvement practices. It has developed to the point that Robert's total assets are \$9,202.71. Largely through his efforts the farmstead where he lives is modern, well painted, neat, and attractive. He has also modernized and improved the buildings on the farm which he purchased.

Robert has been treasurer and assistant adviser of his local Future Farmers of America chapter. In the absence of the teacher of vocational agriculture, who has been called into the armed services, Robert assumed the duties of the chapter adviser and maintained it throughout the past year. He was instrumental in helping many of the younger boys complete and summarize their projects. He was a delegate to the State F.F.A. Leadership Conference and to the State F.F.A. Convention. He was manager of an F.F.A. group project in dipping harness, chairman of the annual F.F.A. banquet, chairman of the hybrid seed corn purchasing committee, and chairman of the chapter pig feeding project. He has been a member of his County Purebred Livestock Association, his County Junior Fair Board, the Northern Ohio Breeders' Association for the artificial insemination of dairy cattle, the County Dairy Service Unit (dairy herd testing and inseminating), and a member of his local Grange.

Robert is truly established in farming. He has the land, the livestock, the equipment, the experience, and the ambition necessary to develop into a real farmer.

The Chapter Contest

The National F.F.A. Chapter Contest, conducted annually by the organization, is designed to encourage and reward chapter effort, stimulate group action among members, and to encourage improvement in local chapter programs of work. Both the interest shown and the actual accomplishments over a period of years give ample evidence of the effectiveness of this event. The Chapter Contest has been a valuable aid in stimulating both individual and cooperative effort and in crystallizing chapter programs of work into a series of worthwhile undertakings.

In scoring a chapter's program, consideration was given to: (1) the importance and appropriateness of the items included; (2) the goals of accomplishment set; and (3) the methods and devices used to attain the goals. This applied to each item on the score card.

Four levels of achievement were recognized as follows: Gold Emblem Chapters; Silver Emblem Chapters; Bronze Emblem Chapters; and Honorable Mention Chapters. All competing chapters were classified by a committee on this basis in terms of the program of work and final report submitted, using the score card shown above. The 1944 high-ranking chapters were:

Gold Emblem Classification

Pauls Valley, Oklahoma	Alpine, Texas
Buhler, Kansas	Albany Oregon
Flathead, Montana	Hurricane, West Virginia

Silver Emblem Classification

Alma, Michigan	Athens, Alabama
Mount Morris, Illinois	Isabella, Alabama
Talbotton-Woodland, Georgia	Magnolia, West Virginia
Lincoln, Utah	Mountain Lake, Minnesota

Bronze Emblem Classification

Beaver, Utah	Livingston, Texas
Pahoa, Hawaii	Rocky Mount, Virginia
Housatonic Valley, Connecticut	Lovington, Illinois
Lowell, Michigan	Neligh, Nebraska
Rugby, North Dakota	Brookings, South Dakota
Pioneer, Nebraska	

Honorable Mention

Yuma, Arizona	Tolleson, Arizona
Conway, Arkansas	Paragould, Arkansas
Tri-Ag, Connecticut	Dexter, Georgia
Poolesville, Maryland	Thurmont, Maryland
Bassfield, Mississippi	Binford, Mississippi
Velva, North Dakota	Branchville, South Carolina
Johnston, South Carolina	Miller, South Dakota
Bledsoe, Tennessee	Bruceton, Tennessee
Amelia, Virginia	

A total of 614 chapters filed entries and 42 State winners reached the finals. The Gold, Silver, and Bronze Emblem Classification winners received an appropriately inscribed certificate as well as national plaques of miniature gold, silver, or bronze emblems, for plaques previously won. All awards were provided by the national organization of Future Farmers of America.

Judges for the 1944 Chapter Contest were: J. L. Perrin, Special Representative, Food Production War Training, U. S. Office of Education; G. C. Cook, Special Representative, Food Production War Training, U. S. Office of Education; and D. L. MacDonald, Special Representative, Food Production War Training, U. S. Office of Education. Accounts of the Gold Emblem Chapters follow:

ALPINE, TEXAS

(Gold Emblem)

Out in the semi-arid ranch country of the Lone Star State, 46 active members of the Alpine Chapter carried out a very outstanding program and were honored by having their Chapter placed in the Gold Emblem classification.

All of these members decided "to a man" they would have outstanding supervised farming programs. One hundred per cent had long-time project programs. Each member is sole owner of all he has undertaken. The average number of productive projects per member was 4.6; improvement projects 7, and every member carried out 62 supplementary practices. For good measure and to assist in the war effort, 75 per cent of the members had Victory Gardens.

Future Farmers are taught to cooperate with each other and their neighbors on all matters that pertain to the welfare of the group and the community. The Alpine Chapter incubated 2,808 eggs in their Chapter-owned incubator, bought 60,000 pounds of cracked wheat, 20,000 pounds of threshed milo, 10,000 pounds of mixed feeds and 6 tons of alfalfa hay. The members who did not have facilities at home to carry on their productive projects were provided feeding pens and barn space for their animal projects by the local Rotary Club.

The members really got into the Endless Chain business. They have a pig chain which returns two sow pigs from each litter; 15 ewes for which they receive a return of 15 ewe lambs; 100 mature chicks for which they receive 100 hatching eggs.

In war work the Chapter has combed the county for kitchen fats. The boys made a house to house drive for two days and collected 800 pounds of fats. The Chapter members own \$40,786 in war bonds.

The Alpine Chapter has a good record in leadership. One member is State President for the coming year, one member has been president of his area and four members have held district offices. For special achievement, the State Association grants the degree of

Lone Star Farmer. Four members of the Alpine Chapter were awarded this degree at the State Convention this year and three of them have definite plans for filing applications for the American Farmer Degree. The Chapter conducts leadership training schools and parliamentary procedure drill for all of its members. For outstanding leadership, a member is rewarded by having his name engraved on a plaque and hung in the Hall of Fame. All boys of the Chapter who have ever received the Lone Star Farmer Degree have had their pictures hung in the Hall of Fame. Every Chapter group has its picture hung in this Hall of Fame. This Hall of Fame is a room that is used to record or place the outstanding accomplishments of the Chapter from year to year.

The Chapter checks on the scholarship record of its members. The members have a leadership barometer and each member who gets on the honor roll each six weeks is given six points on this barometer.

In addition to their work, the Alpine boys find time for fun. The members go to summer camps, district and chapter banquets, F.F.A. parties and educational tours. Even at noon hour, the members are busy pitching horseshoes and playing other games.

PAULS VALLEY, OKLAHOMA

(Gold Emblem)

The Pauls Valley Chapter from the State of Oklahoma has been given a rating of Gold Emblem for 1943-44. The Pauls Valley Chapter has an active enrollment of 41 members who are vitally interested in their Chapter. Nine of the members are out of school but still maintain an active interest in Chapter affairs. The Chapter is led by Jack Gibbs as president, and Tom W. Glaze as adviser.

The Chapter members had an average of 4.4 productive projects per member from which they produced \$50,698.80 worth of agricultural products for the Pauls Valley community. The rates of production of livestock and crops of this Chapter exceeded the average made by 22 of the most successful farms in the area except in the case of broom corn and oats.

Performance records were kept on 33 litters so that the swine enterprise in the community could be further advanced. All sows owned by members were bred to boars that had proven their production.

Cotton, the major cash crop in the area, was emphasized in the supervised farming programs by having all members plant approved varieties and carry out recommended approved practices for this crop.

The Pauls Valley Chapter aided in community betterment by culling 4,000 hens, vaccinating 2,900 hogs against swine erysipelas, 835 cattle for Blackleg, and 2,000 chickens for fowl pox. The boys also presented 4 demonstrations at rural schools and assisted in the organization of adult courses in swine and poultry production. They

were instrumental in obtaining 100 tons of adapted hybrid seed corn for farmers.

Christmas boxes of food were given to 8 needy families. A donation of \$15.00 was contributed to the Red Cross and \$5.00 to the Infantile Paralysis campaign by the Chapter.

The Oklahoma boys cooperated in buying livestock minerals, serums, and vaccines. Fifty-four hogs valued at \$1,000 were purchased cooperatively by 30 members in addition to the purebred Berkshire boar that was paid for from chapter funds. The boys who had livestock to show cooperated in obtaining 5 trucks to haul the animals to the Fair. They cooperated in the war effort by sponsoring local war bond drives, by collecting 500 burlap bags, 2,000 pounds of paper, and 6,000 pounds of scrap iron.

As would be expected, this Chapter had a strong leadership program which is evidenced by the Chapter devoting one meeting to discuss the qualifications of prospective Chapter affairs based on leadership, scholarship and training programs. All members were given active assignments on the major committees. The Chapter managed the county poultry show which had 300 birds on exhibit. Judging contests were entered by Chapter members and radio programs emphasizing the food production program were given over four Oklahoma radio stations. Seven programs were given before the Kiwanis, Rotary and Chamber of Commerce.

Regular meetings were held twice each month during the school year and once a month during the summer with an average attendance of 95%. In addition, many other meetings were held to take care of current affairs. The Chapter had eight outside speakers at their Chapter meetings. All of the members own F.F.A. manuals and the Chapter uses the official secretary and treasurer books. In order to improve scholarship, a contest between the different classes was conducted.

The group sponsored a high school wrestling tournament and an F.F.A. district athletic tournament. A picnic and a parent and son banquet were held. There were 250 persons in attendance at this banquet.

BUHLER, KANSAS

(Gold Emblem)

The supervised farming programs of members of this chapter were very outstanding. Special emphasis was placed on the production of food with goals being set for production by the entire Chapter rather than by individual members. The use of purebred sires was emphasized. In the fall of 1941 the Buhler Livestock Improvement Association was organized. The Chapter is a member of the association which gives all chapter members the right to use association sires at member prices.

Goals for farming program earnings were set by the Chapter, and members of the chapter had a systematic method of saving

and buying bonds and stamps. The total savings of all members was \$3,246.75. They purchased \$752.10 worth of bonds and stamps during the bond drives. Members have a total investment of \$14,040.81, an average of \$520.08 per member.

Members averaged $3\frac{1}{3}$ production projects, 8 supplementary practices, and 4 improvement projects. Every member in good standing had a home improvement project. Improvement projects included: trimming shrubbery, grading driveways, repairing screens, setting trees, and painting buildings. Productive enterprise projects included: hogs, beef, and dairy cattle, sheep, poultry, potatoes, feed and cash grain crops, and vegetable gardens.

A movie is being made of the supervised farming programs. Five hundred feet of film have been taken during the past 4 years. The films are used at parent and son banquets. The F.F.A. chapel program has become an annual affair of the Chapter with every member participating. The parliamentary procedure skit was an important part of the program.

Members who produced wool sold their product through the Mid-West Wool Marketing Association and members with dairy projects sold their cream through the Arkansas Valley Cooperative Creamery. Fifteen members of the Chapter are junior members of one or more breed associations. Members competed in the Senior Division of the Buhler Community Fair and won many awards. The Chapter owns a portable dipping vat which is rented to farmers with two members being hired to operate it. The chapter receives 2 cents per head for use of the vat which is used in maintenance and repair of the vat and for funds for the chapter.

A hot-bed was a part of the community service program. Eighty-five trees were set out on the campus. The Chapter was instrumental in getting the lawn sub-irrigated and plans to develop a sod on the football field.

Officers of the Chapter were very active in district leadership training schools. The local Chapter acted as host, making arrangements for a meeting place, for serving dinner and for receiving Chapter delegations as they came to the meeting. Buhler was first in the ritual contest and second in the F.F.A. information contest. Two meetings each month were held on school time. They were devoted primarily to business of the chapter but there was some time for entertainment. Meetings were conducted according to parliamentary procedure. A chenille emblem award was used to stimulate improved grades.

In spite of the members being unusually busy at school and on the home farms, they found time for a lawn party for the home-making girls and for better recreational activities consisting of croquet, golf, and school sports.

FLATHEAD CHAPTER, KALISPELL, MONTANA**(Gold Emblem)**

With an active membership of 112 members, of which 41 are in the armed forces, this chapter, located at the northern tip of that great scenic Flathead Lake not far from the Canadian border, came back this year to again win the Gold Emblem award. The chapter was under the direction of William Byrne, president, and H. E. Robinson, adviser. This ultimate goal was earned through the hard work and cooperation of every member, past and present. Seventeen of the active members were out of school from 1 to 3 years but their interest, as well as activity in the chapter, continues to grow rather than diminish.

The continued success of this chapter is not based upon past achievement but rather upon such things as a carefully organized chapter program of work that has been well planned, expanding project programs of an improved nature, revolving projects of superior livestock, use of proven purebred sires, a sound loan system for financing projects, competition through fairs and other contests, and the awarding of prizes to those with project programs showing the most improvement. The members averaged 3.5 productive projects completed and approximately \$500 invested by each boy in farming, although the average worth of the members is nearly \$700. In addition, the chapter averaged nearly 7 new supplementary farm practices and 2.3 improvement projects per member. Long-time farming programs are being conducted by 96 per cent of the members and they have full ownership in 94 per cent of these programs.

Through the activity and stimulus provided by the chapter, the Northwest Montana Youth Fair has been placed on a stable basis to become an annual event which is looked forward to with interest by the several communities in that section of the State. Civic organizations in Kalispell and other towns are now cooperating in the conducting of this Fair which provides an elaborate amusement program, as well as a complete prize list for the livestock and crops produced in that area. There are seven cooperative committees in the chapter, several of which are in charge of livestock revolving rings to handle the many classes and breeds of livestock owned by the chapter, most of which are registered or eligible for registry. Through this method the quality and size of project programs conducted by the members have been materially improved; in fact, the quality of livestock for the entire community has been uplifted as a result of this program. The same cooperative method is pursued to improve the quality of crops produced. Through the cooperative shop program, 36 pieces of large farm machinery were repaired and put back into service.

Community service has been closely allied in many ways with the cooperative program and this has been particularly true of the farm shop work where the following were constructed: 17 electric pig brooders, 21 large type swine self-feeders, 6 farrowing houses, 2

overshot stackers, and 18 motor power buck rakes. The F.F.A. cow testing association is servicing 26 dairy herds which has resulted in improved feeding and the culling of many low producers. The six outstanding registered sires owned by the chapter are available and used by farmers in the community. A photographic laboratory was developed to take cross section pictures of wool fibers through which means it is hoped to more efficiently select breeding stock to improve wool quality. This is one of very few such cross section wool photographic laboratories in the United States.

Leadership training has always been stressed by the chapter and the result of this is shown by the chapter having 13 State Farmers. The Western Montana F.F.A. Convention was sponsored where contests were conducted in livestock judging, parliamentary procedure, public speaking, log sawing, horseshoe pitching, and basketball. Prior to the convention every chapter member competed in a local public speaking contest. Other activities included such as radio programs, newsletters, and training in parliamentary procedure. Two meetings are held per month of 2 hours in length and these meetings are conducted according to parliamentary procedure.

From such money making devices as shop work, sale of wool from chapter-owned sheep, sale of chapter-owned hogs, mixing of feed and minerals, boar fees, fair exhibits, fair booth, interclass tournament and dues the working capital for the chapter was increased by \$406.98. Chapter members have an average of \$450.28 invested in farming and \$617.75 savings per member. Of the savings, the active members in school have \$3,147.65 invested in war bonds and stamps.

To stimulate scholarship, the chapter presents an F.F.A. ring each year to the member with the highest scholastic average. Eight per cent of the members were on the scholastic honor roll of the school and 48 per cent were in the upper half of their classes.

The annual camping trip to Glacier National Park could not be conducted due to wartime conditions but the recreational activities included a picnic, parent-son banquet, basketball team, softball team, football team, and moving pictures.

With 112 members and former members in service, the handicap which this has caused in most communities was also shared by the Flathead Chapter. Despite this situation, the energy and vision of such men as Adviser Henry Robinson is certain to result in continued benefit to those served.

ALBANY, OREGON

(Gold Emblem)

The Albany, Oregon, Chapter started the year with 53 members but four of the boys entered military service and the remaining membership of 49 boys worked under the guidance of Reed Vollstedt as president, and John Welbes as adviser to win the Gold Emblem award. Previously this chapter had attained the Silver

Emblem classification. This award was a stimulus to achieve the still higher and more precious laurels won this year.

Each of the 49 chapter members had full ownership of one or more productive projects as part of his long-time farming program. Balanced farming programs were stressed which resulted in 97.8 percent of all members having both livestock and crop projects with an average of 5.8 productive projects completed per member to give an average investment in farming of \$941.08 per boy. The average size of all productive projects were: crops, 22.9 acres; livestock, 18.4 animals; and poultry, 128 birds. In addition, 12.3 improvement projects and 14.6 supplementary farm practices were completed as an average by each student. The Albany farming area has been carefully surveyed by the boys and results of such surveys provided the main basis in determining the long-time programs developed by each student. The quality of livestock, as well as the care provided the animal projects, is reflected in the production attained. The dairy cows averaged 432 lbs. of butter fat or 162 lbs. above the State average. The average number of pigs raised per litter was 9.6 or nearly 3 pigs above that for the State. The wool clip averaged 9.9 lbs., whereas that for the State is 7 lbs., and 1.7 lambs were raised per ewe to top the State average by .7 lambs per ewe.

All of the members participated in the operation of the chapter farm as well as one or more other cooperative activities to average 8.1 such activities per student. In fact, the project program has been built around the several F.F.A. co-ops and the general program of work. The main chapter cooperatives include those for swine, sheep, dairy, poultry, crops, feed and loans. Sixty tons of grain and several tons of minerals were handled through the feed co-op. Wheat was purchased on a carload basis to assure adequate grain for the livestock and this procedure effected a substantial savings. The chapter owns a portable sheep dipping vat and two 1,000-egg poultry incubators and also the following registered breeding stock: 13 swine, 2 dairy bulls, and 2 rams.

The community service is a year-round program and results have been outstanding. An old school building was rehabilitated for a community cannery which was installed. The daily capacity of the cannery is upwards of 2,000 cans. This project has resulted in the saving of a large amount of food so essential in our war program. Farmers in need of help were assisted which resulted in a total of 97 tons of vegetables, nuts, fruits, and other crops being harvested through organized chapter effort. The group participated in a community livestock loss prevention program and chapter members destroyed 2,674 predatory animals. All salvage drives and victory war bond campaigns were participated in by the chapter on an organized basis with splendid results.

Leadership training is a 4-year program with all chapter members participating in the parliamentary and public speaking contests which resulted in signal honors being won in both of these

contests on a State level. Seven members received the "Oregon Farmer" award to top the number any one school has ever received. The Pig Litter Contest and the Food for Victory Contest were both won by the chapter and second honors were taken in the Better Farming Contest. All of these contests were conducted on a State-wide basis. Besides holding 23 chapter meetings during the year, a total of 13 programs were put on for other groups. The chapter was honored by having one of the members elected as the president of the State F.F.A. Association.

Not to forget the boys in the service, each member wrote at least one letter per month to some former member in the armed forces. In all, 1,321 such letters were written during the school year. To further the war effort, the members now average \$135 invested in war bonds and stamps.

Recreation was not overlooked, although the stress of wartime did serve as a handicap. Successful basketball and softball teams were organized and played many games, winning most of them. Two summer picnics and four parties, which the girl friends attended, aided in keeping up a high social spirit but the real highlight was the annual parent-son banquet in which all participated. In the May Day celebration which is a town affair, the chapter float won top honors among the numerous competitors.

Scholarship is stressed through several means and the results are enlightening because the combined average grade of all chapter members is 2.43 or nearly .6 above that of the entire student body. Nearly four-fifths of the members are in the upper two-fifths of the school. To further stimulate scholarship, a cup was presented at graduation to the senior member having the highest grades. The officers had an average grade of 1.6 which exemplified the example they always strived to place before their fellow members.

With the early return of a satisfactory and hoped-for peace, this group expects to grow in a steady and creditable manner. With the continued support of local cooperatives, civic organizations, and school officials, no doubt their aims and ambitions will be achieved to materially aid in the establishment of a sound postwar program. The results from the superior managerial ability of such leaders as Adviser John Welbes are certain to be favorably felt in any community.

HURRICANE, WEST VIRGINIA

(Gold Emblem)

The Hurricane Chapter, located in the beautiful and historic Teays Valley of West Virginia, has been selected as being worthy of a gold emblem award because of the well-balanced program the Chapter developed and carried to completion during the past year. The Chapter has a membership of 39 Future Farmers under the able leadership of President Jimmy Butler and Adviser Kerlin O. Judy.

The Chapter has increased its productive enterprises to assist in meeting the wartime demands from an average of 2.93 in 1943 to an average of 3.26 projects per member during the past year. The boys had an average of over 10 improvement projects per member which included machinery repair, conservation projects, and general farm improvement projects. The establishment of a farm shop on each member's farm was emphasized. The Hurricane Chapter had a total of \$5,781.15 productively invested in farming. In order to improve their supervised practice program the Chapter conducted project tours and the president visited every boy enrolled in Future Farmer work to further improve this activity.

The boys are also interested in cooperative activities which is evidenced by their purchase of \$653.68 worth of material that was used by Chapter members. This included spray material, hybrid seed corn, fertilizer, tobacco, and garden seeds. In addition to cooperative buying, the boys sold cooperatively their potato crop which had a value of over \$700. In order to improve the quality of hogs in their area the Chapter purchased two registered Hampshire gilts which will be used in their pig chain.

The Chapter sponsored a victory garden fair which had 174 exhibitors. They also held a local F.F.A. ham, bacon and egg exhibit. In order to prevent livestock losses they carried on a bot campaign in which a number of horses were treated. The Chapter also cooperated with the local Soil Conservation Service by planting 2,400 trees on a demonstration farm.

During the past year the Hurricane Chapter collected a total of 52,890 pounds of scrap metal, 900 pounds of rubber, and over a ton of rags, burlap, paper, and tin cans. The income from this activity was \$287.84. In order to develop leadership the Chapter conducted a local public speaking contest in which 90% of the members participated. This Chapter was entered in the Federation and State Parliamentary Procedure contests. Three news letters were published during the year and they had 22 news articles regarding their activities in the local paper. Six books purchased with chapter funds were added to the chapter library.

The Hurricane Chapter conducts their financial affairs in a business-like manner. They have a Chapter account and handled over \$1,100 through this account during the past year. All of the officers own official F.F.A. jackets. An assistant set of officers is elected each year in order to provide a continuous supply of trained officers. The official secretary and treasurer books were used by the Chapter. Six regular meetings were held during the summer. For recreation they sponsored basketball and soft ball games, held a party for the home economics girls, and had a father and son banquet.

Citations For Honorary American Farmers

EDWIN J. SOMMER

**President, Mid-States Steel & Wire Company
Crawfordsville, Indiana**

The Mid-States Steel & Wire Company of Crawfordsville, Indiana is interested in the improvement of rural America and farm life. For several years that company has cooperated with the Future Farmers of America in many ways. This year an award is being made again by that Company to each of the boys receiving the American Farmer Degree.

Mr. Edwin J. Sommer, President of the Mid-States Steel & Wire Company, has been instrumental in promoting the fine cooperation that exists between his Company and the F.F.A. He has kept in touch with the activities of the Future Farmers of America and has proven to be a real friend of the boys in this great organization.

EDWIN F. FLATO

Corpus Christi, Texas

Mr. Edwin F. Flato has been interested in rural youth for many years. He has been very active in his support of vocational agriculture and the Future Farmers of America. A total of 50 vocational agriculture farm shops were fully equipped by Mr. Flato to provide better training facilities for F.F.A. members. Recently he has been providing foundation stock to F.F.A. members to help them improve their farming programs. He has also assisted in the construction of F.F.A. buildings in many communities and provided buildings and equipment for use in training F.F.A. advisers. He spends much of his time visiting F.F.A. chapters and members and stimulates them to greater achievements.

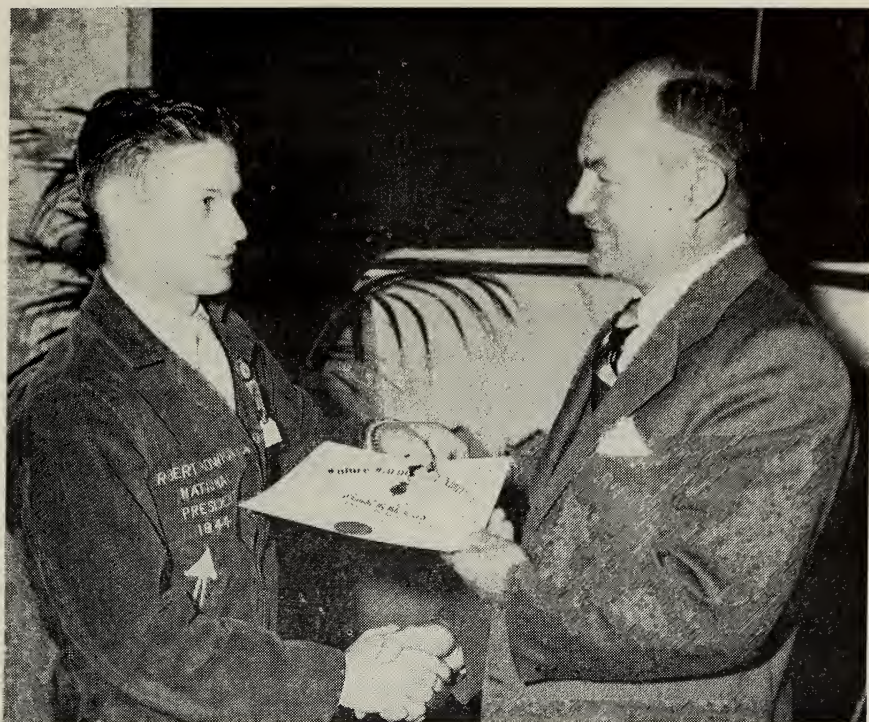
ALBERT S. GOSS

**Master, National Grange
Washington, D. C.**

The National Grange has always been a staunch supporter of vocational agriculture. Assistance has been given on the national, State and local levels. Many local chapters and State associations are familiar with the interest shown and cooperation given by this farm organization.

During the past year Mr. Albert S. Goss, Master of the National Grange, and his associates have given much time to working with the national F.F.A. officers in a study of the needs of rural youth

and farm communities and how the Future Farmers of America and adult farm organizations can work side by side to help meet those needs. By his sympathetic interest and cooperation, Mr. Goss has proven to be a true friend of the Future Farmers of America.



National President ROBERT BOWMAN, Buttonwillow, Calif., presenting the *Honorary American Farmer Key* and certificate to the HONORABLE CLAUDE R. WICKARD, Secretary of Ag., at the 17th National F.F.A. Convention.

CLAUDE R. WICKARD

Secretary of Agriculture

Washington, D. C.

Mr. Claude R. Wickard was born and reared on a farm in Indiana. He received a degree in Animal Husbandry from Purdue University and returned to the farm. He distinguished himself by initiating improved farming and feeding policies that led to his selection as "Master Farmer of Indiana."

With the help of hired men, the Secretary continues to manage his farm from Washington.

Mr. Wickard's interest in agriculture, farm organizations and rural life led to his appointment as Director of the North Central Division of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. He was appointed Undersecretary of Agriculture in 1940 and was made Secretary of Agriculture the same year.

Mr. Wickard is a staunch friend of rural youth. Members of the Future Farmers of America are grateful for the interest he has shown in and the cooperation he has given to the F.F.A. since he has been Secretary of Agriculture.

H. M. RAILSBACK

Deere and Company

Moline, Illinois

Deere and Company has cooperated with and assisted the vocational agriculture program and the Future Farmers of America for many years. A farm record book and a book on farm machinery has been made available by that company to all students of vocational agriculture without cost. The Company has manufactured and distributed free to each F.F.A. chapter, a miniature plow for use in the opening ceremony. Deere and Company requested the privilege of granting awards to boys who have achieved most in the field of farm mechanics.

Mr. H. M. Railsback of that company has been interested in the Future Farmers of America and has done much to promote the interest and cooperation of his company with the F.F.A.

The following teachers of vocational agriculture were awarded the Honorary American Farmer degree in recognition of their F.F.A. chapters winning the Gold Emblem award:

Kerlin O. Judy, Hurricane, West Virginia.

Thomas W. Glaze, Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

J. A. Johnson, Buhler, Kansas.

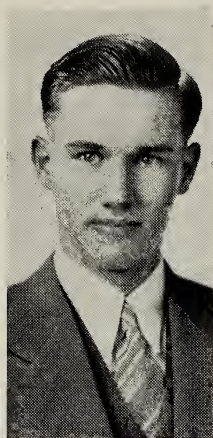
John Welbes, Albany, Oregon.

R. C. Mitchell, Alpine, Texas.

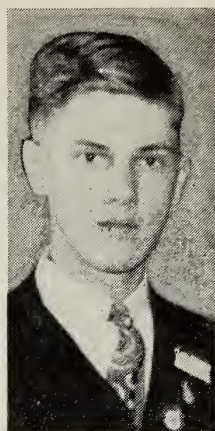
The following members of the Agricultural Education Staff, U. S. Office of Education, were awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree:

E. J. Johnson, Federal Agent and Pacific Regional F.F.A. Adviser.

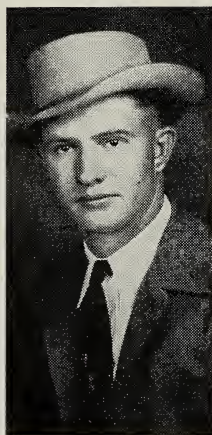
A. W. Tenney, Acting Subject-Matter Specialist in Agricultural Education and National F.F.A. Executive Secretary.



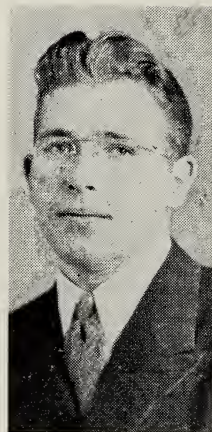
Left: GEORGE FOGLE, Okemos, Mich.—*National Winner*—1944 John Deere Farm Mechanics Award.



Right: OWEN E. HEISS, Mifflinburg, Pa.—*North Atlantic Regional Winner*—1944 John Deere Farm Mechanics Award.



Left: ROY HENKE, Kerrville, Texas—*Southern Regional Winner*—1944 John Deere Farm Mechanics Award.



Right: DEAN ELLIOTT, Ft. Benton, Mont.—*Pacific Regional Winner*—1944 John Deere Farm Mechanics Award.

Farm Mechanics Awards

A national winner and three regional winners in farm mechanics were selected from the members who received the American Farmer Degree at the National F.F.A. Convention. The records of the outstanding candidates were reviewed by a committee composed of Mr. G. C. Cook, Mr. J. L. Perrin, and Mr. D. L. MacDonald, Special Representatives, Food Production War Training Program, U. S. Office of Education. Cash awards were presented to the winners by the John Deere Company. The achievements of the four winners in farm mechanics follow.

GEORGE FOGLE

National Winner in Farm Mechanics

The honor of being the winner of the first national award in Farm Mechanics for Future Farmers of America was earned by George Fogle of Okemos, Michigan.

George graduated from the Okemos High School in 1941 where he made an outstanding record as a student of vocational agriculture and member of the Future Farmers of America. At the present time, he is farming with his father on a fifty-fifty partnership agreement. Eighty acres of the 180 acres of land they farm are owned by George.

His farm mechanics program shows that he has constructed or repaired considerable farm equipment that is essential to the successful operation of the farm. A large amount of equipment, including loading chutes, farm gates, hog troughs, hog crates, milk cart, poultry feeders, barn medicine cabinet, and hog waterer, was constructed by him in the school farm shop.

Many farm machines such as an ensilage cutter, tractor plow, and grain binder were repaired by him while he was a high school student in vocational agriculture. He also completed other repair jobs in farm mechanics such as the repair of harness, window sashes and numerous farm equipment other than farm machinery.

A building was remodeled to make a home farm shop 18 feet by 24 feet. Many items of equipment such as work benches, tool cabinets, and hardware racks were constructed by George for use in the farm shop. The shop was well-equipped with the necessary power and hand tools.

George has demonstrated since graduation from high school his ability to construct and repair farm equipment by having participated in a very extensive program in farm mechanics on the farm. Labor saving devices he has constructed include: a motor driven

grindstone, air compressor, corn silage loader, 24-foot ear corn and grain elevator, wagon rack, two seed corn graders, barbed wire reel mounted on wheels, buzz saw, power corn sheller, power fanning mill, portable forced air corn drier, maple sap gathering sled, two farm trailers, and a tractor driven post-hole digger.

A number of farm machines have been repaired which include such machines as a hay loader, disk, cultipacker, corn binder, mower, tractor, side delivery rake and manure spreader, an 18-foot by 36-foot double deck laying house, a double deck brooder house, a 5-foot by 24-foot concrete floor in a corn crib, six 9-foot by 10-foot poultry range shelters, a home farm shop and numerous other projects of smaller scope were constructed. Lights were installed in the tractor shed. Equipment for a water system for the house has been purchased and will be installed in the near future. He has also participated in a number of activities pertaining to soil and water conservation as well as the repair and construction of fence.

It can be readily seen that George has had comprehensive training and experience in farm mechanics because he has successfully participated in a large number and a wide variety of farm mechanics activities.

OWEN E. HEISS

John Deere Farm Mechanics Award—North Atlantic Region

Owen E. Heiss, Future Farmer from Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, graduated from high school three years ago and since that time has been operating his home farm. Owen's interest in farm mechanics is brought out by the complete record he presented. While this young man was in high school he constructed a number of poultry appliances and started to develop a farm shop that has been completed since he graduated from high school. He also repaired the mowers, cultivators, and tractor in addition to repairing other farm equipment, such as: replacing tool handles, tool conditioning, glazing, and cold metal work. By rearranging and concreting the floor of an old building he was able to develop an efficient farm shop. He has built a tool cabinet, harness repair plant, and saw horses and has rebuilt the woodworking bench and anvil block for this job.

According to Owen's shop inventory and record book he has purchased \$153.40 worth of hand tools since 1940. In the home farm shop he has constructed a 4-wheeled trailer, a carriage for cross-cut saw mandrel, has repaired the cultipacker, grain drill, harrow and binder. In addition to this Owen has made 13 poultry mash and range feeders and has kept 5 sets of harness oiled and repaired. He cut logs from their wood lot for lumber which was used for the framing and sheeting of 2 poultry houses. He also remodeled the second story of an old hog house so that it could be used as a laying pen for hens. Owen has started a long-time improvement program by remodelling the first floor of their dairy barn. This building is 40 feet by 100 feet. He has improved the farm shed by planting

shrubbery and making gate and fence repairs. He has also constructed a cinder base walk from the house to the barn which proves very helpful during the rainy season.

To further soil and water conservation on his farm Owen has established strip farming in three fields, grass waterways on the steeper slopes, and has laid tile to take care of "winter springs." All of the machinery on this farm is housed in sheds when it is not in use. The machinery shed has three doors 20 feet wide so that implements may be readily moved in or out.

Owen participated in five farm machinery repair courses which were sponsored by the F.P.W.T. program and the Mifflinburg vocational agriculture department. At these classes he received further practice and skill in tool sharpening, tempering, and electric welding operation. Owen has a total of \$1,771.80 invested in farming equipment.

Due to the fact that Owen has developed such a strong farm mechanics program he and his 17-year-old brother have been able to take care of this highly intensified dairy and poultry farm of 100 acres.

ROY HENKE

John Deere Farm Mechanics Award—Southern Region

Outstanding achievements in farm mechanics led to the selection of Roy Henke of Kerrville, Texas, as winner of the John Deere Farm Mechanics Award in the Southern Region. In order to receive this award the candidate must have been awarded the American Farmer Degree at the National F.F.A. Convention in 1944.

The report submitted by Roy includes a statement of his participation in the following farm mechanics activities: farm shop activities at school, establishing and equipping a home farm shop, farm mechanics activities in the home farm shop, farm mechanics activities on the farm outside of the home farm shop, and an inventory of farm machinery and equipment owned by the candidate.

A review of Roy's report of his accomplishments in farm mechanics under the direction of his instructor of vocational agriculture at the Tivy High School reveals a broad and comprehensive program. The following is a brief summary of his activities:

Participation in Farm Shop Activities at School

A total of 35 construction projects were completed, including two poultry houses, feed troughs, gates, and a cattle guard. A tractor motor, combine, mowing machine, and one-way plow were completely overhauled and repaired in the school shop. Farm machinery serviced at school included the painting of a tractor, combine, wagon and trailer. Roy learned to operate a farm level and shearing machine through class instruction.

Participation in Establishing and Equipping a Home Farm Shop

There are two shops on Roy's home ranch—a blacksmith shop 15 feet by 15 feet and a woodworking shop 15 feet by 30 feet located in the basement of the house. Roy constructed two work benches, three work stools, five tool cabinets, and several small articles of equipment for the home shop. A concrete foundation and floor was poured for the shop, the shop moved and rebuilt, and the roof repaired. Twenty-two items of equipment were purchased for the home shop.

*Participation in Farm Mechanics Activities
In the Home Farm Shop*

Roy constructed 37 projects in the home shop. Typical items constructed were gates, feed troughs, and self-feeders. Major repair jobs done on farm machinery were overhaul and repair of three tractors, two combines, grain drills, planters, corn picker, breaking plows, hammer mill, and burr mill. Three tractors, two combines, two cars, a pick-up truck, a grain drill, planter, plows, and corn picker were completely serviced.

*Participation in Farm Mechanics Activities on the
Farm Outside the Home Farm Shop*

Construction jobs completed were water troughs, a farm machinery shed, water storage tank, and garage. Farm and home conveniences installed were a hot water system in the house, cold storage unit, electric washer and tub system in the service house, and electric wiring for the house and barns.

Roy was especially active in the development of soil and water conservation projects as shown by the following activities: He laid off and supervised the construction of a 10,000-yard earth dam, two spreader dams in a gully, and a concrete dam and water crossing. He laid off one mile of terraces, rebuilt three miles of terraces each year, and constructed two diversion ditches. He also found time to repair fences and water gaps, re-roof the house and barn, and repair the farm roads. The machinery on the ranch is protected from weather at all times by machinery sheds.

Roy has constructed and purchased farm machinery and equipment valued at \$2,175. He has the complete responsibility for all farm mechanics work on his home farm.

DEAN ELLIOTT**John Deere Farm Mechanics Award—Pacific Region**

Dean Elliott, a graduate of the Fort Benton Chapter of F.F.A., located at Fort Benton, Montana, has been adjudged winner of the farm mechanics contest in the Pacific Region. Dean lives on a 5,000 acre wheat and cattle ranch located in the central part of the State.

While this American Farmer was in high school, he built a stationary engine transport and a heavy duty farm trailer with which he was able to transport farm equipment from one section of their large farm to another. In order to save labor in handling grain, he constructed a grain blower and a grain elevator in the school shop. He also built two truck hitches. Other jobs completed during his high school vocational agriculture career included: laying a new floor in a truck, resetting the timing, and adjusting tapets and spark plug gaps on the tractor, making a complete overhaul of the mowers, installing two sets of drapers on the combine and installing a variable speed governor on the tractor. Dean also took care of the general repair needed to keep the smaller tools and equipment in condition on his place.

The home shop was not adequate to meet the needs of a farming operation as large as the Elliott's are conducting, and at the present time, Dean is constructing a 20 by 24 farm shop that has a concrete floor and the tools that are now located in the old shop will be transferred to this new building on its completion.

Dean has built in the home farm shop the following pieces of equipment: a buzz saw, a 20-foot grain elevator, a bull dozer, garden cultivator, poison bait spreader, two tractor cabs, and has rebuilt an air compressor for use on the home farm. He has rigged the tractor and combine so that one man can operate these two pieces of equipment.

Dean has installed rings in the motors 18 times and has installed loose sleeves and pistons in the tractors five times in addition to replacing axles and general repair work needed on the heavy types of equipment found on the Elliott ranch.

Around the farmstead, Dean has assisted in installing a pump and sink in the kitchen and in remodeling of the house. He has built two poultry houses, constructed the new brick chimneys needed in the house and has aided in the construction of a 4,000-bushel wheat bin and the garage.

Soil and water conservation has not been neglected by this young farmer since he has plowed contour furrows in all of the pastures, has leveled gullies washed by flash floods and has leveled sand dunes found in the farm land and has replanted them to crest wheat grass. Dean has also been active in the construction of 7 stock water reservoirs. This young farmer has \$1,106.75 of his money invested in farm machinery.

No doubt his ability and interest in keeping farm equipment in condition has made it possible for Dean and his father to handle this large amount of land, while his brother is serving in the armed forces.

Public Speaking Contest

The Annual National F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest was first made possible in 1930 through the interest and generosity of Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas who, for two years, sponsored the event and offered prizes. From that time until 1944 the national organization of Future Farmers of America was the sponsor. During the past year the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated, sponsored the contest and gave the awards.

The Fifteenth National F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest took place in the Little Theater of the Municipal Auditorium on Tuesday, October 10. The four finalists placing in the order indicated representing four administrative regions were:

1. Vincent Orr, Alto, Georgia—"The Victory Farmer."
2. Von Packard, Meridian, Idaho—"From Soil to War."
3. Harold K. Keller, Middletown, Maryland—"Bang's Disease and the War."
4. Paul S. Anderson, Grand Rapids, Minnesota—"Agriculture Our Basic Industry."

Each contestant was the author of his own speech, having studied his subject, prepared the draft and practiced its delivery. Each speech represented original thought and original work on the part of the contestant with coaching on composition and delivery limited, by the rules of the contest, to the facilities of the school from which the contestant came. Each boy was at liberty to choose his own subject.

The contest was judged by three competent and impartial persons. Prior to the contest the judges were furnished with typewritten copies of the contestants' productions which they read and graded on content and composition. At the contest the judges scored each contestant on the delivery of his production. A maximum of 300 points was allowed for the written production and 700 points for delivery. Questions were asked by the judges to test each contestant on his ability to think on his feet and on general knowledge of his subject.

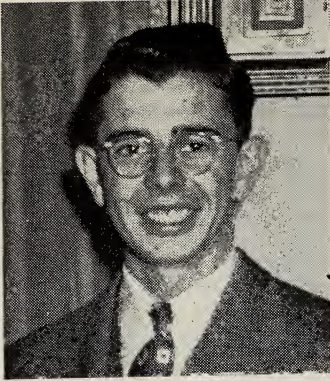
The judges were:

Dr. Wallace Vickers, Professor of English and Debating, Utah State College.

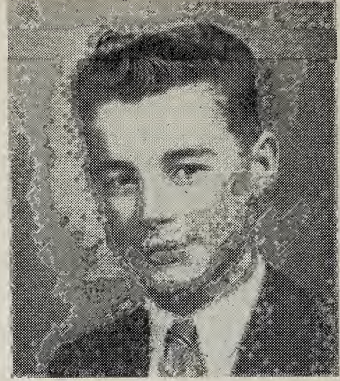
I. W. Duggan, Governor, Farm Credit Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Russell L. Guin, Vice President, The Interstate.

The speeches of the four contestants follow:



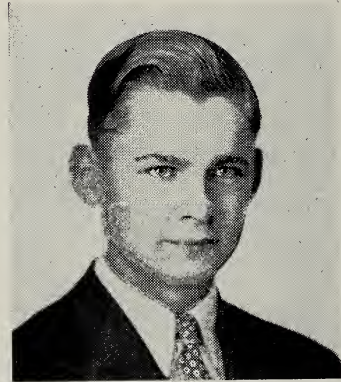
VINCENT ORR, Alto, Georgia—*National Winner*, 1944 National F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest.



VON PACKARD, Meridian, Idaho—*Second Place*, National Public Speaking Contest, 1944.



HAROLD K. KELLER, Middletown, Md.—*Third Place*, 1944 National Public Speaking Contest.



PAUL S. ANDERSON, Grand Rapids, Minnesota—*Fourth Place*, 1944 National Public Speaking Contest.

THE VICTORY FARMER

by Vincent Orr, Alto, Georgia

When the flood waters receded and Noah and his sons came out of the ark to become real dirt farmers "The Lord said in his heart, 'I will not again curse the ground anymore. While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest shall not cease'." There are desert places where no food grows; flood and drought devastate great areas of the earth every year; but in the greater part of the world "seed-time and harvest" are constantly fulfilling their appointed times. Agricultural authorities tell us that the "good earth" is capable of yielding many times the food supply its present population can consume. Why, then, is there such a cry for more farm products? The answer is known to all of us. We must feed ten million fighting men, our civilian population, and must have food to share with our allies. Therefore, I have chosen for my theme "The Victory Farmer." I shall talk to you about:

1. The means for meeting the increased demand for food, and
2. Some obstacles to be met and how to cope with them.

Farming has always been the basic industry of society.

Farmers feed all the people:

In this time of stress the farmer's work must needs be of a more intensive, intelligent type than it has ever been in time of peace and plenty. We must maintain our morale, and we must produce more! If our first purpose is to produce more, then our greatest question is "How?"

There are serious obstacles to be faced. Tools are becoming worn and are hard to replace; fertilizers are scarce and expensive; and there is that most serious of all handicaps—the shortage of farm laborers. The 1940 census gives my county 1,040 farms. Already 759 men, approximately one-third of them from the farms, have entered the service of our country. What can be done about this labor shortage?

Obviously, the first thing to do is to **cut acreage**. This must of necessity lead to an increase in production per acre. The small farm may again become the working unit of my State, and even the backyard Victory garden may become more than a patriotic gesture.

With decreased acreage, **intensive** farming must be practical. By intensive farming I mean that all land under cultivation must produce to its limit. To do so, the soil must be given cultivation in proper season; it must be constantly enriched; it must be kept in a balanced condition by rotation of crops.

In trying to solve these questions, we farmers do not have to learn by the "trial and error method." Our government provides helpful literature, free, on every imaginable farm situation, and we have expert teachers of agriculture, County agents, and other agricultural workers to advise us. We can secure, through these helpers, the seed best suited to our climate and soil; we can preserve food

for our families; we can market surplus food stuff through them; and we can look to these research agencies all along for improved methods.

The Victory Farmer plans to feed his family and have a surplus. To do this, he finds it necessary to diversify his crops. He must plan to grow not only corn, wheat, and potatoes, but many vegetables, fruits, nuts, etc. He must have dairy products, pork, poultry, and beef cattle. In short, he must make a living and some to spare.

This idea of making a small farm sustain a family is not a new one. Louis Bromfield, world traveler and author, in writing of the present tragic plight of France, refers to the pre-war France in telling the story of a peasant, Bosquet. He says, "On two acres Bosquet raised practically all the food consumed by his family. He had every sort of vegetable. Being out of work did not trouble him much, for he came about as near achieving security as any human being ever will. There was always plenty to eat." (Unquote)

Mr. Bromfield also says that France, invaded three times by war, has twice recovered and he predicts the French Nation will again recover largely because of millions of such workingmen and peasants as Bosquet, on his two acres.

In order to help solve our labor question it may be that we shall revive the pioneer custom of "swapping work" and lending tools. It would not be amiss to become more neighborly since we have the same problems to work out, similar griefs and heartaches, and a common enemy to defeat.

"But," you may say, "swapping work cannot make up for the 'hands' that are gone—gone to far-away places of sea and land and sky." In reply, I say to you that it is the duty of every farm person who is **able** to work to do so now—to work hard and long. There are no 40-hour weeks on the farm!

"Jobs" must be so planned that rainy days won't mean "more rest" but indoor work of some kind; "quartering time" must be forgotten; if the worst comes to pass, some folks may even have to work on Saturday afternoon!

Women and girls must work in the fields, the gardens, and the canneries with renewed zeal.

Farm work is hard. The toil must be relentless. But there is a sort of dignity about it that no other profession can claim. One works in partnership with God, for

"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour, the mill,
And back of the mill are the wheat and the shower,
And the sun, and the Father's will."

Thomas Jefferson, whom we Future Farmers revere as a great statesman and a great farmer, said, "Determine never to be idle. No person will have occasion to complain of the want of time who never loses any. It is wonderful how much we can do if we are always doing."

To summarize:

My friends, we must farm intelligently. There must be no let-up in our agricultural efforts.

We must work **hard**—not only to win the war, but to be ready for the peace that is coming, and finally we must work with faith, knowing that we are helping to hasten the time when

“The cries of envy and anger will change to the songs of cheer.
For the toiling age will forget its rage when the Prince of Peace
draws near.

This is the gospel of labor, ring it, ye bells of the kirk,
The Lord of Love comes down from above to live with the men
who work.

This is the rose that He planted, here in the thorn-cursed soil,
Heaven is blessed with perfect rest, but the blessing of earth
is toil.”

FROM SOIL TO WAR

by Von Packard, Meridian, Idaho

My heritage is the American farm. My ancestors were the founders of this free country.

Called for whatever time God wills that it takes to make a world right again, I take up arms, that free, peace-loving people may again live.

I glow with pride for mine is a heritage unequalled and unexcelled in any of the varied ways of life.

My body is clean, healthy, and strong. My education has been broad and full, abundant with many pleasures of mind and body alike. I am from those broad, green fields, the long rows of swaying corn, the rolling hills of golden wheat, the small country school, the denim overall and heavy leather shoe.

Always up before the sun to feed the livestock, to prepare the horses for the day's work, to clean the barn and cool the milk, then back to the house for that short respite of wheat cakes and home cured sausage.

Farmers are a proud people, wanting no charity, just the right to live and work their soil in peace. The embattled Massachusetts farmers who took up arms and created a whole new concept of freedom were folks just like my dad and his neighbors.

Although all of our problems are by no means on the battlefield, I have no fear, no doubt, as I pause to reflect on the past or wonder into the future, for ours is a people whose very existence has been held suspended by the thread of self-sufficiency.

The farmer is something of a blacksmith, a carpenter, a machinist, veterinarian, economist, botanist, and chemist. The farmer is a speculator. So the others may eat and go clothed, he wagers with the unpredictable elements, public tastes, hazards of marketing, and the whims of politicians.

The farmer has had and is still having many battles in this present conflict. Some have been won; some are still raging.

I hope political figures will omit the many forms of regimentation and stumbling blocks which hinder the productive efforts of willing farmers. Farmers are not opposed to holding prices in line on a sound basis, providing wages and other costs are held in check.

I hope that farmers do not continue to lose confidence in the men who are charged with administering the price control and similar programs.

Subsidies, in most instances, are not necessary. Rather, they are actually inflationary as they increase the buying power of the consumer. We have learned from a study of our soil that it is much better to work along with nature than to try to change her a great deal.

Bureaucratic regulations have detracted from the spirit of free enterprise, the bulwark of our civilization. Production has been hindered when price ceilings were many times imposed only to keep prices low with little or no thought given to the question of whether or not they would permit production on the scale needed.

The consumer is more interested in buying real meat at a fair price than he is in a theoretical program of non-existent meat at low ceiling prices. As many have said, we have a "Straw Floor and a Concrete Ceiling."

Expansion and liquidation cannot take place over night. The enormous expansion which has taken place will take many years to liquidate. In the last war, foreign demand dried up in a year or two.

Do we have concrete assurance that this one will be different?

It seems almost miraculous that agriculture, operating under labor and equipment shortages, could have risen to the emergency and made available to our armed forces, our civilians, and our allies two of the greatest crops ever produced in this country. This has been possible because of longer hours, women and older men replacing the seven and one half billion man-hours lost from the farm.

Future production will be more difficult to maintain because of further inroads upon labor supply; further breakdown of scarce equipment; increasing difficulties of transportation; and increasing burden of governmental regulation.

The year that the Kaiser sent his soldiers goose-stepping across Belgium, somebody in the United States produced fifty bushels of soybeans. That was the national yield. When the Japs swiftly cut us off from a billion pounds of vegetable oils, the farmer doubled the soybean yield. In 1943, the yield was two hundred million bushels. From fifty to two hundred million bushels in just thirty years.

Such miracles reflect like miracles of soil improvement and conservation—from cradle to combine in only a few generations.

A single destroyer takes more steel than two thousand tractors, and a heavy tank requires the steel of two hundred plows. It takes all the food that forty-three acres can produce in a year to feed

the men building a single tank; a year's food from one hundred and fifty-five acres to feed a bomber-building crew through the space of time it takes to build one bomber; forty-two thousand acres for a battleship. A ship of average size will transport the products of three thousand, eight hundred twenty-four farms of average size.

In one year, America's cows yield enough milk to float all the United Nation's Navies with room in which to maneuver. Think of squirting that much milk into the bucket night and morning—just an odd-hour chore for the farmer.

Dehydration is the answer to the transportation problem. Eighteen cases of fresh eggs in a barrel, a five-hundred-pound beef carcass reduced to sixty pounds, one hundred seventy ships doing the work of one thousand forty-four.

It's hard to be a hero on an empty stomach. Russia asked for bread and bullets in the same breath, and Russia understands more clearly than any nation the importance of food on a battlefield.

The farmer is ever ready to accept new ideas, new methods, new crops and new tools. The farmer was the one man ready to meet any emergency. He was well prepared. Farm animals and crops of today wouldn't recognize their ancestors of Civil War days. There are more two-hundred-egg hens, more twin lambs, more wool, more dairy herd averages of three hundred pounds butterfat, and many, many more bushels of corn and other crops per acre.

The farmer has done his job well. He has met and exceeded production goals. Our hats are off.

Another thought is whirling around in my mind seeking an answer as I reminisce.

What about the peace to follow?

What about my future and the future of the American farm, and the American way of doing things? We say that is what we are fighting for.

Can we be sure? Sometimes things change. Maybe it's the people who change.

What about people clamoring for higher wages?

What about strikes in time of war?

What about political issues which should wait until the time of peace, occupying valuable time at great expense, trying to slip unchecked through the fog of war's hysteria.

Will all these problems be taken care of?

Who must assume the responsibility?

Will they succeed?

Yes, there are many such questions being asked. We have a few people in our nation who do not seem to be dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Strikes, greed, lust for power, regimentation, and collectivism seem to somewhat contradict this belief.

In time of peace, competition between productive groups is the keynote to our high standard of living and low unit costs. A competitive spirit has enormously increased efficiency and speed of

production. However, in time of war, conditions change. We should unite in competition against the common enemy, not against each other.

To illustrate; strikes alone last year involved nearly two million workers averaging seven days of idleness each. How many of the hungry, miserable, wounded boys on Bataan, Corrigedor, and similar places could have been comforted by two million people working seven days each?

Any demand for higher prices, if justified at all, for any goods or services in time of war, means that somewhere the cost of production has increased. Somewhere a price has forced the ceiling. As sheep follow the leader over the cliff, so prices seem to follow the leader and prolong the war.

Good government should always be at par with its people, and essential legislation should come from the people. On various occasions, our governing body has gone beyond the understanding of the masses only to be brought sharply back to awakening by the whiplash of public opinion.

That is why I have no fear. That is why my head is high. I am backed by a strong, honest, God-loving people; folks who have proved themselves in the tempest and can never be enslaved.

I shall return with a new and deeper appreciation of homes and fields, livestock, the little country church, the beautiful mountains and streams. For I am from the American soil, God's greatest handiwork.

BANG'S DISEASE AND THE WAR

by Harold K. Keller, Middletown, Maryland

In this year of war, 1944, there will be a four billion pounds deficiency of milk. In the section which I represent, the North Atlantic States and Maryland in particular, one of the largest losses of milk is from Brucellosis which is more commonly referred to as Bang's disease. My study and observation shows me that this same situation exists in practically all dairy sections of the United States. The loss to the public in volume of milk and to the farmer in dollars of return is tremendous. By control and eradication of this disease, our total milk production would be much greater and the farmer's financial return from milk would be greatly increased.

Contrary to general belief, Brucellosis and contagious cattle abortion are not necessarily related as only 80% of abortions are due to Brucellosis and only 80% of Brucella infected cattle will abort. Annual losses to the American dairy farmer each year are estimated from \$30,000,000.00 upwards.

The symptoms of this disease are rather inconstant and indefinite. Some of the more widely known one's are abortion temporary or permanent sterility, and retention of the afterbirth. Although none of these point directly to the disease, they justify quick action in the blood test to determine the extent of the disease in the herd.

Brucellosis may be brought into a clean herd by any one of the following means: purchase of cows or heifers, taking cattle to fairs, shows or expositions, drainage from neighboring farms or barnyards, and by birds, dogs, rodents, or man from farm to farm. After in the herd it may be spread by any material which is contaminated coming into contact with a clean animal's mouth where it is picked up by the digestive tract and blood stream and carried to the pregnant uterus and udder.

Control and eradication of this disease may be effectively summed up in the following four plans which are widely used: (1) Test and slaughter, (2) Test and segregation, (3) Sanitary control or herd management, (4) Calfhood vaccination.

The Test and Slaughter plan has been used with success ever since the blood test has been started. Under this plan all animals four months old or over are tested, with all positive animals being sold. The remaining animals are retested and sold until three clean tests six months apart have been secured, which entitles the herd to a Bang's accredited certificate. Care should be exercised to keep the suspects from spreading the disease in the herd. This method is found to be most effective where there are small numbers of reactors.

The Test and Segregation method is used mostly where animals of valuable blood lines are concerned or where the loss would be so great that the farmer could not make sufficient replacements. Under this plan all animals four months old or over are tested with all positive reactors completely isolated in separate buildings under different workers and equipment. These cows pass the disease to their calves through the milk but they usually overcome this disease and remain negative unless they contact it from some outside source.

The Sanitary Control or Herd Management plan can be a dismal failure or greatly effective depending upon the care with which it is carried out. It is in effect a plan of partial segregation. Attendants should watch all infected animals carefully for signs of parturition and when they show signs of calving be placed in box stalls completely segregated from the rest of the herd until all after-birth discharges have been completed. This procedure should also be followed for the so-called "ceased reactors" as they are quite capable of spreading the disease. Attendants should thoroughly wash hands and clothes before again associating with the rest of the herd. Every degree of segregation that can be attained should be taken advantage of, all of which helps to lessen the danger of infection.

The Calfhood Vaccination plan gives the best results when worked with one of the three preceding plans. This vaccine, which was developed by the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry, creates an immunity in the calves. It has been found to be the only reliable vaccine used. When vaccinated at the age of 4-8 months, preferably 6 months, a maximum of immunity is secured with a minimum of

body disturbance. These calves are usually negative when a convenient breeding age is attained. The U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry experimented with a number of cows in 260 infected herds throughout 24 States. At the outset of these tests 29% of the cows were found to be positive reactors and 81½% suspects. None of the cattle were removed and all calves were permitted to mingle freely with the infected animals. After 4½ years, 13,854 calves were vaccinated and from them 8,182 calvings were recorded with an abortion rate of only 3.8% though only 1.6% could be traced to Brucellosis. This vaccination is not 100% effective but it is the best plan we have to date.

In regard to vaccination in a Brucella free herd it is a question that is up to the individual farmer. It is mainly the choice between two risks. Inevitably under calfhood vaccination there will be a gradual loss over the years but, on the other hand, there is the chance of losing a larger number of cows in a relatively shorter period of time. There are some who feel that adult vaccination will go a long way in immunizing cattle while others feel it will do more harm than good. I think that there should be more research on such a program before any conclusions are drawn.

Losses from this disease come from milk loss, inventory loss, calf loss, and temporary or permanent sterility. The first is a direct loss of milk while the last three are indirect losses of milk. This is a direct blow to our war effort. Control and eradication of this disease by any one or combination of the four plans which I have suggested will wipe out these losses. This will supply much-needed milk for our war effort.

Milk is our most vital food. It is needed in four important places, our armed forces, civilians of this country, lend-lease, and for peoples of liberated countries. To meet this need we should have full cooperation of all agencies affecting milk production. The most effective way of controlling and eradicating this disease is by area testing and planning. Surely every dairy farmer in these United States should give his utmost support to the fight to rid this nation of Brucellosis.

AGRICULTURE, OUR BASIC INDUSTRY

by Paul Anderson, Grand Rapids, Minn.

In a recent issue of the high school magazine "Scholastic" there appeared an outline of the objectives different groups should have in the post-war world. The article stated that agriculture should have as its objective, "To increase the efficiency of agriculture and improve the diets of *all* people." Paralleled to this was the objective of labor which read, "To improve the working and living conditions of *labor* throughout the world."

This statement of labor's objective embodies the most common philosophy of the man in the street. According to this philosophy the individual is to think in terms of personal betterment rather than in terms of helping himself by helping others. Conspicuous by its absence is any mention of the possible value of labor's contribution to a better world.

The American farmer desires improved living conditions, more wealth and shorter hours—but he should and does have a desire to help his fellow men by being more efficient. To produce efficiently in quality and quantity should be the objective of individuals and groups—for of what value is a teacher to his pupils if these pupils, because of his efforts, do not become more efficient productive units in their mature life? Of what value is a banker if his loans do not make his community more productive? Of what value is a farmer if his work does not make the world a more efficient productive unit? The real objective of all individuals should be to produce for the betterment of other individuals.

The "Farm Column" of *Fortune* magazine declares monthly, "The Farm is still the broad enduring basis upon which the entire U. S. Economy rests." This recognizes agriculture as our nation's basic activity. That all the food and clothing of the world are products of agriculture indicates that any economy is completely dependent upon agriculture for both survival and prosperity. Consequently, farming *is* our basic industry, business, and science.

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard has said, "Food will win the war and write the peace." Even a little reflection will reveal the truth of this declaration. We cannot produce too much food. We have known no cases of surpluses, only cases of maldistribution. The world cannot be at peace until agriculture can meet the needs of all people.

It is conservatively estimated that in our well-fed America ten times more dairy products would have to be consumed before each individual would have an adequate diet of milk. Similar parallels may be drawn throughout the world with many foodstuffs. The truth is that an overwhelming majority of the people in the world are not living, but merely subsisting! And—alarming as it may seem, agricultural production is not now great enough, nor has it been in peace time, to supply more than a subsistence diet for these peoples. Peace cannot and will not come, until we, who have the opportunities offered us by rural living realize that it is our task to solve the two-fold food problem of sufficient production and satisfactory distribution. This, my fellow Future Farmers, is the task confronting agriculture: To establish world peace it is imperative that agriculture produce efficiently in quality and quantity and that the problems of maldistribution be solved.

But how is agriculture to be highly efficient and productive? Wherein is the answer to maldistribution?

Though we may search nations and continents, the answers are not to be found in such large places. The solution of the problems is to be found in the work of the individual and in the separate and collective activities of the communities. To combat war completely is as difficult a task as to wage war. We have all been told, and each day are realizing it more fully, that total war throws a great responsibility upon the individual. Likewise total peace requires that each individual accept part of the job of maintaining total peace. So gigantic is the task of building peace, each individual must take part of the responsibility.

We individual Americans, as members of a democracy, do exert an influence. That influence is as great or small as are our efforts great or small. Because of these varying factors, because farming is made up of individuals, agriculture does have the great potential required to feed everyone.

The second instrument for the solution is the community. The community was the first real form of organized exchange, united power, and consequently, government. It began when some of our ancestors found that a place of exchange was desirable. The rural village met the need. Radiating from our rural villages are the all-important, basic units, the farms. Thus the rural community is composed of the farm and place of exchange known as the village.

The ideal community of those early days was the one which was completely self-sufficient. The ideal community of today is the one which functions as one small unit of the nation. Communities, in reality, are the living cells of protoplasm which make the civilized world. Many cells make a tissue; and tissues make organs; and organs make a complete body. The many rural communities, which make the cells, which make the tissues, which make basic agriculture, indeed make the heart of the world. Agriculture is the production heart of the world.

With each new harvest, with each can of cream or load of hogs bound for market, this heart pulsates. It provides the blood for the world—the people's food. It produces food for the people in the factories, in the offices—food for the masses in the congested areas. All would be helpless without this outside source of supply.

We may well wonder, however, if for some time this old world of ours has not had heart trouble. The flow of blood has been anemic. Some of the world's organs have suffered from poor circulation. Many cells are only subsisting, waiting for the agrarian heart to pump more blood, to supply more food.

The problem is clear. Not only must agriculture produce; it must distribute. If world peace comes it will be because men of agriculture have stood all-night vigils in the fields and in the communities have solved the two-fold food problem of production and distribution.

Fellow Future Farmers, the task of agriculture is no simple one. It will be long lived. Most of us will live through the present conflicts to enter the many walks of agriculture and life. Let us prepare now for the task which is ours in the future. Let us not be agriculturalists unless we believe "in the future of farming, in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and public interest in marketing the products of our toil, in leadership from ourselves and in respect from others, and in the ability of each individual to exert an influence on his home and community."





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