

MINUTES

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Washington, D.C.

May 15 - 22, 1939

The spring meeting of the National Board of Trustees of the Future Farmers of America was called to order in room 2357 of the New Interior Building in Washington, D.C. on May 15 by President Robert Elwell. Those present were: Stevenson Ching, first vice president; Bradley Twitty, second vice president; Albert Coates, third vice president; Harvey Schweitzer, student secretary; past president J. Lester Poucher; Henry C. Groseclose, treasurer; W. A. Ross, executive secretary and J. A. Linke, advisor. The meeting continued through Monday, May 22.

The main purpose of this meeting was to review the applications of 187 candidates for the American Farmer Degree and to make plans for the Twelfth National Convention. The members of the F.F.A. National Advisory Committee were called into the office on Thursday of the week for the purpose of conferring with the boys on these applications. Joint sessions were held and a complete list of the applicants is attached.

The names of possible Honorary American Farmer Degree candidates were suggested as follows:

Everett Mitchell	Ralph H. Woods
Robert Romack	H. B. Allen
A. M. Paterson	G. J. Stewart
State Advisors (Ten years service)	State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Louisiana

After some discussion Everett Mitchell, A. M. Paterson, Ralph H. Woods and H. B. Allen were nominated to receive the Honorary Degree. It was understood that other nominations might be made later.

Items and suggestions pertaining to the Twelfth National Convention included the following:

1. Convention to be held the week of October 14 - 21 at Kansas City, Missouri in the Municipal Auditorium.
2. National officers to be in Kansas City Wednesday morning, October 11.
3. Dates of the convention were to be October 16, 17, 18 and 19.
4. Sunday evening to include: officer-delegate dinner in charge of Poucher and Elwell; and concert by the Pennsylvania F.F.A. Band.
5. Monday morning to include:
 1. Officers written reports (200 copies ready for distribution)
 - a. Miles traveled
 - b. States visited
 - c. Conventions attended

- d. Outstanding work observed
- e. Recommendations for improvement of the work of the organization, its Associations and chapters.
- 2. Name constitutional committees
- 3. Special reports:
 - a. National Magazine
 - b. National Camp
- 6. Monday evening:
Public Speaking Contest preceded by Band Concert.
- 7. Tuesday evening - "F.F.A. Day" program
 - 1. Entertainer or competitive music and stunt contest by representatives of selected States.
 - 2. Presentation Honorary American Farmer Degrees
 - 3. Presentation Star Farmer medal
 - 4. Presentation plaque and money - chapter contest
 - 5. Presentation plaque and money - State Association
 - 6. Presentation American Farmer Certificates
 - 7. Presentation other certificates not including National Officer certificates
- 8. Wednesday evening
Vocational Agricultural Banquet - Solomon Chapter orchestra to provide entertainment.
- 9. Thursday afternoon
 - 1. Election of officers
 - 2. Signing of scroll by new officers
 - 3. Presentation of past national officer pins and certificates by incoming officers
 - 4. Addresses by retiring officers
 - 5. Greetings by incoming officers

Copy of the complete Twelfth Convention Program in tentative form is attached.

Moved by Stevenson Ching that a complete exhibit of F.F.A. books be displayed at the Twelfth National Convention. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Twitty that the Executive Secretary be delegated to make plans concerning Tuesday evening entertainment of convention week -- whether to use money for professional entertainer or use money for prizes given for amateur contest (talent to be gathered from different States) Motion was seconded and carried.

Moved by Twitty that the expenses of Stevenson Ching incurred in connection with national F.F.A. trips be paid in full as any other national officer. Seconded and carried.

After some discussion Johnson moved that the selection and development of a national F. F. A. camp site be left to the judgment of the adult members of the Board of Trustees. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Coates to empower the Executive Secretary to try again to secure trade mark and design patent on the F.F.A. emblem "as is" but that if difficulty be encountered with the emblem in its present form, the design of the emblem should be so changed that legal protection can be secured. Motion seconded and carried.

Notice had been received that one of the chapters in Virginia was interested in selling bottles of vanilla with "F.F.A." thereon. Moved by Johnson that the national office discourage such a practice since it appeared as though the organization was putting them on the market for sale and backing their distribution. Seconded and carried.

It was the concensus of opinion that copy of the simplified F.F.A. March be sent free to each State Advisor.

Moved by Schweitzer that no company or chapter be authorized to manufacture an F.F.A. emblem plate for automobiles at least until after the Twelfth National Convention. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Twitty to have the Executive Secretary investigate possibilities of taking over the American Farm Youth Magazine as the official national F.F.A. organ and report his findings at the next convention. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Coates that the Universal Uniform Company of Van Wert, Ohio be authorized to stock a swagger cap to match the new twillardine jacket. Seconded and carried. Samples of the new jacket and necktie were accepted as shown.

Moved by Twitty to investigate the possibilities of assisting and cooperating with the Near East Foundation in aiding "Future Farmers" in other lands. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Johnson to leave the matter of securing an appropriate present for Mrs. Jaffee to Mr. and Mrs. Ross. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Twitty that the Executive Secretary and Treasurer be authorized to raise the salary of Margaret Foster. Seconded and carried.

Moved by Twitty that action be deferred on the roadside "welcome signs" until the next convention. Seconded and carried.

It was the sense of the meeting that the revision of the Manual be left until after the Twelfth Convention since it was evident that

some constitutional changes would be made at that time.

Travel of officers for the remainder of the year was agreed upon and each officer informed. The Executive Secretary was to correspond with each officer on definite assignments.

W. M. Ross
Executive Secy