

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Washington, D. C.
July 28 - 30, 1954

July 28

The meeting of the FFA Board of Directors was called to order in Room 4282, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Building, Washington, D. C., by Dr. W. T. Spanton, Chairman. Those present included: Mr. John Bunten, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Carson City, Nevada; Mr. H. E. Wood, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Tallahassee, Florida; Mr. Cola D. Watson, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Burlington, Vermont; Mr. Harold E. Urton, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Pierre, South Dakota; Mr. E. J. Johnson; Mr. R. E. Naugher; Mr. H. N. Hansucker; Dr. A. W. Tenney, Executive Secretary of the FFA, all of the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and Dr. Dowell J. Howard, National Treasurer, Richmond, Virginia.

Dr. Spanton called for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried, that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and that they be approved as mimeographed and sent to the States following the last meeting.

Dr. Howard presented the Report of the National FFA Treasurer.

Dr. Howard explained that the FFA held two-\$5,000 Bonds, which had matured. He suggested that they be reinvested by purchasing two - \$5,000 Bonds; three - \$100 Bonds, and one - \$25 Bond.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the two - \$5,000 Bonds be reinvested as recommended by Dr. Howard.

The proposed FFA budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955, was reviewed briefly.

It was moved by Dr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried, that the Board accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the 1955 Budget be approved, but that the Contingent Fund not be spent unless authorization is given by the Board of Directors and the Board of Student Officers.

The next item of business was the reviewing of applications and the consideration of candidates for the American Farmer Degree.

The Board of Student Officers recommended that one candidate from the North Atlantic Region be rejected and that all other candidates receive the Degree. It was moved by Mr. Hansucker, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers.

The Board of Student Officers recommended that all candidates from the Pacific Region receive the American Farmer Degree. It was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers.

The Board of Student Officers recommended that all but two candidates from the Southern Region receive the American Farmer Degree. It was moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Naugher and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers.

The Board of Student Officers recommended that all but one candidate from the Central Region receive the American Farmer Degree. It was moved by Dr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers.

Mr. Walter B. Anderson of the L. G. Balfour Company was then introduced.

It was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the Balfour Company be permitted to manufacture officer pins for Chaplain and Parliamentarian.

Mr. Anderson showed several new type attachments for charms. It was decided that action be postponed on the new type attachments until samples were submitted of a small lapel pin with the letters "FFA".

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

July 29

The meeting was called to order in Dr. Spanton's office at 9:00 a.m., all members of the Board being present, as well as the Board of Student Officers of the FFA.

Mr. Lano Barron, Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER, appeared before the Board and presented the Second Annual Report of the Magazine for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1954. This report was broken down into the following categories: Circulation, Advertising, Editorial, and the Financial Report.

Mr. Barron stated that subscriptions for 1953-1954 totaled 146,777 with 35 State offices collecting subscriptions, as compared to 114,982 in 1952-1953 with 27 State offices collecting. He reported that Texas

had just announced 100 per cent participation in magazine subscriptions during 1954-1955. This will mean 37,000 subscriptions; North Carolina also is expecting 100 per cent participation with 20,000 subscriptions. Mr. Barron stated that the one problem in the circulation picture is in securing the full and correct addresses of subscribers. A recent check on a sparsely settled State revealed that 59 addresses had been submitted with post offices that did not exist. The magazine staff does everything possible to see that the magazines reach the boys. Stencils, made by the printer directly from the subscription orders, are proofed by both the printer and the magazine staff before mailing, and again by the magazine staff on all returns. In spite of this, some boys apparently are not receiving their magazines -- possibly because they fail to give box numbers and rural routes. It is hoped that some slight changes being made in the subscription order form for 1954-1955 will be of some help in correcting this situation. It was suggested that the four Regional Representatives on the Board write to the State Supervisors in their respective Regions concerning the importance of furnishing complete addresses of subscribers -- so the Supervisors, in turn, can inform their teachers of vocational agriculture. Without objection, this was so ordered.

Advertising in the magazine for 1953-1954 netted \$66,253.17, as compared with \$45,158.61 in 1952-1953.

Mr. Barron reported that on the basis of a recent survey, each issue of The National FUTURE FARMER is being read by three-quarters of a million people.

The Financial Report for The National FUTURE FARMER for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1954, and the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955, were reviewed in detail. Mr. Barron said that the "travel" item in the Proposed Budget for 1954-1955 had been increased, since it was considered essential to secure additional advertising, as that is the main source of revenue for the operation of the magazine.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried, that the Board of Directors approve the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the Second Annual Report of The National FUTURE FARMER and the Proposed Budget for 1954-1955 be accepted, with the additional stipulation that Mr. Barron be complimented for his work on the magazine, and for the manner in which he presented his reports.

A discussion was held as to the proper procedure for handling "gift" subscriptions to the magazine. Mr. Bunten stated that in his State quite a few of the FFA Chapters present "gift" subscriptions to various individuals, and he thought perhaps the subscription order form could be improved upon to take care of these subscriptions. Mr. Urton also reported that he urges FFA Chapters in his State to give "gift" subscriptions to Superintendents, Board of Education members, etc., to further acquaint them with FFA activities through the magazine.

Mr. Farrar stated that he would like to see a budget of \$200 set aside by the FFA to provide complimentary subscriptions to all donors to the FFA Foundation, radio farm directors, and a selected group of people to whom we would like the magazine to go as a good promotional activity.

Mr. Barron suggested that before the States send in their subscriptions, it would be helpful if they would deduct the 10 per cent discount to which they are entitled. This would save considerable time and correspondence.

Mr. Urton inquired concerning the deadline date for subscriptions for the Fall issue of the magazine, in line with discussion during the January Board meeting relative to advancing the printing dates for the magazine. Mr. Barron replied that after conferring with the advertising agencies, it was decided that such a change would be inadvisable at the present time. Therefore, the magazine will continue to be published in October, January, April, and July. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Barron stated that he hopes to be able to increase yearly issues of the magazine to six in the not too distant future. He thought our present advertisers would be agreeable to a six-issue magazine, and that January 1, 1956 might be the logical time to make such a change.

In view of the fact that the Minutes of the January Meeting of the Board of Directors, which have been sent to all the States, contained information to the effect that the publication dates of the magazine were to be advanced to September, December, March, and June, it was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that Dr. Spanton be authorized to write to the States, explaining the reasons for the decision not to change the publication dates of the magazine at the present time.

Dr. Spanton next presented a plan for acquainting the general public with The National FUTURE FARMER on trains and airplanes throughout the country. He suggested that the FFA Foundation might purchase large folders, bearing an emblem of the FFA and the words "The National FUTURE FARMER" in which the latest issues of the magazine could be placed for the enjoyment of passengers on the trains and planes. He suggested that these subscriptions could be paid for by the FFA Foundation, since attention would be drawn to the advertisements of donors to the Foundation and other companies. Dr. Tenney suggested a trial run on one of the major railways, to see how it might work out. Mr. Urton seemed to think it might be a good idea. Mr. Johnson thought it might be tried on one railroad and one airline. Mr. Barron reported that he had talked with a representative of Capital Airlines about this plan. Magazines to be placed on their planes are usually selected by Board action. However, after reviewing issues of The National FUTURE FARMER, the Capital Airlines representative stated he would be glad to put this magazine on their planes, without any Board action. Mr. Farrar thought this matter should be handled as an FFA activity, rather than

through the FFA Foundation. After further discussion, it was decided to investigate the cost of such a venture and submit something concrete to the Board members during their January meeting.

Mr. Edward Hawkins, Manager of the Future Farmers Supply Service, was present and reviewed the Operating Statement of the Supply Service for the Year Ended June 30, 1954. The total sales for this period was \$756,004.28, which represents about an 8 per cent increase as compared to a year ago. Shipping costs continue to rise, being 34 per cent above that of a year ago. Fortunately, the FFA Supply Service has been able to absorb some of these extra costs through the use of economy measures. The net profit amounted to \$38,785.71; however, the States have not yet been paid their grants on sales for this year. Mr. Hawkins also presented a Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955. This Budget showed a Sales Forecast amounting to \$800,000 with an Estimated Net Profit of \$50,036.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the Operating Statement of the Future Farmers Supply Service for the Year Ended June 30, 1954, and the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955, be accepted and appreciation expressed to Mr. Hawkins for the fine work which he has done as Manager of the Supply Service.

Mr. Hawkins presented a list of the items sold at the Supply Service during the past year, the main item being the Official FFA Jacket, with 57,429 sold. He next presented a chart showing dollar sales volume by States. This chart was inspected by members of the Board, and it was suggested that a chart be prepared next year showing dollar sales volume based on percentage of membership, by States. It was thought that such a chart would present a truer picture of sales.

Mr. Hawkins reported that he had been working on a new type metal out-door sign which could be purchased by FFA Chapters for road marking. A sample sign was shown, on which the FFA Emblem was larger than on the old sign, the border had been removed, and the words "Future Farmers of America" did not appear. Considerable discussion followed. Mr. Urton and Mr. Hansucker thought the words "Future Farmers of America" should appear on the new sign. It was pointed out, however, that civic club signs along the highways use only the emblem of the organization to identify the sign, and space was provided at the bottom of the sign for chapter lettering. Mr. Hawkins was asked if the old sign would be discontinued if the new one is developed, and he replied that the old one could be used as a camp, chapter, or shop sign.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Naugher and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the Manager of the Supply Service be authorized to have the new sign manufactured, together with letter

decals to be used by FFA Chapters as desired. Mr. Johnson further stipulated that both signs be carried in stock at the Supply Service.

Mr. Hawkins next presented a request from the West Virginia Association of Future Farmers of America for the Supply Service to stock Station Markers made from cardboard. He showed a sample which had been sent to him from West Virginia and which had been in use for many years. The wool felt station markers now stocked by the Supply Service sell for \$23 a set, and the State of West Virginia would like to be able to purchase cardboard markers which would be much cheaper. Mr. Hawkins expressed a willingness to develop something along this line if the Board members approved.

It was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that Mr. Hawkins be authorized to look into the matter of developing cardboard station markers and report his findings to the Board members at their January meeting.

The next matter to be brought to the attention of the Board was the question of making Christmas Cards available, through the Supply Service, to State FFA Associations, FFA Chapters and members of the FFA. Mr. Hawkins presented samples of cards, and announced that if the Board took favorable action, he would get out a "flyer" in September to every chapter, giving illustrations of the cards available, with a request that orders arrive at the Supply Service no later than November 15.

After considerable discussion, it was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried, that the Board of Directors adopt the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers with reference to the sale of Christmas Cards -- namely, that one single card and two assortments, Nos. 50 and 650, be made available to State FFA Associations, Chapters and Members, through the FFA Supply Service.

Mr. Bunten commented on the fact that his region is concerned about the wide variety of items being carried by the FFA Supply Service -- and in particular the amount of business being done in Sweetheart Jackets. The Pacific Region takes the stand that this item does not represent a student or Future Farmer activity and that it should not be carried by the Supply Service. He pointed out that sales on this item alone amounted to over 2,200 jackets last year, to say nothing of sales of Compacts, Bracelets, etc. Members of the Board of Student Officers were asked for their views, and they seemed to feel that the Sweetheart Contest has become so well established in many States that the sweetheart jackets will continue to be purchased from some other source -- if not from the FFA Supply Service.

It was moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Naugher and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that no action be taken at this time to

remove any of the "Sweetheart" items from the catalogue of the FFA Supply Service.

Mr. Urton asked Mr. Hawkins about the possibility of obtaining a lightweight Advisor's Jacket. He stated he ordered an Advisor's Jacket in June, but it is too warm to wear it. He stated that in his State it is too warm for corduroy jackets from May on through the summer. Mr. Hawkins advised that he has a new, lightweight jacket for Advisors, to sell for \$5.95, which will be listed in the new FFA Supply Service Catalogue. It will have a small emblem and the word "Advisor".

This led to a discussion concerning the possibility of furnishing a lightweight jacket for members of the FFA. Complaints have been received, especially from the Southern States, that the corduroy jackets are much too warm for summer wear. Samples of jackets in other materials were shown, but the National Officers were of the opinion that the official jacket should continue to be made of corduroy. Several suggestions were offered -- one being that the corduroy jacket might be considered the official jacket from September to May, with a lightweight jacket for summer. Another suggestion was that the boys wear white shirts with the FFA emblem during the summer months. Mr. Urton and Mr. Wood looked with favor on the latter suggestion, but Mr. Wood thought that when pictures of the boys were to be taken they should wear jackets. Dr. Tenney suggested that Mr. Hawkins contact some of the manufacturers and ask them to send samples of materials in two or three weights, in the proper color, and send the samples to the convention to compare with corduroy.

It was moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried, that the matter not be discussed further until the possibility of a new lightweight jacket made of gabardine could be investigated, with the further understanding that Mr. Hawkins secure samples of different materials and weights and send them to Kansas City at the time of the National Convention.

Mr. Hawkins stated that about a year ago the Board recommended that the sale of denim jackets and trousers be discontinued at the Supply Service when the stock was depleted. He stated that the denim jacket is a very popular item -- 630 having been sold during the past year. Mr. Hawkins said that he continues to receive orders for these jackets, but is running out of certain sizes. Because of the popularity of these jackets, and since the Lee Company is one of the donors to the FFA Foundation, he would like to have the Board reconsider its previous action concerning denim jackets.

Mr. Bunten asked why this recommendation was made by the Board, and Mr. Hawkins replied that some Board members felt the Supply Service should not stock work jackets and be competing with business. Mr. Watson expressed the view that only those items which were "official" and not readily available from other sources should be stocked by the FFA Supply Service. He felt that denim jackets, in the areas where they are

most frequently worn, are readily available from other sources and do not really need to be carried by the FFA Supply Service.

It was moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that Mr. Hawkins be authorized to stock denim jackets again at the Supply Service.

Dr. Spanton read a letter which he had received from a vocational agriculture teacher in Arcata, California, who requested authorization to use the FFA Emblem, or parts thereof, on leather wallets which he was hand carving and selling. It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the request of the teacher to manufacture and sell leather wallets bearing the FFA Emblem be denied, but that the Board approve the manufacture of wallets as requested for personal use.

Dr. Spanton read a letter from an insurance company — R. B. Jones and Sons, Inc., — in Kansas City, with regard to insurance coverage for all those in attendance at the forthcoming National FFA Convention. In view of the fact that many of the States already have group insurance, locally, for FFA members while attending the FFA Convention, it was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that such an insurance policy be rejected.

Dr. Spanton reported on the possibility of moving the magazine offices to the University of Maryland. This move seems remote at present, due to certain conditions which have arisen at the University, necessitating other provisions for office space for the magazine staff.

At the January meeting of the Board of Directors, Mr. Hawkins was instructed to secure figures on the approximate cost of a permanent-type building at the Camp, to house the magazine and the FFA Supply Service. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Barron gave a joint report on their findings. They displayed a drawing (which had been prepared by Mr. Barron) of a proposed two-story structure with basement, to be built of brick veneer with asphalt tile floors, and patterned on the architectural style of Mt. Vernon and Woodlawn. It is proposed that the FFA Supply Service occupy the first floor, and use the basement as a stock room, with the magazine offices located on the second floor. The present temporary buildings could then be used for storage and warehouses. The drawing showed a first section, with a second section which could be added later to conform with the architectural design. The proposed first section would be 88 x 32. One builder's estimate of cost was \$45,000. to \$50,000. — and another ran to \$69,000. Some thought perhaps it would be better to proceed with the complete unit, rather than build one section which might prove to be inadequate, and then have to build a second section soon thereafter. It was not known what the complete unit would cost but would probably be in the neighborhood of

\$100,000. Considerable discussion developed as to how such a building could be financed, the value of the land, etc.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Barron be authorized to secure the services of an architect to draw up plans for a complete unit on the present site of the FFA Camp, and submit this report to the two Boards at their January meeting.

The next matter to be considered was the payment of grants to the States from the FFA Supply Service. There was some discussion concerning this -- whether or not it should be continued, and if the States actually desire it, etc. Mr. Watson stated that the Regional Representatives on the Board polled the States last year, asking whether they wanted the grants continued, or would prefer reducing the cost of merchandise. The North Atlantic Region favored reducing cost of the merchandise. Dr. Spanton remarked that we must consider the fact that, while we would like to reduce prices to the boys, if prices are cut below those of similar articles on the open market, we could be accused of unfair trade practices. Mr. Hawkins said he would like to recommend payment of 2 per cent of the gross income as a grant to the States this year, and 1 per cent to go into a reserve fund. It was suggested by some that perhaps all grants to the States should be discontinued and the money placed in a building fund instead. Mr. Wood stated that he believed the States in the Southern Region would be agreeable to such an arrangement, but he felt the States should be advised a year in advance before the grants were entirely cut off. Dr. Tenney remarked that several States have been using the money received from this grant for expenses incurred in sending boys to Kansas City to participate in the National Band and Chorus.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that a grant to the States from the FFA Supply Service be continued this year in the amount of 2 per cent of the gross sales with an additional 1 per cent to be placed in a reserve fund; that the States be advised that this grant will be discontinued next year and the money put into a building fund.

Dr. Tenney raised the question as to what should be done about the sum of \$17,500 which had been loaned by the FFA Supply Service to the National Organization. After considerable discussion, it was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the \$17,500 loaned by the Future Farmers Supply Service to the Future Farmers of America be considered a grant to the FFA Organization.

Dr. Spanton read a letter from The Green Company, Inc., of Kansas City, Missouri, in which they presented a proposal for becoming an official supplier of jewelry for the FFA Organization. A discussion was held on the matter of jewelry and plaques now being furnished by the L. G. Balfour Company. Mr. Watson asked how the L. G. Balfour Company came to

be selected as the official source of jewelry for the FFA. Dr. Tenney replied that about 26 years ago the FFA Organization asked Mr. Walter Anderson, of the L. G. Balfour Company, to design some jewelry for the FFA, and the contracts were awarded to them shortly thereafter. He stated that while it was true that some companies furnish cheaper jewelry, he believes the Balfour Company furnishes high quality merchandise. Mr. Buntin stated, from personal experience, that it takes anywhere from two months to ten weeks to get a plaque from Massachusetts to Nevada. When their last shipment finally did arrive, there was a mix-up in the order which caused a further delay. He stated that several supervisors from the Pacific Region have registered similar complaints concerning plaques and pins. It was suggested that perhaps a solution to this problem would be to have the Supply Service stock certain items, such as Green Hand and Chapter Farmer Pins — then the States could order directly from the Supply Service.

After considerable discussion, it was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the Manager of the FFA Supply Service be authorized to obtain competitive bids on all official FFA jewelry from various jewelry manufacturing companies, sometime between now and January 1, with the understanding that the distribution to FFA members would be taken over by the FFA Supply Service beginning in 1955. Mr. Hawkins is to report to the two Boards at their January meeting.

The next matter to be considered by the Board was the suggestion that each State be limited to recommending one, and only one, candidate for a National Office. It was pointed out that this would greatly aid the Nominating Committee in its work. After careful consideration of the matter, it was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that each State be limited to recommending one, and only one, candidate for a National Office.

Dr. Spanton called attention to the fact that 1954 marks the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the FFA Foundation. It has been suggested to Dr. Spanton that some sort of a ceremony be held during this year's convention to honor those who have served as Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee of the FFA Foundation. They would be: Mr. Frank Jenks, of International Harvester; Mr. John Kraft, of Kraft Foods; Mr. Raymond Firestone, of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company; Mr. Roger M. Kyes, of General Motors; Mr. Chester H. Lang, of General Electric; and the present Chairman, Mr. W. A. Roberts, of Allis-Chalmers.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that an appropriate plaque be presented to each of the men who have served as Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee of the Future Farmers of America Foundation, and that the presentation of the plaques be made in a suitable ceremony during the FFA Convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

July 30

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. Spanton, Chairman, all members of the Board being present.

Dr. Spanton told briefly what had taken place in connection with the law suit. He then read two proposed amendments to the Federal Charter. The members of the Board approved of these amendments.

Dr. Spanton explained a proposed plan for retirement benefits for employees of the Future Farmers of America. This plan was not ready for any definite action to be taken.

Dr. Tenney read the list of the twenty-five teachers of vocational agriculture who had earned the highest number of points toward receiving the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Watson, and carried, that the following teachers of vocational agriculture receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree in 1954:

Neil E. Johnston, Clarinda, Iowa
C. S. Brock, Greenville, Illinois
Clyde E. Fry, Clinton, Illinois
J. A. Twardock, Champaign, Illinois
R. H. Hoberg, Ortonville, Minnesota
J. H. Tschetter, Fairmont, Minnesota
L. C. Schank, Fallon, Nevada
James G. Jones, Granite Quarry, N. C.
Isaac H. Kearney, Lexington, N. C.
Marvin W. Mangum, Monroe, N. C.
Ralph Foltz, Bremen, Ohio
George Krill, Ashland, Ohio
Harold W. Moorhead, Sycamore, Ohio
Roy A. Fordyce, North East, Pennsylvania
J. F. Brown, Whitney, Texas
M. R. Henslee, Luling, Texas
J. R. Jackson, College Station, Texas
L. E. Stone, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Richmond A. Young, Randolph Center, Vermont
Harvey D. Seal, Ashland, Virginia
Ted Britten, Snohomish, Washington
J. Arthur Johnson, Ellensburg, Washington
Chester Lybecker, Walla Walla, Washington
J. O. Beadle, Galesville, Wisconsin
T. R. Lathrope, Reedsburg, Wisconsin

Mr. Urton said he would like to see action taken on the policy which says the Honorary American Farmer Degree cannot be conferred in absentia. He felt that if the men merited the degree they should receive it regardless of whether they attended the national convention or not.

After some discussion, it was moved by Mr. Hansucker, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers to follow the practice used in the past to award the Honorary American Farmer Degree to businessmen only if they attend the national convention and that they not be permitted to send a substitute. The degree, however, will be conferred upon Teachers of Vocational Agriculture, State Supervisors of Agriculture Education and Teacher Trainers regardless of whether they can attend the convention or not.

It was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried that the following men receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree in 1954:

Frank Atwood, Farm Program Director, Station WTIC,
Hartford, Connecticut
Thomas D. Bailey, State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
State Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida
(President, National Council of Chief State School Officers)
L. C. Dalton, State Supervisor Agricultural Education,
State College, New Mexico
J. C. Haynes, Director of Public Relations, Sears Roebuck &
Company, Atlanta, Georgia
Henry Ford, II, President, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Mich.
A.D.P. Heeney, Ambassador, Canadian Embassy, Washington, D. C.
George H. Hurt, Acting Director, Vocational Agricultural Education,
Austin, Texas
Robert D. McMillen, Assistant to the Secretary, U. S. Department
of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
Don Moeller, Agricultural Research Department, Swift and Company,
Chicago, Illinois
Alexander Nunn, Executive Editor, "The Progressive Farmer"
Birmingham, Alabama
W. A. Roberts, President, Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
John A. Snell, State Director Agricultural Education,
Augusta, Maine
George E. Taylor, Director of Agricultural Development,
United States Rubber Company, New York, New York
Morris T. Warner, Staunton Novelty Company, Staunton, Virginia
F. A. Wirt, Advertising Manager, J. I. Case Co., Racine,
Wisconsin
Fathers of the National FFA Officers
Fathers of the 1954 Star Farmers

A discussion was held concerning whether the superintendents of the judging contests who had served three years should receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

It was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that this practice be discontinued and that these men not receive the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Mr. Johnson voted against this motion since he felt these men were deserving of the degree.

Dr. Spanton read a letter from Mr. Sutliff, Chief, Bureau of Agricultural Education in New York, concerning changes he thought should be made in the application for the Honorary Farmer Degree to be submitted by teachers of vocational agriculture.

Mr. Urton said that the Central Region took action to give the present criteria a year's trial and that at the next Board meeting it could be discussed. He felt the members of the Board should canvass the States and get their reactions to this application for teachers applying for the degree. Mr. Bunten said that the Pacific Region had been polled and with the exception of two or three States they were in favor of the present criteria. All of the States in that region, however, recommended changes in the points allowed for various items.

David Boyne spoke on the International Exchange Program and the reactions he received while in Great Britain. He said the officials of the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs of Great Britain were very much in favor of the FFA exchange program and were pleased with the FFA members who had been sent to Great Britain. He said that they wanted to increase the number of exchange students. David recommended that the Board consider increasing the number of exchange students for this coming year from two to four, and that if possible the length of the program to be extended to four months. He felt that if the FFA did not want to send four members to Great Britain two could be sent there as in the past and two members could be sent to some other foreign country.

Dr. Tenney said he would like to see someone go over to Japan to assist them with their program, and he would also look with favor on a small exchange with the Future Farmers of Canada.

Mr. Urton felt that more could be done for the FFA by having an exchange between the States.

Mr. Naugher said he would like to have two or three boys from Puerto Rico come to the States each year and that a national officer should be sent to Puerto Rico once a year or at least every other year. He felt this would bring about a better understanding with the Puerto Rico Association.

It was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the FFA increase the number of foreign exchange students from two to four - one coming from each region - beginning in June, 1955.

Copies of the tentative program for the 27th National FFA Convention were distributed by Dr. Tenney to the members of the Board. Dr. Tenney then reviewed plans for the coming convention.

Dr. Tenney presented the following list of men to be considered for judges of the National FFA Public Speaking Contest, to be held in Kansas City on the evening of October 11:

Robert D. McMillen
Charles B. Schuman
Jesse T. Anderson
Wib Justi
Frank Jenks
J. M. McCain
Ralph L. Foster

Dr. Tenney distributed copies of the National FFA Program of Work for 1954-55, and explained that this was what our objectives will be on the national level. He then passed out copies of "A Guide for Use of Local FFA Chapters in Developing Programs of Work." He said that some of the material in this Guide was taken from the old Program of Work, and that this was simply suggestions from the national organization to local chapters. He requested that the Board members review these two Programs of Work when they returned home and either send him their suggestions or bring them to the meeting at Kansas City. He then asked which of these Programs of Work should go before the committee at the national convention. After considerable discussion it was decided that the National Program of Work should be a special report made before the convention and the Guide should be referred to the committee. Mr. Bunten felt that the Guide should be mimeographed and sent to the States so they could re-mimeograph it and send it to the local chapters.

Dr. Spanton read a letter from Mr. Luke Kelly, Executive Secretary of the Michigan Association, in which Mr. Kelly told of the problem they are facing with the increased number of qualified candidates for the State Farmer Degree because of the limitation of two per cent of the total State membership. Mr. Kelly stated that the Michigan Association proposed that the Board of Directors and Board of Student Officers place on the agenda at the national convention the following amendment to the National FFA Constitution:

Amend Article V, Section D, Paragraph 9, by striking out "2%" and substituting "3%". That portion of the sentence would then read ".....where State membership exceeds 500, a number in excess of ten, but not more than 3% of the total State membership, may be elected (fractions counted to the nearest whole number)."

Mr. Watson suggested that the States be notified of this proposed amendment immediately and that it be placed on the agenda for the October meeting of the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors.

Dr. Tenney reviewed the American Farmer Application form for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955. A few changes were made and it was agreed that this not be printed until after it had been reviewed by the Committee at the national convention.

Mr. Hansucker presented a plan for the National FFA Chapter Contest.

It was moved by Dr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely, that the plan presented by Mr. Hansucker regarding the National FFA Chapter contest be approved. This plan included the establishment of minimum standards for chapter achievement for national awards. Revised rules, awards and standards for the chapter contest will be submitted to the two Boards in Kansas City for final recommendation and presentation to the delegates at the national convention for final approval.

It was moved by Mr. Hansucker, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that \$250 be spent for complimentary subscriptions to The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine.

The following proposed budget for the FFA for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1955 was presented:

REVENUE

Dues	38,000.00
Royalties	20,000.00
Old Mill	2,000.00
Supply Service - Rent	1,500.00
Supply Service - Grant	7,500.00
Appropriated from surplus	13,325.00
Miscellaneous	125.00
Total Revenue	<u>\$82,450.00</u>

EXPENDITURES

I. TRAVEL

National Officers	\$10,000.00
Board of Directors	2,800.00
Special Travel (Natl. Office)	2,600.00
International Travel	5,000.00
Total Travel	<u>\$20,400.00</u>

II. CONVENTION

Delegate Expense	\$4,300.00
National Band	1,000.00
National Chorus	1,000.00
Reception and Printing	1,200.00
Expenses incurred in connection with use of Auditorium and special presentations	1,800.00
Buttons, badges, programs, etc.	1,200.00
Stenotypist	175.00
Photographs & Publicity	500.00
Decorations and stage help	1,000.00
Equipment, rental & supplies	300.00
Building service	65.00
Communications	100.00
Secretarial travel expense	1,300.00
Awards and certificates	1,500.00
Plaques for former Chairmen of Foundation Sponsoring Comm.	100.00
Miscellaneous	250.00
Total Convention	<u>\$15,790.00</u>

III. AMERICAN FARMER KEYS \$3,800.00

IV. PRINTING

Literature & Proceedings	\$3,300.00
Stationery, forms, etc.	1,100.00
Total Printing	<u>\$4,400.00</u>

V. NATIONAL OFFICE EXPENSE

Secretary to Exec. Secy. - Sal.	\$3,785.00
Secretary to Treasurer (Part-time Salary)	1,350.00
Director of Public Relations - Salary	6,440.00
Director of Public Relations - Travel	1,500.00
Director of Pub. Rel. - Secy. Salary	3,335.00
Telephone and Telegraph	700.00
Postage and express	200.00
Bond premiums & taxes	100.00
Supplies, Equipment & Rental	850.00
Legal and Auditing	150.00
Photographs	500.00
Architects Fee	500.00
Complimentary subscriptions to Magazine	250.00
Miscellaneous	1,200.00
Total Nat'l Office Expense	<u>\$20,860.00</u>

VI. NATIONAL CAMP	
Salary - Mill Attendant	\$1,500.00
Insurance	300.00
Maintenance	500.00
Total National Camp	<u>\$2,300.00</u>
VII. JUDGING EXPENSES	<u>\$500.00</u>
VIII. THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
IX. CONTINGENT	\$4,400.00
TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET	<u>\$82,450.00</u>

It was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the proposed budget as corrected be approved.

Mr. Watson stated that at the next meeting of the Board, he would like a review to be made of the FFA salaries based on the information made available at this meeting. He said he would also like to find out about possibilities of establishing policies for recommending types of activities in which local chapters and State Associations can participate.

Mr. Urton suggested that at the October meeting the members of the Board from the States be given an opportunity at the opening of the meeting to bring recommendations before the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

A. W. Tenney

A. W. Tenney, Secretary

W. T. Spanton

W. T. Spanton, Chairman