

# MINUTES

## 1932-33 NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Washington, D. C.  
June 13-16, 1933

The national Board of Trustees of the Future Farmers of America met in executive session during the period June 13-16 for the purpose of transacting the general business of the national organization and primarily to plan the Sixth National Convention of Future Farmers of America to be held in Kansas City November 17-24, 1933.

Since this meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the time of the national F. F. A. Pilgrimage, considerable discussion was included relative to the matters which came up in connection with carrying through the program of the national Pilgrimage.

The following members of the Board of Trustees were present: Vernon Howell, Paul McCutcheon, E. K. Waters, LaVern Newton, Leo Paulsen, Henry Groseclose, C. H. Lane, and W. A. Ross.

### Tuesday, June 13

#### Morning Session

The meeting was called to order at 10 a. m. by President Vernon Howell.

Upon a motion made by Leo Paulsen and seconded by LaVern Newton the following bills in connection with the Pilgrimage were approved and ordered paid by the executive secretary from the treasury of the national organization:

\$50.00
100.00
16.10
6.00
60.00
15.17
10.00
23.35
10.00
13.77
25.00
47.50
10.00
5.10
6.00
3.00
7.50

The meeting adjourned until 7:15 p. m.

### Evening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:55 p. m. by President Howell.

The first item of business taken up was in connection with the planning of the special radio broadcast to be put on at Charlottesville, Virginia, in cooperation with the National Broadcasting Company on June 14. This broadcast had been planned as a part of the Pilgrimage to Monticello. Mr. Youse, announcer from the WRC radio station in Washington, was present and informed the board members that he had been designated by the NBC to handle the broadcast, for which the Farm and Home Hour had been set aside. After considerable discussion it was decided that the radio program should be rendered as follows:

1. "Hail the F. F. A." - pipe organ.
2. F. F. A. opening ceremony by the national officers.
3. Welcome by Dean Armistead Dobie of the Law School, University of Virginia.
4. Address by Stuart Gibboney, President of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation.
5. Address by Chester Gray, Washington Representative, American Farm Bureau Federation.
6. Address by L. J. Tabor, Master, National Grange.
7. Address by W. Harry King, Agricultural Member, Federal Board for Vocational Education.
8. Closing ceremony by the National officers.
9. "Hail the F. F. A." - pipe organ.

Mr. Youse stated that he would drive to Charlottesville in his own car and that he would be on hand at 12 o'clock noon on June 14 with the radio engineer, also furnished by the National Broadcasting Company, to start the program. Mr. Ross stated that arrangements had been made through Mr. W. H. Wranek of the University of Virginia to secure an organist to play the pipe organ selections for the radio program.

The next item of business taken up was in connection with the carrying through of the flag ceremony at Monticello, which, it was brought out, was to be the high point in the Pilgrimage ceremonies. After considerable discussion, it was decided that immediately following the completion of the radio program, which was to be given from the McIntyre Amphitheatre on the University campus, that everyone should go to the Monticello grounds and assemble on the lawn in front of the west portico.

President Howell was then to call the group to order and have the State flags distributed to the various State representatives. He was then to call the roll of the States in the order in which they entered the Union, and as each State representative came forward allow him time to place his agricultural product on the steps and make brief comments as to the significance of the product. While this was being done, it was agreed that President Howell would insert the star in the large flag draped across the portico posts, this procedure to continue until the flag was completed. E. K. Waters was designated to take charge of the placing of the products on the steps, and Paul McCutcheon was designated to assist President Howell in placing the stars. The other members of the Board of Trustees were designated to distribute the State flags to the official representatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 p. m. subject to the call of the president.

Thursday, June 15

Morning Session

The meeting was called to order at 10 a. m. by President Howell.

Secretary Paulsen read the complete minutes of the general session of the Fifth National Convention of Future Farmers of America.

Mr. Walter Anderson of the L. G. Balfour Company was present and gave a report on the various activities of this company with reference to the sale of merchandise to the members of the Future Farmers of America. Mr. Anderson presented samples of the proposed national F. F. A. medals which, it was explained by Mr. Ross, were to be used as awards for national events only, such as the public speaking contest, the Star Farmer contest, and the like. The members of the Board of Trustees appeared to be well pleased with the designs presented by Mr. Anderson, and upon motion of Leo Paulsen, seconded by E. K. Waters, the design was accepted by unanimous consent. Mr. Anderson also displayed the new loving cups, finger rings, and collegiate pins which had been authorized at previous convention sessions, and upon motion of Waters these designs were accepted and passed by unanimous consent.

The next matter which came up for consideration was that of publishing a pamphlet containing an account of the F. F. A. Pilgrimage to Monticello. No definite action was taken since it was decided, after some discussion, to consider this matter at a later meeting.

At this time a brief explanation was made by the national adviser and the executive secretary relative to a situation existing among the State advisers relative to the companies designated to supply F. F. A. merchandise. It was pointed out that many of the advisers apparently were

not aware of the merchandise available or of the conditions under which it could be secured. In other words, many of them were more or less unfamiliar with the whole F. F. A. merchandise situation. It was moved by Paulsen, seconded by McCutcheon, and carried that the National Board of Trustees recommend at the State advisers' meeting that they call in representatives of the various companies manufacturing goods for the F. F. A. and find out from them anything regarding these products which they wish to know.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

#### Afternoon Session

The meeting was called to order at 2 p. m. by President Howell.

The first matter considered was in regard to securing information from the various States as to "timber" for national officers. It was pointed out during the discussion that in many instances there were members in the various State Associations holding the American Farmer degree who might make splendid officers if the nominating committee was able to get a "line" on them at the time of the national convention. It was moved, seconded, and carried that President Howell write to the presidents of the various State Associations, sending a copy of his letter to the State advisers, asking that the names of promising members be called to the attention of the National Board of Trustees prior to the Sixth National Convention and that definite information about each of these persons suggested be sent in for the information of the nominating committee.

Mr. Earl Cooper of The Country Gentleman staff was granted permission to appear before the Board of Trustees at this time and present a proposition for printing an F. F. A. magazine. The Board of Trustees heard Mr. Cooper's proposition through and then asked for a little time in which to consider the matter. Although no motion was made in regard to definite action taken it was unanimously agreed -- and it was the sense of the meeting -- that it was unwise to undertake the printing of a national magazine at this time. Mr. Cooper was informed accordingly.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p. m.

Friday, June 16

#### Morning Session

The meeting was called to order at 9 a. m. by President Howell.

The first matter considered was the question of travel and subsistence expenses incurred by the national officers in making the trip to Washington and Monticello. The following transportation bills were allowed: Vernon Howell, \$143.07; Leo Paulsen, \$52.05; Paul McCutcheon, \$40.00; E. K. Waters, \$65.40; LaVern Newton, \$49.05. The Board of Trustees then launched into a lengthy discussion as to future policies of the F. F.A. relative to travel of national officers. The following policies were agreed upon:

That the national organization of F. F. A. shall pay the following expenses of officers attending national F. F. A. meetings: (1) The actual expenses of meals, lodging, laundry, and pressing, not to exceed \$4.00 a day; (2) actual transportation expense to consist of at least oil and gas for an auto but not to exceed railroad fare.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

#### Afternoon Session

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p. m. by President Howell.

Upon a motion made by Newton and seconded by Waters, it was decided to grant the request of the Pool Manufacturing Company of Sherman, Texas, in connection with the cancellation of the company's contract for uniforms of the Future Farmers of America organization. It was pointed out by the executive secretary that since the Fifth National Convention no written contract had been forwarded for signatures of the national officers by the Pool Manufacturing Company and therefore no contract really existed with the Pool Manufacturing Company, the old contract having terminated with the Fifth National Convention. The executive secretary was instructed to notify the States that the contract with the Pool Manufacturing Company had been cancelled.

The question of allowing a representative of the Hawaiian Association of F. F. A. and the Puerto Rican Association of F. F. A. to enter the national F. F.A. public speaking contest was discussed at length. The main difficulties were pointed out as follows:

1. The Puerto Rico boy would likely have to speak in Spanish.
2. It would be impossible for either the Hawaii or the Puerto Rico representative to participate in the regional elimination contests.
3. Objections would undoubtedly be raised by the various State associations if the representatives of either of these two Associations were allowed to participate in the contest without first having participated in a regional event as a semi-final.

4. Since the rules of the contest did not make provision for Puerto Rico this year it would be unwise to attempt to include a representative.

Awards for the national contests and other events of a national character were discussed. It was moved by McCutcheon that the four contestants in the public speaking contest be awarded the new medals of national design as follows: First place, gold medal; second place, silver medal; third place, bronze medal; fourth place, bronze medal.

Upon a motion by Paulsen, seconded by Newton, and carried it was decided to present a gold medal of the new national design to the Star American Farmer.

Upon a motion by McCutcheon, duly seconded and carried, it was decided to give one of the national plaques to the winner of the national chapter contest and to the winner of the State Association contest.

Upon a motion by Paulsen, seconded by Waters, and duly passed it was decided that the national song writing contest should be conducted under rules similar to those of the 1931 contest, and that the prizes to be awarded by the national organization would be as follows: First place, \$75; second place, \$50; third place, \$25; fourth place, \$25.

The meeting was adjourned until 7 p. m.

#### Evening Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p. m. by President Howell.

The first matter to come before the board was that of the desirability of having a permanent record of the national Pilgrimage to Monticello. It was the sense of the meeting that such a record would be desirable and the expenditure for the making up of a little booklet to contain the important events of the Pilgrimage would be justified. Upon a motion by Waters, seconded by McCutcheon, and duly passed, the executive secretary was directed to prepare the booklet in such form as he felt appropriate and to have the booklet distributed to all chapters in the organization.

At this time it was pointed out by the executive secretary that the F. F. A. was accumulating a little surplus money in the national treasury and the question was raised as to whether this money should all be left in the Blacksburg, Virginia, bank or whether some of it should be removed and invested in some safe manner in order to give adequate protection to the national organization. The members of the board present were unanimous in their opinion that a division of the money should be

made. Upon a motion by Paulsen, seconded by McCutcheon, it was decided that \$2500 of the money in the national treasury should be placed in postal savings. The executive secretary was requested to call this action to the attention of the National Adviser who was absent at the time this action was taken.

The matter of having a little poster printed to show chapter officers, advisers, and others interested, where to get the F. F. A. supplies was brought up and discussed. It was pointed out that many times orders for felt goods are sent to the Balfour Company and orders for jewelry to the French-Bray Printing Company due to the fact that local chapters especially are unfamiliar with the sources of F. F. A. supplies. It was pointed out further that a little poster bearing the names of all the supplies available and the address of the companies and lists of the things supplied by each company would be very desirable. It was moved by McCutcheon, and duly seconded, that the national organization pay for a small poster of this kind which would assist the chapter officers in correctly placing their orders for supplies. The motion passed.

The program of the Sixth National Convention of F. F. A. was discussed at various times during the meeting of the Board of Trustees. The following program was finally agreed upon and the executive secretary was directed to proceed with the arrangements for the convention in accordance with this program:

PROGRAM  
SIXTH NATIONAL CONVENTION  
FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Friday, November 17

10:00 A. M. Executive session, Board of Trustees, Baltimore Hotel.

Saturday, November 18

9:00 A. M. Executive session, Board of Trustees, Baltimore Hotel

Sunday, November 19

8:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. Registration, Baltimore Hotel.

2:00 P. M. Executive Session, Board of Trustees, Baltimore Hotel.

7:00 P. M. State Advisers Meeting, Baltimore Hotel.

Monday, November 20

8:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. Registration, Baltimore Hotel.

9:30 A. M. Executive Session, National Advisory Council, Baltimore Hotel.

1:00 P. M. Executive Session, Board of Trustees, Baltimore Hotel.

7:30 P. M. Public Speaking Contest, Auditorium, Power and Light Company Building.

Tuesday, November 21

9:00 A. M. Opening Convention Session, Baltimore Hotel.

1. Opening ceremony
2. Music
3. Report on delegate credentials
4. Roll call of the States and seating of delegates
5. Minutes of the Fifth National Convention and Board of Trustees meetings.
6. Appointment of committees
7. Nominations for the degree of American Farmer, C. H. Lane, National Adviser, and 1-minute responses from candidates.
8. Three-minute reports on accomplishments in the States, one delegate from each State.



- 11:30 A. M. Radio broadcast of the Public Speaking Contest, NBC Farm and Home Hour.
- 1:30 P. M. Second Convention Session, Baltimore Hotel
1. Call to order by the President
  2. Music
  3. Report of the executive secretary
  4. Report of the treasurer
  5. State reports (con.)
  6. Election and raising of candidates to the degree of American Farmer
  7. Closing ceremony
- 6:00 P. M. Buffet supper, Ararat Shrine Temple. Assemble for Arena Parade.
- 7:45 P. M. Parade in the Arena, American Royal Grounds. Announcement of Star Farmer.

Wednesday, November 22

- 8:00 A. M. Committee work, Baltimore Hotel
- 1:30 P. M. Third Convention Session, Baltimore Hotel
1. Opening ceremony
  2. Music
  3. Committee reports
  4. Brief addresses by guests and sponsors of F.F.A. events
  5. Election of officers
  6. Closing ceremony
- 6:00 P. M. Banquet for F. F. A. delegates, judging teams, coaches, prize winners and guests.  
Address by Dr. George F. Zook, U. S. Commissioner of Education.  
Awarding of prizes: Chapter contest, State Association contest; special awards.

Thursday, November 23

- 9:00 A. M. Fourth Convention Session, Baltimore Hotel
1. Opening ceremony
  2. Music
  3. Unfinished business
- 1:30 P.M. Fifth Convention Session, Baltimore Hotel
1. Opening ceremony
  2. Music
  3. New business; consideration of important problems which the national organization is facing.
  4. Address by the president
  5. Closing ceremony
- 7:30 P. M. Joint Executive Session, 1932-33 and 1933-34 Board of Trustees, Baltimore Hotel

The application of the Essex Chapter of the Massachusetts Association of F. F. A. in the 1933 chapter contest was called to the attention of the Board of Trustees by the executive secretary. Letters from Mr. Stimson, State Adviser, regarding the appearance of the names of girls on the chapter roll were discussed. The Board of Trustees spent considerable time in reviewing the situation with regard to the acceptance of the Massachusetts charter at the time the association came into the F. F. A. organization. The members of the Board of Trustees present apparently felt that Massachusetts had not gone along with the national set-up with respect to girl membership in the organization as they had been expected to; and that, furthermore, the Massachusetts Association apparently had not done as they said they would do with regard to the constitution. In view of this situation, it was unanimously agreed that President Howell should write immediately to the State president of the Massachusetts Association, sending a copy of his letter to Adviser Stimson, calling the attention of the State president to the fact that it appeared that the Massachusetts Association was violating the provisions of the F. F. A. constitution relative to girl members.

The constitution of the Future Farmers of America was reviewed very briefly by the officers as the time for this matter was very short. A few general suggestions were made to the executive secretary for incorporation into the new constitution to be proposed before the delegates at the Sixth National Convention. The suggestions made to the executive secretary dealt with the following articles and sections of the national constitution as it appears in the revised manual:

Article I, Section B - Rearrange purposes and reword Nos. 1, 4, 8, and 9.

Article II, Sections A and B - Change the word "organizations" to "associations" and the words "Smith-Hughes Act" to "national vocational education acts."

Article III, Section D - Add the words "and the F. F. A." just before the phrase "may be elected to honorary membership by majority vote of members present at any meeting."

Article IV, Section C - No. 1, include revised to read as follows: "Satisfactory completion of at least one year in vocational agriculture and the F. F. A., including a program of supervised farming." Move item No. 4 up to Section B.

Section D - Revise item No. 1 to read "at least two years of systematic instruction in vocational agriculture and the F. F. A....."

Section E - Revise item No. 1 to read "hold the degree of State Farmer one year before nomination." Revise item No. 2 to read "be engaged in farming occupation, have definite plans for becoming a farmer, or engaging in agricultural education work." Revise item No. 3 to read "possess demonstrated ability to farm by having conducted an outstanding program of supervised practice throughout the period of vocational training and active membership in the F.F.A."

Article VIII, Section A - Revise second sentence to read as follows: "These amendments must be submitted to the delegates by the National Board of Trustees." Revise the third sentence to read as follows: "State organizations may submit amendments to the National Board of Trustees who shall submit them to the national convention with recommendations."

It was suggested that a by-law should be added to cover collegiate chapters and that a section should be inserted to cover what constitutes good standing as far as State associations are concerned and what procedure should be followed in case a State association fails to remain in good standing.

The executive secretary called attention to the fact that there had been complaints from Illinois and one or two other States about prices being charged for electrotypes cuts of the F. F. A. insignia. He explained that he had taken this matter up with the French-Bray Printing Company and that the company had reduced its price but that it was still higher than the prices which some of the States said they could get the cuts for. The case of Illinois was cited. Mr. Hill, the State Adviser, had said that he could get these cuts for 29 cents each. No action was taken in regard to this matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 p. m.