

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF STUDENT  
OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Kansas City, Missouri  
October 9-10, 1954

October 9

A joint meeting of the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors of the Future Farmers of America was held in Room 1041 of the Hotel President, Kansas City, Missouri, October 9 and 10, 1954. The following members of the Board of Student Officers were present: David H. Boyne, National FFA President; Charles W. Ritter, Jr., Southern Vice President; Walker James, North Atlantic Vice President; John Schultheis, Pacific Vice President; Harlan Rigney, Central Vice President; Hunt Zumwalt, Student Secretary; Dr. W. T. Spanton, National Advisor; and Dr. A. W. Tenney, National Executive Secretary of the FFA. The meeting was conducted by the Chairman, David Boyne.

Since complete discussion is contained in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors (copies of which are being furnished to all members of the Board of Student Officers), the following report contains only the actions taken by the Board of Student Officers.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with, since mimeographed copies had been furnished to all members of the Board.

It was moved by John Schultheis, seconded by Hunt Zumwalt and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that the prerequisite that a teacher of vocational agriculture must have previously received the Honorary State Farmer Degree, to be eligible for the Honorary American Farmer Degree, be dropped from the Criteria previously developed and adopted by the Board.

It was moved by Charles Ritter, seconded by John Schultheis and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that action be postponed at this time on setting up Criteria for awarding the Honorary American Farmer Degree to State Supervisory and Teacher Training staff members -- but that such Criteria be submitted for consideration at the January meeting of the Board.

A suggestion was offered by one of the States in the Southern Region that applicants for the American Farmer Degree be required to submit notarized statements when claiming partnerships on their American Farmer Degree application forms. After full and complete discussion, it was the consensus of opinion that partnership agreements should be encouraged, but that present policies with regard to the American Farmer Degree applications are adequate.

Organization of Future Farmers of America. It was moved by Harlan Rigney, seconded by Walker James and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that the National Office turn down all requests for endorsement of commercial products in the name of the Future Farmers of America.

It was moved by John Schultheis, seconded by Charles Ritter and carried that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that the application of Matthew Rund, of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, for the American Farmer Degree, be accepted on appeal.

Mr. Barron, Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER, appeared before the Board to give a report on the plans for a building to house the magazine staff and the FFA Supply Service. As authorized by the Board at its July meeting, the services of an architect were secured to draw up plans for a complete unit on the present site of the FFA Camp, and Mr. Barron presented the architect's drawing. It was moved by Charles Ritter, seconded by John Schultheis and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that the progress report given by Mr. Barron be accepted with thanks; that Mr. Barron, Mr. Hawkins, and the Board of Directors proceed with securing detailed specifications and bids for presentation to the Board for consideration at its January meeting.

Dr. Spanton reviewed the proposed amendments to Section 16 of Public Law 740 and distributed a set of Official Policies -- which had been drafted by Mr. Hansucker and others of the staff in the National Office, concerning the Use and Authorization for Use of the Name and Emblem of the FFA. After considerable discussion, it was moved by Walker James, seconded by Hunt Zumwalt and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors that the proposed policies for the use of the FFA Emblem be sent out to the State Supervisors with the request that they submit criticisms and suggestions for improvement before the January meeting of the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

#### October 10

The morning session was called to order by the Chairman at 9:00 A.M. Richard Lee Pry, of Knoxville, Maryland, whose application for the American Farmer Degree was rejected at the July meeting of the Boards of Student Officers and Directors, appeared before the Boards to appeal his case. After consideration of his case, it was moved by Hunt Zumwalt and seconded by Walker James, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors, that the application of Richard Lee Pry for the American Farmer Degree, be accepted on appeal. The motion was lost and the application was, therefore, rejected by the Board of Student Officers.

At the suggestion of the vocational agriculture instructors in the State of South Dakota, it was moved by Harlan Rigney, seconded by Charles Ritter and carried, that the Board of Student Officers recommend to the Board of Directors, that the FFA Supply Service be authorized to carry in stock, phonograph records made at the National FFA Conventions.

The meeting was adjourned until 1:30 P.M. to enable the Board members to attend church services in which the National FFA Band and Chorus were to participate.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 P.M., all members of the Board being present. Much of the afternoon was spent in working out, in detail, plans for conducting the convention; and assigning specific duties to the individual members of the Board for the entire week.

In accordance with action taken by the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors at their July meeting, Mr. Hansucker presented a revised plan for the National Chapter Award -- formerly known as the National Chapter Contest. Mr. Hansucker reviewed this new proposal, explaining that this work had been performed upon authorization of the delegate body at the 1953 convention. The wishes of the delegates have been considered and the entire contest revised accordingly. The new plan will minimize reporting, serve as a guide to chapters in suggesting appropriate activities, and establish minimum standards for chapter achievement. The plan also establishes a system of awards for accomplishments, and abolishes the contest philosophy which previously has been in effect. It is believed that the awards recognition program will stimulate FFA activity in all chapters. The Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors of the FFA jointly reviewed the proposed rules, regulations and report forms for the National Chapter Awards Program and offered several suggestions for its improvement. The plan then was unanimously accepted for recommendation to the National Convention committee and delegate body for consideration and approval.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.