

The National

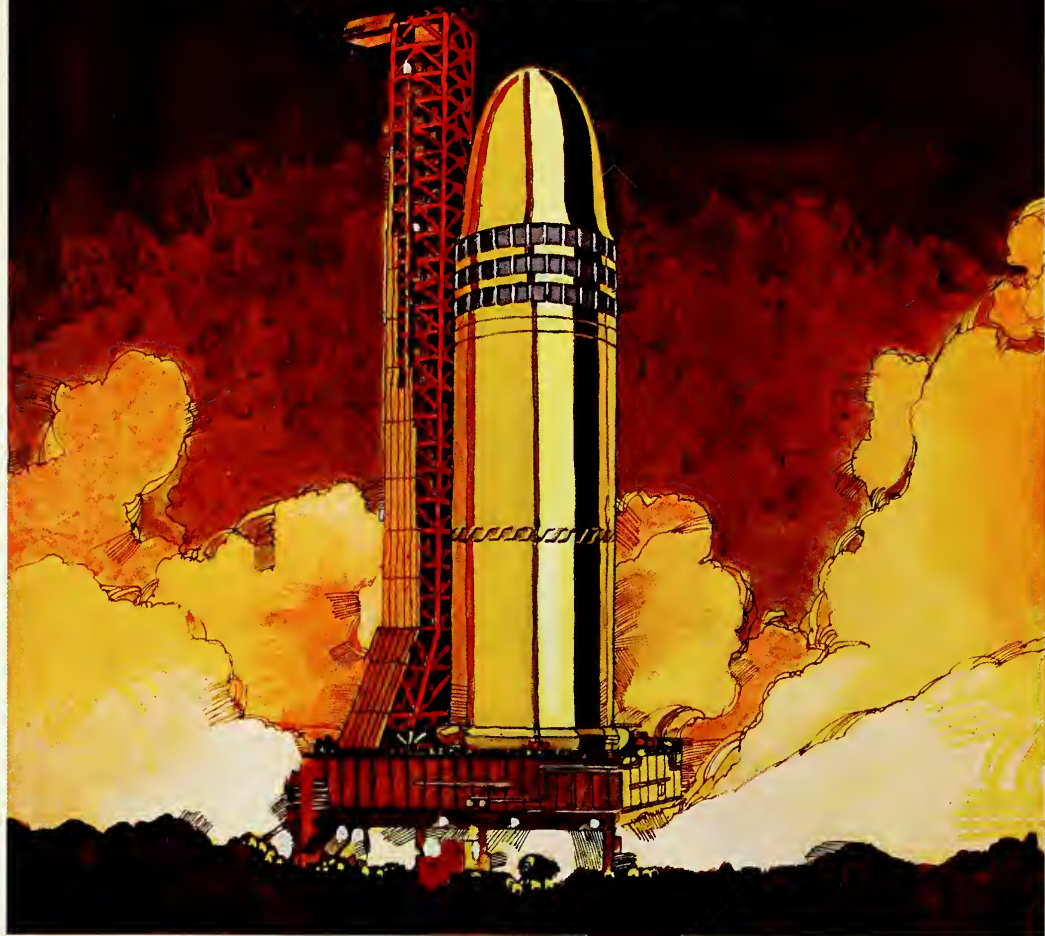
October - November, 1974

Future Farmer

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Susan Nemeth, with a master's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Michigan, is on her way to a doctorate. She teaches engineering and is the youngest assistant professor at *General Motors Institute*. Like the students on the GMI work-study program, she spends part of her work year on

engineering assignments in GM plants.

Jumping out of airplanes in her spare time expresses her confidence and love of adventure. She teaches, too, because she enjoys it. She leads classes in Human Factors, Methods and Work Measurement Analysis and Work Standards.

Another of Susan's

voluntary activities is acting as membership chairman for the Saginaw Valley

electrical engineering, and industrial administration.

Not all GMI professors are female adventurers, but, like Susan Nemeth, they



Chapter of the American Institute of Industrial Engineers. She also advises the Women's Activity Club of GMI.



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can transmit challenges in learning from the classroom to on-the-job situations.

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Volume 23 Number 1
October-November, 1974



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A Word With The Editor

"Hold Up The Standard"

At this year's National FFA Convention, a record number of American Farmer degrees will be awarded to FFA members. The same is true of proficiency awards, contests winners, and other recognition. But in our race for numbers, let us not forget quality.

One story from FFA at 25 illustrates this point. It occurred at the 1934 National FFA Convention.

"On the convention floor there was action that became buried in the minutes, forgotten by most people long ago. It serves as an incident to point up the sportsmanlike conduct and high ideals developed in members of the FFA.

"Young Jack Dunn of Hawaii had been a candidate for American Farmer, but his farming program did not meet the rigid qualifications for that degree. His name was passed over when American Farmers were approved during the morning session.

"But some of the delegates thought farming conditions in Hawaii made it more difficult to attain the degree. They opened the question on the floor one afternoon, and the discussion waxed so hot that a parliamentary tangle developed. Dunn, an official delegate, requested the floor, and asked that no exception be made in his case. "Hold up the standard," was the trend of his remarks which brought cheers from the delegates.

"Then one of the delegates suggested that Jack be given the Honorary American Farmer degree. That proposal, too, was contrary to the constitution. A delegate from Massachusetts, Howard Potter, finally solved the problem by moving that a Special Honorary American Farmer degree be awarded. The motion passed 78-3.

"To this day, Jack Dunn of Hawaii is the only person listed in the official FFA records as having received such a degree."

Wilson Carnes, Editor

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The Cover

Most people consider it a real treat to be in Washington, D. C. and see our nation's capital, meet high government officials, and get a glimpse of how our government operates and laws are made. It is even more of a thrill when you do this at a time when history is being made. When Vice President Ford became President Ford, FFA officers who

had attended the State President's Conference felt they had been close to the action. Just a few days before, Mr. Ford had met with the group and our cover caught the moment when President Ford and FFA President Mark Mayfield exchanged greetings and Mr. Ford was presented an FFA cap.

Cover photo by Coleman Harris

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send both old and new addresses to Circulation Department, The National FUTURE FARMER, P.O. Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

CORRESPONDENCE: Address all correspondence to: The National FUTURE FARMER, P.O. Box 15130, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. Offices are located at the National FFA Center at 5630 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria, Virginia 22309.

The National FUTURE FARMER is published bimonthly by the Future Farmers of America at 5630 Mount Vernon Highway, Alexandria, Virginia 22309. Second class postage paid at Alexandria, Virginia, and at additional mailing offices. Copyright 1974 by the Future Farmers of America.

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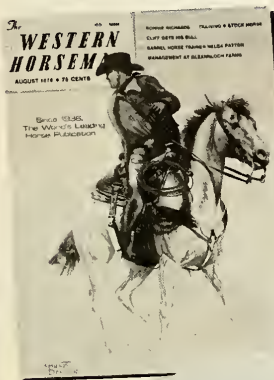
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Looking Ahead

Agriculture

WORLD FOOD SITUATION—World food production in 1974-75 will be hard pressed to match last year's record totals, according to USDA officials who gave the latest special briefing on the feed, food, and livestock situation. A decline from last year's record high grain production to a level slightly below the long-term upward trend of the 1960's and early 1970's is seen. This is tempered to a limited extent, however, by increases in livestock production.

OVERCAPACITY IN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY—Production overcapacity in the fertilizer industry within five years is a distinct possibility. So predicts Joseph P. Sullivan, president of Estech, Inc., a company with major interests in chemicals. Although short-run supplies may be inadequate, suppliers worldwide are moving to boost production output to meet today's unprecedented demand. Sullivan notes that in the case of nitrogen, tapping of natural gas resources largely outside the United States forecasts substantial supply build-up—thus prospect of overcapacity by 1979.

WHEAT HYBRIDS RELEASED—Four wheat hybrids will be released for sale this fall by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. a leading developer of genetically improved seeds and livestock. The company plans to produce more than 40,000 bushels of hybrid wheat for 1975 planting. The hard red winter wheats being released this fall are primarily adapted to Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. The four hybrids being released for planting this fall averaged 19.1 percent higher in yield than the average of eight check varieties.

EXPANDING FARM PRODUCTION—A special study recently completed by the USDA's Economic Research Service reveals the potential for continued agricultural expansion is there. The study predicated its finding on four conditions: 1) that future prices of farm products will be favorable for increased production; 2) that no restrictions are put on land use; 3) that supplies of inputs will be adequate and available at relatively favorable prices; and 4) that growing conditions are normal. Under these conditions, the study shows that U.S. farmers by 1985 could boost: feed grain production by 50 percent, soybeans by 33 percent, cotton by 30 percent, and beef cow numbers by 44 percent.

SHEEP INDUSTRY TO GROW—The sheep industry in the United States may be one of the fastest growing segments of agriculture in the next 10 years. The key to strengthening the sheep industry says Al Farrington, Division Manager of Lamb Operations for Wilson and Co., of Oklahoma City, is to increase lamb production and placing the product on the market at a uniform rate year around. Research with breeding out of season, having three lamb crops in two years, and cross-breeding adapted sheep with Finnish breeds (which have up to seven lambs) could lead to a turnaround in lamb production.

ALFALFA DEWATERING PROCESS—An increased protein yield of 60 to 100 pounds per acre and a net gain of about \$2.00 to \$5.00 more from each acre of alfalfa hay are the payoffs from a proposed alfalfa dewatering process which yields a high potency protein supplement as well as grass silage for feeding cows. These are estimates made by University of Wisconsin agricultural engineers. Essentially the process involves cutting and chopping the alfalfa, then hauling it to a machine to squeeze much of the juice from the plant. The bulk of the material goes into the silo, while the "juice" portion is heated to coagulate the protein.

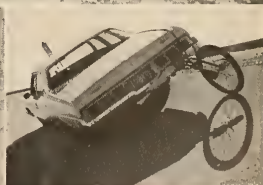
TEAMS TO RUSSIA—Two agricultural exchange projects are now being undertaken in the Soviet Union, one by a group of U. S. forecasting specialists. The purpose of the forecasting teams to study methods of crop forecasting, data collection, and economic analysis. The spring wheat team will study the progress of the Soviet spring wheat crop and discuss methodology of crop estimation with their counterparts.

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News in Brief

The FFA

CONFERENCE ON INFLATION—National FFA president, Mark Mayfield was named as one of several agriculture delegates to the Agriculture and Food Conference on Inflation held September 12 and 13 in Chicago, Illinois. The event, under joint sponsorship of President Ford and Congress, was chaired by Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz. The program consisted of a review of the economy, and each delegate was asked to prepare a paper giving their viewpoint on inflation. Delegates to the conference also serve as delegates to the jointly-sponsored Conference on Inflation held in Washington, D.C., September 27 and 28.

HORSE PROFICIENCY AWARD APPROVED—The National FFA Board of Directors has approved the addition of the Horse Proficiency Award Program to the national proficiency award program. The award which becomes effective in 1975 will be sponsored by the American Morgan Horse Foundation. The FFA Horse Proficiency Award is the nineteenth FFA proficiency award program to recognize achievement in vocational agriculture.

AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE—A total of 642 candidates for the American Farmer Degree were accepted by the National FFA Board of Directors at their mid-year meeting in July. The candidates will be recommended to the delegates at the 1974 National FFA Convention for approval. A breakdown of the degree candidates by region shows 46 candidates from the North Atlantic Region, 97 from the Pacific Region, 276 from the Southern Region, and 223 from the Central Region.

SEEGMILLER SERVES ACTION—Former national FFA president, Dwight Seegmiller, is serving as a member of ACTION's National Voluntary Service Advisory Council. As a member of the international operations subcommittee, Seegmiller is visiting several Latin American countries to evaluate Peace Corps agricultural projects. Seegmiller was appointed to the council last December.

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE—Now available for purchase from the National FFA Supply Service are gift certificates in \$15.00, \$25.00, \$50.00 and \$100 denominations. The certificates are redeemable on official FFA merchandise on sale by the official FFA Supply Service. The certificates may be ordered on the FFA Supply Service order form or by letter to the Supply Service.

FFA CALENDARS—FFA calendar order forms have for the first time been included in the official FFA Supply Service catalog. Chapters who have never used the FFA calendars are encouraged to make use of this effective tool for promotion of the FFA and vocational agriculture.

AMICK JOINS STAFF—Ted Amick, a former teacher of vocational agriculture has been named to the national FFA staff. Amick served for five years as advisor for the Chestnut Ridge, Pennsylvania, FFA Chapter which in 1969 was recognized as one of the four top chapters in the nation by the American Institute of Cooperation. Since 1972, Amick has served as assistant to the national master for the National Grange Organization. He will have major responsibility for national FFA contests and will also be involved with other program areas of the FFA organization. Amick replaces Earl Wineinger who returned to his native Kansas. Amick was recently married.



NEW SPONSORS NAMED—Several new special project sponsors have come into the National FFA Foundation. They are: Carnation Company, sponsors of the 1975 Agricultural Processing Proficiency Award; Weyerhaeuser Company, sponsors of the 1975 Forest Management Proficiency Award program; American Association of Nurserymen, Inc., partial sponsors of the 1974 Horticulture Contest, and Oscar Mayer Company, Wilson and Company, and Jones Dairy Farm, co-sponsors of the 1974 Meats Judging Contest.

Agriculture needs young people well prepared for the future

Here's how one company helps:

As a manufacturer of concentrated livestock feeds, livestock equipment, mineral supplements and parasite-control products, MoorMan's has a big stake in the future of animal agriculture.

That future depends on *people*—on the individuals who will help produce tomorrow's meat, milk and eggs. Either on farms, on ranches, in agriculturally related education, businesses or services.

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College Scholarships: Since 1960, MoorMan's has offered scholarships to agricultural college students. In 1974-75, the program includes 25 universities: Auburn, Colorado State, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa State, Kansas State, Kentucky, Lincoln, Loui-

siana State, Michigan State, Minnesota, Mississippi State, Missouri, Montana State, Nebraska, North Carolina State, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, Purdue, South Dakota State, Southern Illinois, Tennessee, Texas A & M, Wisconsin.

4-H Swine Awards: Since 1958, MoorMan's has sponsored National 4-H Swine Awards. Each county winner receives a medal. Each state winner receives an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago. Each of six national winners — chosen from state winners — receives a college scholarship.

FFA Support: Also since 1958, MoorMan's annual contribution to the National FFA Foundation has helped recognize and reward outstanding members at chapter, state, regional and national levels.

In all three ways, our purpose is to recognize and encourage farm youth who show individual initiative in preparing themselves for the future.



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From the Mailbag

Readers Report

Spring Valley, Minnesota

I teach industrial arts and my shop is in the ag shop here. I spend some time reading the "Future Farmer" magazine.

I was raised on a farm and so I am aware of agriculture and its importance.

There is a discrepancy in *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. I have seen many pictures of students working with machines, under supervision, without eye protection. Eye protection devices are inexpensive compared to blindness.

I see many farmers with a glass eye. Why aren't farm kids taught eye safety? The chemicals and machines are potential hazards to the eyes.

The ag instructor in our school, Mr. Speir, is very strong on eye safety.

Joe Bezdicek

Thank you for your stern but important reminder about eye safety.—Ed.

Hawthorne, Florida

I am writing in regards to the big calendar in the magazine. I would like a chapter calendar for our chapter. I would be very pleased to have one.

Ricky Craig

Chapters can order the Official FFA Calendars on order forms which are available upon request to advisors and also in the new Supply Service catalog.—Ed.

Laramie, Wyoming

The Greenhands at Laramie Junior High School are asked to write a paper entitled "What the FFA Means to Me." It is the feeling of the chapter that the paper by Jeff Bury tells what it should mean to every member.

"FFA to me, means Future Farmers of America. The F in Future means a future in agriculture or agri-business. The U in future means the use of all my skill and knowledge. The T in future means learning a trade. The R in future means respect for others. The E means experiences as a growing man.

"In Farm, the F means freedom of expression. The A means aid to the less fortunate. The R means responsibility. The M means merit appreciation. The E means environmental protection. The R means reward for a lot of hard work. The A in America stands for animal raising. The M stands for management. The E stands for the wise use of energy. The R in America means record-keeping. The I means irrigation for better crops. The C stands for careful planning in agricultural related businesses. Last of all, the A stands for association, the FFA association, and America, which I am proud to be a part of."—Jeff Bury.

*Kim Blake
Reporter*

Skive, Denmark

We, the thirty-one 1974 WEA participants, have had a chance to spend over two months now in 17 different foreign

countries and thought you might like to hear what we're doing.

We are working on farms, in agribusinesses, and observing in agricultural schools. The amount of physical labor we encounter may differ, but the level of new experiences runs high for us all. As Dan Neby from Wisconsin—placed on a dairy farm in France—puts it, "I've never worked so hard and spoke so little in all my life, but I'm learning a lot, fast!"

Whether it's hoeing sugar beets in West Germany, shearing sheep in Australia, training horses in England, raising vegetables in Holland, or observing Brazilian vocational agriculture classes—the 1974 WEA class is actively engaged in an abundance of new experiences!

Living with a host family in a foreign country gives you the opportunity to see how others view your nation.

I am placed in the DLG which is a nationwide farm supply co-op. We are in the middle of the barley harvest now.

Warren Clark

New Associate Editor



A former FFA member and chapter advisor is the new associate editor of *The National FUTURE FARMER*.

Gary Bye, a 25-year-old bachelor, joined the staff this issue. He was raised in southeast Washington on a wheat and cattle ranch and continues to assist in that operation.

Gary taught vo-ag at Spragne and then worked as a special intern one-half year with the Agriculture Education Department at Washington State University and one-half year with the state FFA advisor and executive secretary.

He received his Masters Degree in vocational technical education from Washington State University and was president of the College of Agriculture undergraduate student association.

Sports and outdoor activities have been a big part of Gary's life. He was active in high school athletics. While teaching he helped coach football and was ski club advisor.

In August he climbed to the summit of the 14,410 foot Mt. Rainier and received his pilot's license.

The Justin Hall Of Fame

On March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park, thereby creating the first national park in the world. This magnificent natural reserve, world famous for its titanic geysers and majestic waterfalls, straddles three states and includes over two million acres.

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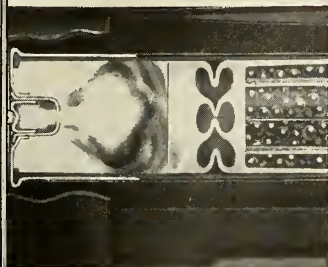
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Outlook For Agriculture

*By Robert L. Walston
1974 FFA Foundation
Sponsoring Committee Chairman*



Mr. Walston

FOR A NUMBER of years our company has expressed its feelings for farming with this slogan: "We are proud to be a part of American Agriculture."

This has been not only a corporate statement, but my personal conviction as well. Agriculture in America is the model for the world. Each of us who plays a part in it has full reason to feel proud. And lucky.

For it surely is good fortune to be spending one's working career in a field so full of opportunity.

I view agriculture's future with the most optimistic expectations. In what other profession or industry can a young man or woman find all these advantages:

- A chance to own and operate one's own business.
- A business whose products are consumed everyday, by every human being on the globe. And each tomorrow brings a repeat order.
- The satisfaction of producing products which are good for people. That grow sturdy young bodies. Put the bloom of beauty in a girl's cheeks. Supply high energy fuel to a working man. Provide the elderly with the proteins needed for a long and healthy life.
- No commuting. No crowded freeways. No rigid train schedule. No dawn-to-dusk separation from one's family.
- Fresh air and beauty. As a farmer, you live all the time where many city residents feel lucky to be during a short vacation in the country.
- Profits. Certainly potential income is one of the considerations any young person should keep in mind in choosing a career. And agriculture today offers excellent income opportunity in a wide variety of farm-related fields: active farming; dealing in farm commodities; selling supplies and machinery; management, research, or sales in

an agribusiness company; professional farm management or banking; teaching, journalism or university research.

The list is long. And the pay can be very, very good.

In my opinion, the outlook of agriculture has never been as good as right now.

Agriculture has been recognized as one of the key strengths of America. Consumers want good food and are aware that it will cost money. Improving standards of living all over the world are creating demands for more and more good food. And improving relations with other nations increases our trade in foodstuffs with those nations. An increasing world population means that, each day, we have more customers than the day before. Good food is "in style." And likely to stay there. It is a rewarding time to be a part of American agriculture!

Mr. Robert Walston is vice president and manager of marketing and a member of the Board of Directors of Funk Seeds International, of Bloomington, Illinois. He has served as the 1974 chairman of the Future Farmers of America Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

The FFA Foundation provides funds for incentive awards to encourage higher achievement in students of vocational agribusiness who are members of the FFA. A goal of \$554,000 has been set for 1974. As chairman of the Sponsoring Committee, Walston's primary responsibility will be to organize and coordinate an effort to contact potential FFA Foundation sponsors during the coming year. At the present time nearly 700 business and industrial companies, organizations, and individuals make annual contributions to support the FFA Foundation program.

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There are many reasons why she's great.

She settles quickly—calves with ease—produces
a sound, sturdy calf, year after year.

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pink eye less often.

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Why? Our emphasis is on efficiency and economy—
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a day—convert feed efficiently and top the market.

But not so big that they won't grade—or finish so big
and fat that packers don't want them.

Why get "docked" at the market place?

If the competition could top the market, maybe they'd
be number 1.

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Filming the Stars

Time is short and the movie must be ready in time for the National Convention.

EIGHT FFA members will make their film debut this October. They are the regional "Stars." Four are the Regional Star Farmers of America and four are the Regional Star Agribusinessmen of America. They were selected from 643 candidates for American Farmer degree this year.

Originating in 1958, a film has been made to tell other FFA members and the public the inspirational story of growth achievement of each of the four star American farmers.

When the FFA added the Star Agribusinessman award in 1969 to recognize FFA activities in agriculture related business, the film included their stories, too, and became known as the "Stars Over America" film.

It is filmed by Venard Films, Peoria, Illinois. President Gary Smith personally handles all the camera work and production of the films.

The "Stars Over America" film is shown for the first time at the National FFA Convention on Thursday evening prior to the announcement of the judges' selection of the Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman of America. "During the convention I will shoot additional film which will be spliced on to the end to show the winners receiving their awards," says Smith.

Because of the short time between the announcement of the Regional Star Farmers and Star Agribusinessmen and the National FFA Convention, Smith has to work quickly. From the time the 1974 regional winners were announced on August 1, he was on the road with cameras, lights, film and other equipment visiting the farms and homes of the regional winners. Averaging two days with each "Star" Smith works with the FFA member, his family, FFA advisor, and business associates to obtain information and film footage that tell the story. "It takes about 30 days to complete the entire filming operation," says Smith.

When the filming is done, however, the work has just begun. "It takes about two days to edit each 20-30 minute segment of film I shoot on each 'Star,'" says Smith. Once the film is edited the narration is recorded and music is selected for the entire movie. All this takes at least another week. "All in all," says Smith, "it takes practically all of my time from the first of August right up to the convention in October to put the 30-minute film together."

The film is currently sponsored by CIBA-GEIGY Corporation as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Since their inception, the films have been made available free of charge to vocational agriculture departments by the sponsor and distributed by Venard Films, of Peoria.

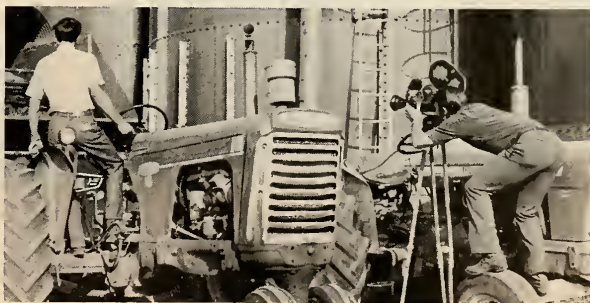
According to Smith, all the "Star" films are booked heavily by vocational agriculture instructors throughout the school year. The 1972 Star Farmer film was shown 5,949 times to more than 131,000 persons. Also, the film was shown on 38 television stations to 1.3 million people.



It's fun to watch.



Sanitation for the cameraman as well.



Careful, don't fall.

Include Dad in it, too.





Follow the Stars



One of these American Farmers will be chosen Star Farmer and one Star Agribusinessman at the National FFA Convention. Follow the stars—to see who is selected—and to set your own goals.

The Star Agribusinessmen

NORTH ATLANTIC REGION

Jacob Musser has worked his way up in a local poultry processing plant to foreman in the prepared foods department. The Star Agribusinessman of the North Atlantic Region is a native of Quarryville, Pennsylvania, and graduate of Garden Spot High School.

Musser, 21, is married and lives with his wife Karen near their hometown where Musser is employed by the Weaver Poultry Company in New Holland.

Although Musser always wanted to be a farmer, he has had to postpone those plans because of the high investment required in farming today. Mus-

ser lived on a small farm when in school and made the most of the space available, however, raising feeder steers, veal calves, sheep and guinea pigs.

During his senior year in high school Musser enrolled in the vocational agriculture supervised occupational work experience program and worked at both a farm supply store and a machinery dealership. On graduation from high school Musser went to work for the poultry processing plant with the idea of earning some money to invest in farming. After a year at Weaver's, Musser went to work as assistant herdsman on a dairy and swine farming operation.

He worked on the farm for several months prior to being offered his current position as foreman at the plant.

His advisor is Clifford J. Day.

PACIFIC REGION

"Pat's Pozzies" the sign reads out front of Patrick Walen's landscaping and plant jobbing business. The 21-year-old Walen from Graham, Washington, is the FFA Pacific Region Star Agribusinessman.

Walen, whose father Robert D. Walen is a vocational agriculture instructor, began with a sheep project but became involved in landscaping when as a sophomore his vocational agriculture program began offering classes in horticultural.

The Star Agribusinessmen of America



North Atlantic Region
Jacob W. Musser
Grassland FFA, New Holland, Pennsylvania



Pacific Region
Patrick N. Walen
Bethel FFA, Spanaway, Washington



Central Region
David A. Patke
Washington FFA, Washington, Missouri



Southern Region
Ronald D. Schwerdtfeger
Alva FFA, Alva, Oklahoma





ture. His interest in landscaping increased when he had an opportunity to work for neighbors caring for lawns and gardens. As the word spread of Walen's landscaping and gardening talents he was able to expand his business.

Although Walen likes to grow the stock he sells, he still must purchase most of his inventory from local nurseries. To become more self-sufficient in his plant business Walen has constructed plant holding houses and converted a garage into a sales house and plant working area. As a sideline in his business, Walen is currently experimenting with a portable greenhouse to build and sell in the community.

Much of the equipment Walen owns has been purchased secondhand to keep equipment and facility costs low, or was obtained because it was inoperable. Using his training in agricultural mechanics, Walen has made repairs and maintains the equipment he owns.

Once he graduates from college Walen hopes to develop the business into a full time career. Last winter he started a "plant sitting service" for people who wanted their hanging baskets in good condition for spring.

CENTRAL REGION

The Central Region Star Agribusinessman is David A. Patke, 21, assistant manager at Patke Dairy Farm. David and his wife Mary reside on the farm near Washington, Missouri.

Always interested in becoming involved in the family operated dairy business, Patke recalls that he has helped with the chores since he was ten years old. As a freshman in high school Patke enrolled in the vocational agriculture program under Instructor Nelson Hall and participated in the supervised work experience program.

A completely integrated dairy business, Patke Farms produce and process milk and dairy products from their own herd of cows. At present, David has assumed managerial responsibilities in the area of feeding, milking, processing, bottling, and delivery of milk to the outlet stores. Patke also supervises ice cream processing in 36 different flavors. Recently he was elected vice president of the Washington Ice Cream Company, a newly formed business in which he holds stock.

Patke takes an active part in managing the 250-cow dairy herd which pro-

vides milk for the dairy plant. By careful management of breeding and feeding programs, he has achieved a 15,000 pound herd average.

Patke has gained a good working knowledge of all operations in the processing plant, including operation of pasteurizing, homogenizing and bottling equipment, mixing and packaging of ice cream and supervision and management of personnel in the production and processing businesses.

SOUTHERN REGION

Ron Schwerdtfeger, 20, Star Agribusinessman of the Southern Region, custom harvested over 12,000 acres of wheat and milo last year as he followed the harvest from his home in Alva, Oklahoma.

Ron began his custom harvesting business at age 16 when he purchased his father's custom cutting equipment. For two years he worked with his cousin on an established run that took the crew northwest into Wyoming.

In 1973 he decided to strike out on his own. He purchased two new combines, obtained the necessary trucks.

(Continued on Page 24)

The Star Farmers of America



Southern Region
Larry T. Day
Meadow FFA, Meadow, Texas



Central Region
Vernon L. Rohrscheib
Jamaica FFA, Sidell, Illinois



Pacific Region
Wayne E. Vangraefschep
New Raymer FFA, New Raymer, Colorado



North Atlantic Region
John R. Moyer
East Lebanon County FFA, Lebanon, Pennsylvania



Follow the Stars

(Continued from Page 23)

and a crew of five men, and headed north on the harvest trail. After the first year of operation with his own crew Schwerdtfeger is well pleased with the way his business is developing.

This year Schwerdtfeger plans to ex-

pand his harvesting business by following the harvest north from Oklahoma into Montana. He wants to return cutting corn and milo so he will be home early in December.

In addition to his custom harvest business, Schwerdtfeger maintains a small livestock and crop farming operation on his father's farm. During his years in the high school vocational agriculture instructor and chapter advisor was Donald Rudy.

The Star Farmers

SOUTHERN REGION

Larry Day, the Southern Region Star Farmer from Seminole, Texas, and his wife, Karen, currently operate over 1,280 acres of rented cropland raising cotton, milo, and wheat. Of the 1,280 acres, 780 acres are irrigated, most of it with pivot circle irrigation systems. Day, age 20, rents the land from his father, grandmother, and an uncle. Although he would like to purchase the land, Day is concentrating his investments in machinery and equipment necessary to the farming operations.

Starting with 160 rented acres on the home farm, Day's first crops were 80 acres of cotton and 80 acres of milo. In addition to the crops he purchased two gilts and started a swine herd. The swine enterprise expanded to 400 head as Day improved facilities.

Just prior to his graduation from high school, Day had an opportunity to rent the land he now farms. He eagerly accepted the opportunity, and sold the swine herd to two brothers who are currently enrolled in the vocational agriculture program.

Good management practices are especially important in Day's operation because of the flat prairie land and sandy soil. "The big problem is in preventing the soil from blowing," explains Day. "I'm practicing many conservation methods such as wheat on turn rows as windbreaks, improved irrigation methods, use of peas as a cover crop and milo stubble farming."

The success of his management practices shows in the record book as Day points with pride to the 5,100 pound per acre milo crop and a record cotton crop in 1973.

CENTRAL REGION

Sound management and thorough record keeping characterizes the farming operation of Vernon Rohrscheib, the Central Region Star Farmer from Fairmount, Illinois. The 20-year-old farmer operates 900 acres of cropland in partnership with his parents and shares equally in all decision making for the farming operation.

Vernon decided to stay on the farm when, as a sophomore, his father offered him a 50-50 partnership.

The Rohrscheib farming operation this year includes 390 acres of corn, 390 acres of soybeans, and 100 acres of wheat. Vernon and his father do all the farm work themselves including cleaning seed, repairing buildings, and planting and harvesting crops.

Since his graduation from high school Rohrscheib has made a concentrated effort to streamline operations. This included a switch to larger equipment, improved grain storage and handling facilities, and an improved record keeping and accounting system.

Rohrscheib maintains all farm records. According to his former vocational agriculture instructor, J. Allen Stevens, the record keeping system has been a valuable asset to the farm operation enabling the partners to make sound decisions on machinery purchases, fertilizer recommendations and cropping plans.

In the future Rohrscheib plans to begin remodeling the farm home and reorganizing the farm shop. And for the long term Vernon hopes to increase acreage to 1,200 to 1,500 acres and hire an additional employee. He also plans to replace his equipment eventually with still larger machinery.

His current vocational agriculture instructor is Patrick Manwaring.

In 1971 Rohrscheib was named Star Farmer of Illinois and National Crop Production Proficiency winner.

PACIFIC REGION

Dryland wheat production is the major enterprise for Wayne E. Vangraefschep, age 21, of New Raymer, Colorado, the Pacific Region Star Farmer. He is currently a 25 percent owner in the family farming corporation operating on 3,000 acres of eastern Colorado.

On entering vocational agriculture in 1967, Vangraefschep entered into an agreement with his father giving him a percentage of ownership each year in the farming operation in return for his work and interest in the farm. It has

since become advantageous to incorporate the farm and Wayne participates equally in decision making with his father.

One major project Wayne has initiated is a swine feeding operation on the farm to utilize some of the poorer quality grain. Wayne's plans call for expansion of that operation.

Large equipment kept in good repair is vital to an operation like the Vangraefschep's. To keep machines moving Wayne has improved the farm shop facilities and is currently studying agriculture mechanics at Northeastern Junior College.

To gain bargaining power, Vangraefschep is adding additional storage capacity to provide for a total of 45,000 bushels of storage on the farm. The farming operation includes growing several acres of hay which is sold to area farmers. An automated bale wagon speeds the haying operation and is used for custom work.

In 1971, Wayne was selected State Star Crop Farmer in Colorado and in 1972 was chosen State Star Farmer.

NORTH ATLANTIC REGION

A lifelong desire to be a farmer has become a reality for John Moyer, of Newmanstown, Pennsylvania, the North Atlantic Star Farmer. With a herd of 80 cows and a farming operation that includes 90 acres of corn and 30 acres of hay the young dairyman is well on his way to a successful career in agriculture.

After enrolling in the vocational agriculture program, Moyer began working full-time for an uncle. When he was a junior in high school his uncle died suddenly. Moyer took over the farming operations for his aunt and when it was determined that the farm would be sold, young Moyer arranged financing to purchase the farm himself. Recently he purchased an adjoining 13 acres to expand his crop production and last year he rented over 100 acres of cropland in addition to the home farm acreage.

Moyer feels that his vocational agriculture training in agricultural mechanics and in crop and livestock production are especially valuable now that he is on the farm and dependent on his skills in these areas. Although he is out of school now, Moyer continues to maintain close contact with his vocational agriculture instructor and FFA advisor, David B. Adams.

Moyer is also a firm believer in a sound record keeping system which he maintains with the assistance of his wife, Mary Louise. The records show a respectable 14,500 pound herd average, corn yields of 140 bushels per acre, a 95 percent calf crop and a hay yield of seven tons per acre.

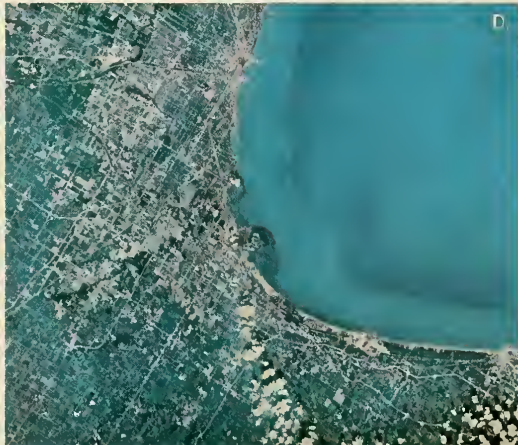
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 Southern Utah State College, Cedar City 84702

VERMONT

University of Vermont, Winooski 05404
 + Northern Vermont University, Northfield 05663

VIRGINIA

Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg 24060
 + Virginia Military Institute, Lexington 24450
 University of Virginia, Charlottesville 22904

WASHINGTON

Central Washington State College, Ellensburg 98926
 University of Puget Sound, Tacoma 98416
 + Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma 98447
 + Tacoma Community College, Tacoma 98401
 + Tacoma Community College, Tacoma 98401
 + Tacoma Community College, Tacoma 98401

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia University, Morgantown 26505

WISCONSIN

University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706
 + University of Wisconsin at Superior, Superior 54880

WYOMING

University of Wyoming, Laramie 82070
 + University of Wyoming, Laramie 82070
 + University of Wyoming, Laramie 82070

A LIFETIME subscription to *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine will now be included as part of life membership in the FFA Alumni Association. This announcement came as a result of action taken at the latest National FFA Alumni Council meeting on July 15, at Alexandria, Virginia.

In other FFA Alumni news, it has been announced beginning next year, Leadership Scholarships will be presented to state FFA Alumni Associations for presentation to FFA members with in their state. The Leadership Scholarships will cover the registration fee for the National Leadership Conferences in Washington, D. C. The number of Leadership Scholarships going to the state will be based upon the state's active FFA Alumni membership. One scholarship is awarded for each 500 Alumni members.

Other action taken at the Alumni meeting included the adoption of an Alumni Program of Action. The program of action was developed from input from the various states and lists detailed activities for accomplishing the objectives of the organization.

Further business undertaken by the Alumni Council initiated a national leaders recognition program to recognize outstanding accomplishments and achievements. The purpose of the awards program is to recognize Alumni members for outstanding service to agriculture. The award will be named the "FFA Alumni Outstanding Achievement Award." The first presentation of the award will be made at this year's National FFA Convention.

A new slide series explaining the FFA Alumni Association was reviewed and recommended for reproduction and distribution. It is now available for purchase. The series portrays what the Alumni Organization is and how it operates.

Plans for the third Annual FFA Alumni Convention were discussed and a tentative agenda was planned to coincide with the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. Dr. Orion Samuelson, radio-TV farm director for station WGN in Chicago, will be the guest speaker. The meetings will be held on Thursday and Friday mornings.



Selmon says his strength and quickness comes from herding hogs on their farm and his leadership ability from FFA.



Lucious Selmon, Oklahoma

"You have to be a man about it, overcome life's failures, get up every time you're knocked down, and go on giving 100 percent, trying just a little harder next time."

—H. C. Kirkpatrick

From Greenhand to Gridiron Greatness

By Monte Reese

LUCIOUS Selmon says his early life on the farm and the competitive spirit of FFA helped give him the will to win that was so evident in Oklahoma's undefeated 1973 season. The Sooners' record was 10-0-1 after a tie with the then number one ranked Southern California.

Selmon, 5 feet, 11 inches, 235 pounds, is the Consensus All-American middle guard who anchored Oklahoma's super defense. That defense held the Big-8 Conference powerhouse Nebraska scoreless, and allowed only one touch-down or less to such offensive giants as Southern California, Texas, Colorado, and Missouri.

Selmon's television antics probably rate better than the most popular nighttime TV series. At least the ABC network gave him a hearty endorsement, naming him their Defensive Player of the Year for 1973 and Defensive Player of the NCAA Game of the Week against Texas, which Oklahoma won 52-13. He was also honored as Outstanding Defensive Player of the Hula Bowl and Chevrolet's Defensive Play-

Sportrait

er of the Year, was runner-up for both the Outland Trophy and the Lombardi Award which are given to the nation's top lineman, and ranked seventh in the balloting for the Heisman Trophy, symbolic of America's best collegiate football player.

The Sooners will undoubtedly miss Lucious this year. He graduated last spring and signed with Toronto of the newly formed World Football League, which later moved to Memphis. But they'll still have some "Super Selmons" in the lineup, Lucious' younger brothers, LeRoy, who stands 6 feet, 3½ inches and weighs 255 pounds, and Dewey at 6 feet, 2 inches and 250 pounds. Lucious was the leader of the Selmon brothers, yelling commands to LeRoy and Dewey, who lined up on each side of Lucious at tackles.

"He was always the boss," recalls Mrs. Jesse Selmon, mother of the famous trio. "When the boys were little, LeRoy and Dewey would always stand Lucious in football and basketball—two on one. Lucious always felt he was stronger than they were," and the record bears out that fact. Lucious was credited with 93 tackles this past season as compared with 84 and 57 for Dewey and LeRoy, respectively.

Lucious developed his leadership ability in FFA and gained his strength working on the Selmon farm located just outside Eufaula, Oklahoma. His high school vocational agriculture instructor and FFA advisor, H. C. Kirkpatrick, calls Lucious, "one of the finest young men you could ask for." He says that the strong leadership exerted by Lucious helped make for a very smooth transition from the old NFA to the FFA when the two organizations merged while Lucious was a vo-ag student. Kirkpatrick tells of one field trip to a local ranch where he was planning to demonstrate the proper technique for castrating a bull calf.



Selmon, Number 98, in action. The 235-pound All-American intimidates running backs with the fierce competitiveness he learned in the FFA.

He called for five or six volunteers from among his students to catch and throw the calf. Lucious jumped forward saying, "Why, shucks, Mr. Kirk, I don't need any help with this little old calf. He doesn't weigh but about 400 pounds." And with that the high school sophomore promptly smashed the animal to the ground with so much force that Kirkpatrick said he was, "afraid the calf's sides would pop open like a ripe watermelon."

Lucious soon learned to be a bit more gentle with livestock, but not with opposing teams' running backs. He threw them for 53 yards in losses this past season while singlehandedly breaking up six pass plays.

Lucious runs the 40 in 4.7 and his coaches say he looks like a jet streaking from sideline to sideline to make the tackle. He picked up that technique chasing hogs on that Eufaula farm. When the hogs broke loose, Lucious and his brothers chased them, caught them, picked them up, and put them back in the pen. "Lucious could easily handle 'em by himself if they

weighed 100 to 150 pounds," his mother says. "But if they weighed more, he'd let his brothers help." He has bench pressed 585 pounds in the weight room.

His most memorable game, he says, was last year's 27-0 shellacking of Nebraska for the Big-8 championship. And his biggest play he feels, came during the 1972 Texas game, when he recovered a Texas fumble in their end zone to break open a tight game in the third quarter with the Sooners' first touchdown, and to give Oklahoma the go-ahead for a 20-3 romp.

Lucious is living in Memphis during the playing season with his wife, Clarice, and their one child, Rae Shawn. His pro career with the Memphis Southmen had a dismal beginning. In training camp, Lucious suffered an arm injury which kept him out of the first two games. He is gaining strength and confidence in his arm and will soon return to the form he patented at Oklahoma State.

When Lucious looks back, he's quick to say he'll never forget his experiences in FFA and how they "... relate so

closely to football and to life itself."

In spite of all the honors and attention that have come his way he still maintains the humility, the winning personality, and the deep respect for others that Future Farmers learn. Lucious says he learned these things and the confidence that comes from, "learning to do things on your own," from one man and only one—Mr. Kirkpatrick, his FFA advisor.

Lucious tells of his first FFA project, a beef heifer, and how she had trouble calving. He speaks vividly of the pressure and torment he felt when he realized that she'd have to have help delivering the calf and he was the only one around to do it. He worked feverishly through the night, using what knowledge he'd gained in the vo-ag classroom but by morning he'd lost both the cow and the calf. In spite of that terrible blow to his fledgling farming career he still remembers the lesson it taught him and what Mr. Kirkpatrick told him. "You have to be a man about it, overcome life's failures, get up every time you're knocked down, and go on giving 100 percent, trying just a little harder next time."

Since then, that's been part of Lucious Selmon's philosophy on the football field and in life, and a challenge he'd like to leave for his fellow Future Farmers: "Do everything you can to win, then even if you lose, you can still feel good inside knowing you've given your best."

That's the kind of effort he'll be putting out for Memphis and the kind of effort that will make his name as well known by football fans across the country as it is in Oklahoma. But while he's playing football Lucious also hopes to be buying a little farmland—maybe a little ranch in southeastern Oklahoma because he still loves agriculture, is concerned about the future of farming, and thinks that one day FFA will be as relevant for his children as it has been for him.

And if his professional football career turns out as well as his Oklahoma fans anticipate, there'll probably be some big improvements around that Selmon farm at Eufaula, Oklahoma, too. Like a new tractor, maybe, because Lucious says he can still remember plowing with mules.

But he's proud of his rural heritage—the strength, agility, and courage it developed for him early in life—and Oklahoma's FFA Alumni and Sooners football fans are mighty proud of their own Lucious Selmon, number 98, middle guard, University of Oklahoma.

The author, Monte Reese, was national FFA vice president for the Southern Region in 1966-67.

Convention Countdown

As the Convention approaches, time is short and there is a lot to be done.

FALL is a season of many things. School starts, harvest time, football—and the National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

But work for the National Convention has been going on for a long time. For the Star Farmers and Agribusinessmen, their role started several years ago as a Greenhand, just like all other FFA members. The FFA staff is busy planning next year's convention while this year's convention is going on and they spend some time throughout the year developing these ideas. The Board of Directors and National FFA Officers spend much time at their July meeting on Convention matters. And long before that, Foundation sponsors contributed their money either to the general fund or to a special project to provide for the awards that will be given to FFA members at the Convention.

As the Convention approaches, the pace quickens, and citizens of Kansas prepare for the invasion of blue and gold jackets.

Convention countdown is in progress. Finally the time arrives and the pieces of the puzzle begin to fit together in what has been described at various

times as the "World Series of FFA" to the "largest farm meeting in the world."

The week before this year's convention starts, the National Officers will arrive in town and work on last minute preparations. That weekend members of the Board of Directors will arrive and go immediately into meetings. The Band and Chorus will get in town and start practicing. A few other early arrivals will be seen on the streets.

Monday the official state delegates will arrive and register by 1:45 p.m., just prior to the officer-delegate meeting that afternoon when they will receive their briefing and orientation for the week ahead.

Tuesday morning the delegates will be in committee meetings, and will participate in a preconvention business meeting that afternoon. In this business session, as in others throughout the week, the delegates will be considering such items of business as a dues increase, constitutional amendments, committee reports, and other items of business which may be properly presented.

Tuesday is also the day that most FFA members and their advisors arrive. Registration will be open, as will

the career show. At 7:30 p.m., there is a vespers program in the auditorium.

The first general session officially gets the Convention underway at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning. While most of the Convention activities are conducted in the auditorium, there are many other events taking place at other locations. Judging contests, committee meetings, meal functions for special groups, and other meetings such as the FFA Alumni and the Foundation sponsors. Details of time and place for many of these events will appear in the program given to everyone who registers.

Highlights of the Thursday program will be the program recognizing Foundation Sponsors and the "Stars Over America" pageant.

Friday the Convention ends with activities such as the dedication of the new American Royal Arena, FFA Day at the American Royal Livestock and Horse Show, the election of national officers, and the Firestone Show.

On Saturday, the National FFA Band will lead the American Royal Parade. And while most FFA groups are en route home, work begins on next year's Convention.

1974 Convention Highlights

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

1:00 p.m. First Practice FFA Band and Chorus

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

12:30-1:45 p.m. Delegate Registration
2:00-5:00 p.m. Officer-Delegate Meeting

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

9:00 a.m. Early Registration
11:45 a.m. Officer-Delegate Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Opening of Agricultural Career Show
Tours to Points of Interest
2:00-4:00 p.m. Business Session
4:30 p.m. Meetings of Courtesy Corps, Ushers, Arena Crews
7:30 p.m. Vespers Program—
National Officers and Chorus

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

8:00 a.m. Registration
Meats Contest
8:30 a.m. Milk Quality and Dairy Foods Contest
9:00 a.m. Opening Session
Poultry Contest
1:00 p.m. Tours to Points of Interest
Dairy Cattle Contest
1:30 p.m. Agricultural Mechanics Contest
2:00 p.m. Business Session
Horticulture Contest
7:45 p.m. National Public Speaking Contest

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

7:00 a.m. Livestock Contest
8:00 a.m. FFA Alumni Opening Session
9:00 a.m. National FFA Foundation Awards
Distinguished Service Awards
Conferring Honorary American Farmer Degrees
2:00 p.m. Conferring American Farmer Degrees
3:15 p.m. FFA Talent Show
6:45 p.m. 1974 "Stars Over America" Pageant
7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

8:30-10:00 a.m. FFA Alumni Association Meeting
9:15 a.m. FFA International Activities
Announcement of National Contest Winners
Election of 1974-75 National Officers
Dedication of New American Royal Arena
11:45 a.m. FFA Day at American Royal Livestock and Horse Show
1:00 p.m. Installation of 1974-75 National Officers
7:15 p.m. Special Entertainment—Firestone Show

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:30 a.m. American Royal Parade—Led by
National FFA Band

PLEASE NOTE: Everyone who attends the Convention must register and pay the \$4.00 registration fee. Before coming to the Convention, each chapter must get an official registration card from their state FFA office which must be signed by the principal or superintendent.

VICE PRESIDENT Gerald Ford, who was to become President Ford shortly thereafter, urged state FFA officers to speak up for their country in their meeting with him during the State FFA Presidents' Conference, July 21-27.

"To be spokesmen for your country," President Ford said, "you must have faith in our nation. We have good reason to be proud of the U.S." he continued, citing the leading role of the U.S. in furthering the cause of world peace. "People around the world have faith in America," said Ford. "Surely if they believe in us, we should have faith and confidence in ourselves and in our system of government."

The meetings with President Ford were part of an action packed week for FFA officers. On Thursday they hosted nearly 200 senators and congressional representatives at a breakfast in the Rayburn Building. Senators and congressmen from every state were greeted by National FFA President Mark Mayfield, of Caney, Kansas, who also expressed his appreciation to the General Motors Corporation which sponsored the breakfast and the week-long State President's Conference as a special project of the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

Prior to meeting with President Ford Wednesday afternoon, the group met with Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz. In his remarks preceding a question and answer session with the state presidents, Secretary Butz challenged the young leaders to "carve out a niche for themselves in service to their fellowman and agriculture." "As a taxpayer I've shared in an investment of probably \$12-15,000 in each of you through education and other government services," Butz said. "Like any other investment, I expect a return that I will measure in terms of dedicated service."

Butz urged the state presidents to have confidence in government in spite of the current "gloom and doom attitude" that some people promote. "Don't let anyone erode away your confidence in our system of government," Butz said, pointing out that the U.S. currently has the highest level of employment, the highest average income, and the highest standard of living in the world.

Butz also cited the vital role of agriculture in today's world. "Agriculture is important now—we aren't taken for granted any more," Butz said.

Citing agriculture as a factor in world trade and world peace Butz told the state presidents that the U.S. is in an enviable position of producing enough food to "help us be a peace broker in the world."

General Motors Vice President Anthony G. DeLorenzo challenged the state presidents to continue in their pursuit of leadership and achievement



A meeting with Vice President Gerald Ford—now President Ford—was the highlight of the annual State Presidents' Washington Leadership Conference.

A Week to Remember

These state FFA officers had a week-long look at their nation's capital, government, the FFA, and each other.

in agriculture. "What you young people are planning to do with your lives has to rank up there with the most essential human services—along with medicine, the law, ecology, and education."

The purpose of the State Presidents' Conference program was to inform state officers of national FFA programs and services, provide an opportunity for student input into national FFA program planning, develop officer leadership skills and interpret vocational education in agriculture to national student leaders. Activities such as visits with government officials, group interaction, and discussion with National FFA Officers and FFA Center staff provided state officers from across the nation a unique opportunity to learn more about the FFA and the U.S. government.

Throughout the week FFA officers participated in several other unique experiences including visits to the National FFA Center, Mount Vernon, the Capitol, Washington's Monument, a VIP tour of the White House, Arlington National Cemetery, and an evening at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In ceremonies at Mount Vernon and Arlington Cemetery officers placed wreaths to recognize the Nation's Founding Father and to pay tribute to those FFA members who died in war.

The week-long State Presidents' Conference program concluded with a banquet and special program presented by the six national FFA officers and keynote speaker Jerry Clower, a former FFA member from Yazoo City, Mississippi, and noted guest speaker.



International



Planting with air.

**Mother Nature had the right idea—
she just blew it.**

A gentle breeze and a cushion of air have been nature's planting system for millions of years. So simple it never breaks down. So gentle it's probably never cracked a seed. How can man improve on performance like that?

We tried. But we couldn't beat Mother Nature. So we joined her. We perfected the International Harvester Cyclo® Planter. The simplest planting system next to a soft spring breeze. And with only three moving parts.

Controlled air does all the work. Floating seeds from a single master hopper to the furrow. Result? Such precise and predictable populations that you can even plant beans to a stand—like corn. Plant beans per foot—not pounds per acre.

It's not often you can improve on Mother Nature.

Simplicity is the key to our air system. And this simplicity (and its success) suggest many important future applications. IH is working on them right now. Asking questions like: "What other farm materials—in addition to seed—can be applied by air?" "Can Cyclo help you adapt to the new trend of narrow rows for higher yields?"

We'll find the answers soon. Because looking back to nature's simple air system is just one way IH is looking ahead for you.



INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

I[®] Harvester

We build better machines for the business of farming

A Look at Livestock Trends

Trends in livestock commerce vary according to the number of transactions and the value of transactions, this study reports.

RECORD price levels pushed the total of U.S. livestock commerce to an all-time high of \$42.8 billion during 1973. At the same time a slight downward trend in volume continued. This information is from a recently completed study of last year's merchandising transactions.

The \$10 billion increase from \$32.4 billion in transactions in 1972 marked a 32.4 percent increase in value. Volume of livestock transactions dropped 2 percent from 243.5 million head in 1972 to 236.9 million head in 1973.

"Of course this year will be a different story," said Glen Allen, Topeka, Kansas, agricultural consultant who conducts the annual Volume and Value of Livestock Transactions Study for the Livestock Laws Reform Commission.

"Based on the results of the 1973 survey, our projections show that the industry will finish 1974 with the value of livestock transactions totaling \$38.2 billion.

"Based on livestock movements from January through May, and the trend in merchandising or inventory turnover, the preliminary indications of volume of livestock merchandised during 1974 show a decrease of less than one percent for the year.

"While the \$38.2 billion projection represents an 11 percent drop from the 1973 level of industry commerce, I think that it is interesting to note that it is an 18 percent increase over the 1972 value of commerce." Allen



FFA members with careers in livestock will need to understand livestock commerce.

said that his value projections are based upon 1974 price levels to date compared with the same period last year, along with current forecasts of prices for the remainder of 1974.

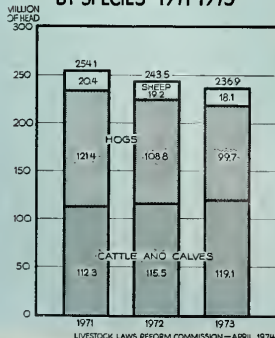
The study of 1973 commerce showed the value of cattle and calf transactions up 32.6 percent from \$26.1 billion to \$34.6 billion. The value of hog transactions moved from \$5.9 billion to \$7.7 billion, a 30.5 percent increase over 1972.

While volume of livestock transactions overall again slipped slightly, cat-

tle and calves again enjoyed a slight increase, moving up 3 percent from 115.5 million head to 119.1 million head. Hog volume of transactions dropped 8 percent from 108.8 million head to 99.7 million head. Volume of

(Continued on Page 53)

TRENDS IN THE VOLUME OF LIVESTOCK SALES TRANSACTIONS BY SPECIES-1971-1973

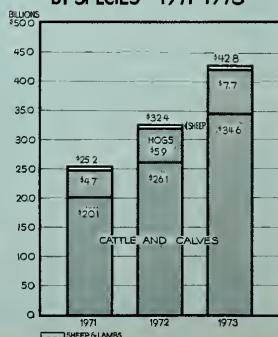


VOLUME AND VALUE OF LIVESTOCK TRANSACTIONS BY AREA IN 1973

AREA	VOLUME (MIL. HEAD)	VALUE (BIL. \$)	% OF U.S. TOTAL VOLUME	% OF U.S. TOTAL VALUE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST	14.2	3.1	6.0%	7.2%
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST	10.5	2.4	4.4%	5.6%
NORTHERN PLAINS	67.2	11.9	28.4%	27.8%
SOUTHERN PLAINS	62.2	12.3	26.3%	28.8%
MIDWEST	52.2	8.2	22.0%	19.2%
NORTHEAST	5.3	.9	2.2%	2.1%
SOUTHEAST	25.3	4.0	10.7%	9.3%
U.S. TOTAL	236.9	42.8	100.0%	100.0%

LIVESTOCK LAWS REFORM COMMISSION-APRIL 1974

VALUE OF LIVESTOCK MERCHANDISING TRANSACTIONS BY SPECIES-1971-1973





Jim Jacobson and Randy Knutson held a practice weigh-in for Rev. Orville Boettcher who was officially proclaimed "Pig-of-the-Week" by the New Richland FFA Chapter.



Pork Week Coloring Contest winners display their work. From left Ron Kraffa, Jennifer Kiehne, Janna Siemens, and Vicki Dynda. Sponsor was the Hoffman-Barrett FFA.

Pork Promoters

FFA chapters in Minnesota work hard to promote National Pork Week.

"S OOOOecccc! Soooooeeeee!!" crackles the voice over the high school intercom system. A hush falls over the classroom and looks of curiosity dart from face to face. Did the principal finally lose his sanity?

No, this is just the beginning of National Pork Week and members of the New Richland, Minnesota, FFA Chapter are making sure everyone knows about it. The daily announcement continues with details on the week-long observation.

Several chapters in Minnesota used various means this year to promote the eating of pork in their state. Minnesota Pork Week is designed to make consumers better acquainted with 'today's new pork' which, thanks to breeding and feeding improvements is now lower in calories, leaner, and higher in nutritional value than ever before.

A contest sponsored by the Minnesota Pork Producers Association recognizes the efforts of the chapter in the state which best promotes the eating of pork. This year's award, a purebred Spot gilt was presented to the New Richland Chapter. The gilt also served as Pork Week's 1974 mascot.

For New Richland the week was full of contests, demonstrations, and exhibits. In addition to giving daily Pork Week announcements over the school intercom system the chapter made radio appearances to announce and summarize Pork Week activities. Ham sandwiches were sold to over 400 students

and teachers at cost, and over 800 label buttons were distributed to FFA members and teachers to advertise pork. Winners for the best decorated buttons received awards.

The promotion campaign even reached the elementary school where over 400 students were informed about pork production and where the pork cuts originate on the live hog. A contest was also held at the elementary level to "name the poster." Prizes were given for first and second place pig posters.

All home economics students at New Richland entered a Pork Cook-Off and Recipe contest sponsored by the FFA to stimulate interest in use of pork. The FFA had the pleasant task of judging

and tasting the top three recipes.

A week-long "guess-the-weight" contest was held both for a live pig and for an honorary "pig-of-the-week." The honorary pig was a well-known community member. Prizes of hams, roasts, and chops were given for the correct guesses.

The 1974 Pork Week contest was not without competition from other Minnesota chapters. This year's ninth annual contest was well represented by chapters throughout the state. For example, a swine day was held by the Nicollet FFA Chapter with guest speakers and a swine judging contest. The freshman class members of the Nicollet FFA distributed "Hogs are Beautiful" buttons to those in attendance.

The Hoffman FFA Chapter held a drawing for a pig as part of their activities while distributing free samples of sausage and pancakes. A "color the pig" contest was held for the children.

One of the most notable efforts made by the Rushmore FFA was the delivery of a 50-pound pig to their city's mayor, on which he signed the proclamation of Pork Week for their city.

National Pork Week does not go unnoticed in Minnesota. FFA chapters, competing for the right to take Porky the prize gilt home, do a great deal to inform the public about the benefits of pork. For New Richland the unique activities and strong public relations program went a long way towards achieving that goal. In fact New Richland FFA members are already practicing their hog calls for next year.



"We'll make the ideal farming couple. I've got a good head and you've got a strong back!"

Horse Judging Gains Popularity



THE FIRST invitational FFA horse judging contest in Illinois has been acclaimed a huge success. "Over 80 members from 21 different FFA chapters participated in the contest," says Mr. Eldon Aupperle, coordinator of agriculture at Black Hawk College whose Agribusiness Club sponsored the contest. "The contest went very well and persons attending were very complimentary. In view of this fact, plans are now being made for next year," adds Aupperle.

The contest was held at Friendship Farms, East Moline and coordinated by a horse judging contest committee headed by Mr. Aupperle. Lending assistance was Mr. Dan Hoge, animal science instructor and members of the college Livestock Judging Team. Representatives from University of Illinois Vocational Agriculture Service took photos of the horses to reproduce for training slides for future use.

The success of this contest is typical of the rise in popularity that horse judging contests are enjoying. Horse judging is an outgrowth of the increased interest in horses. Once the prime mover of American agriculture, the horse of today has found new uses in our society. They are used for recreation, racing, and youth project animals as well as the traditional use in livestock production.

Selecting the desirable characteristics in a horse today is just as important as it was years ago in the selection of the work horse. If you have ever admired a horse you were probably judging him as well. Anyone interested in horses is constantly judging the horses he observes. Certainly, whenever one buys or sells a horse he is evaluating or judging the animal. While many people judge horses, very few are truly horse judges. Learning to judge horses can be much easier if you keep some basic facts in mind.

To be a good judge you must realize



Ben Wessels, left, and Steve Waechter, right, members of Illinois committee; Sarah Catlett, top individual; and E. R. Aupperle, committee advisor.

that a horse is an athletic animal and should be evaluated as such. To determine the capabilities of an individual horse the judge must know and under-

stand the structural makeup of the horse and its body processes. One must also take into consideration the breed, sex, and age of each horse. Each of these factors will affect your judgment.

It is also important for you to establish a particular inspection routine. This will help you avoid overemphasizing a single detail rather than seeing the overall picture of the animal.

Before attempting to judge horses it is necessary that you are able to identify the parts of a horse. Once you are familiar with the body parts by name you should try to understand how these features function.

What lies ahead for horse judging contests? Many persons feel the future is bright. Without question, members of several Illinois chapters are looking forward to next year's invitational contest with hope of taking home a ribbon, plaque, or even a trophy. Their chances will be much better with the right preparation and knowledge.

DESIRED HORSE TRAITS

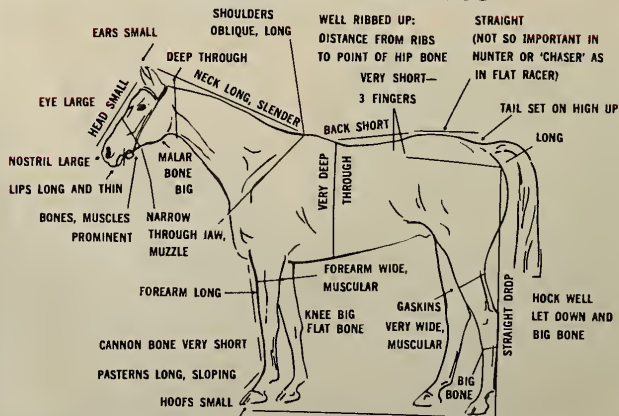
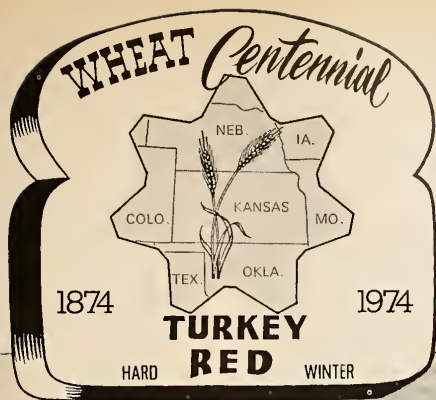


Chart from *Selecting Your Horse*, EB 351, University of Minnesota

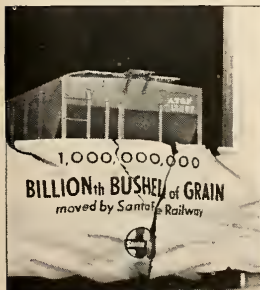


100 years of wheat

Santa Fe all the way



Mennonite immigrants arriving at Peabody, Kansas in the Fall of 1874 on a special Santa Fe train. (Illustration courtesy of the Mennonite Weekly Review newspaper.)



Car with record-breaking BILLIONTH BUSHEL breaking banner as it moves from a Kansas wheat elevator on March 20, 1974



The modern 100-ton jumbo covered hopper can be loaded with wheat in about twelve minutes and unloaded in less than three.



Trainload of jumbo covered hoppers, ideal cars for moving huge tonnages of grain and bulk fertilizer used throughout the wheat country.

Back in the 1870's when the Mennonites began their migration from Europe to America—*Santa Fe was there!*

A representative of the railroad traveled abroad in those early days to influence homeseekers to settle along the pioneer rail routes being built westward across Kansas. The Mennonites were seeking freedoms of a new country and liked what they learned about America.

Santa Fe helped with their transportation, even chartering a special ship for the Atlantic crossing.

Santa Fe built special housing facilities in the settlement areas of Kansas and sold land, much below actual values, to the new homeseekers.

Santa Fe moved supplies for the home builders at reduced prices, sometimes for free.

Developing this new land back in the 1870's was not without hardships for the early Mennonites or for Santa Fe's pioneer rail builders. At that time, hardly anyone realized that their efforts would be rewarded through a few sacks of wheat seed which thrived in Kansas and spread to help make mid-America the breadbasket of the World

100 years of moving wheat

Wheat is usually moved in a short period of time to meet harvest deadlines, export schedules and marketing requirements. These conditions make great demands on the railroads and it takes Santa Fe's modern facilities, an up-to-date car fleet and skillful employees to get the wheat job done year after year.

During the past century many things have been done to move wheat efficiently. Two examples stand out in Santa Fe's history:

- (1) The giant 100-ton covered hopper car first introduced for moving wheat in 1963. Today, Santa Fe has 12,000 of these cars in service, the largest fleet in the rail industry, and 1,000 additional are now on order. Altogether these 13,000 hoppers have a capacity equivalent to approximately 21,000 conventional box cars.
- (2) One of Santa Fe's greatest achievements in handling grain was completed earlier this year when we moved a record-breaking billion bushels, a total of 350,000 carloads, in just twenty months.

Those few sacks of seed of Turkey Red hard winter wheat carried to America by early Mennonite homeseekers started one of the greatest agricultural developments in the nation. It's a history the Santa Fe has been proud to be a part of the past 100 years—all the way!

THE ATCHISON, TOPEKA AND
SANTA FE RAILWAY

A SANTA FE INDUSTRIES COMPANY





A shotgun should come to the shoulder comfortably and naturally when shooting.

Know Your Shotgun

There is more to shotgun shooting than merely pointing the weapon and pulling the trigger.

By Russell Tinsley

A PERSON wouldn't buy a rifle for deer hunting and go afield with it before some "sighting in" practice to be sure the weapon was accurate. Yet this same person perhaps, will purchase a shotgun, never shoot it before going hunting, and if he misses persistently, blames it on his own ineptness. Shooter error is the cause of continued misses, agreed, but some of the problem might be attributed to the gun itself. There is more to shotgun shooting than merely pointing the weapon and pulling the trigger.

The shot comes from the barrel of a shotgun in some sort of pattern, its size and efficiency dependent upon the gun, the choke, and the ammunition being fired.

Most shotguns violate two basic rules: they use chokes too tight, shot too large. Let's examine both criteria.

Many people continue to buy full-choke guns because they've been led to believe a shotgun should hold a tight pattern way out yonder. Yet for

most hunting, full choke is the worst possible choice. It is preferred for deer hunting, with buckshot and slugs, and for most goose hunting, but for upland bird shooting—doves, quail, and pheasants—you only handicap yourself with the restrictive pattern.

A shotgun kills by pattern density, not individual shot. Always keep that in mind. It is the primary key to shotgunning success.

Most birds, including decoying ducks, are shot at ranges less than 40 yards. The average shot on quail, doves, and pheasants will be in the 25-35 yard range. So you seek the broadest pattern possible, with an even distribution of shot, within this range. You are more likely to down a bird by hitting it with several small shot (pattern density) rather than one larger pellet.

A full-choke gun, theoretically, is designed to put 70 to 80 percent of all shot in a 30-inch circle at 40 yards; modified choke, 55-65 percent; improved cylinder, 45-50. These are the stan-

dard chokes on commercial shotguns. With improved cylinder, for example, if half or less of the shot hits within the 30-inch circle, that means the other half must be scattered about it, making for a much larger pattern. This broad pattern compensates for some human error. As long as you swing and fire ahead of a flying bird, you stand a reasonable chance of hitting it with a large pattern containing many pellets.

As for shot, most people think too large. For doves and quail I use number 9 shot, and if I can't find that, nothing larger than number 8; for pheasants and prairie chickens, number 7½; for crows, number 8; ducks, number 7½ if hunting over decoys, number 6 for jump-shooting or on a flyway; for geese, number 4; and for wild turkey, number 6, aiming just at the head.

This advice probably is contrary to what you have heard. Yet going to smaller shot in most cases will make you a more proficient shotgunner. I know, because I used to shoot number 7½ shot on doves and quail, and at the suggestion of a friend, an excellent shotgun shot, I changed to number 9 and my average number of birds killed per box of shells increased significantly.

I prefer the smaller shot whether I'm firing a 12, 16, 20, or even 28 and .410 gauges. But unless you're already quite adroit with a scattergun, I'd caution against the last two smaller gauges. They are for the expert shooter. When you reduce the size of the shell, you decrease the number of shot.

As for using smaller-sized shot consider this: there are 585 number 9s in an ounce of shot; 409 number 8s; 350 number 7½s; and 223 number 6s. When using number 9 rather than number 6 for upland bird shooting, you are put-

(Continued on Page 50)

You should learn how your shotgun will perform by firing some test patterns.



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ing your education. The Marine Corps will help you go as far as your brains will take you. You can shoot for knowledge in a special field, a diploma, a college degree, even scholarships and tuition help. But first...you have to make the team.

The Marines

We're looking for a few good men.





The FFA judging team from Cumberland County, Tennessee, won the National Junior Polled Hereford Show's contest. From the left is Bob Moore, Tennessee Polled Hereford group; Keith Wittenburg, Keith Brock, Andy Turner, Bill Johnson, and Advisor Claude Little. On right is Mike Simpson, head of youth program for Polled Association.



Glenn Ulrich, Northern Lebanon, Pennsylvania, chapter president gave honorary memberships to Lennie Gamage, national staff coordinator of international activities, and to Jonathan Rought-Rought, an exchange student from Norwich, England, who stayed the summer with this FFA chapter. Other awards were given to local FFA members.

Daily, the Montgomery County, Georgia, FFA Chapter raises and lowers the American Flag at the high school.



A program featuring two state extension trappers highlighted a meeting of the Pierre, South Dakota, Chapter. Trapper specialist, Pat Dosch, gave a demonstration on trapping fur bearing animals and described how fir management programs are operated.

Photo Roundup

Your national president, Mark Mayfield, talked with a former national president, Don Staheli, who is now president of Allied Mills. He is also active on the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee which raises the funds used in supporting the National FFA Foundation incentive awards program for FFA members.



AKRON had a problem. A small town of some 600 citizens in west central Alabama's Hale County, Akron had no place for its youngsters to play.

Two youth groups in town, the Akron FFA Chapter and the Akron 4-H Club recognized the problem and decided to do something about it. They got together and built themselves a recreation area—the Akron 4-H and FFA Recreation Park.

Early in 1973 two similar programs concerned with developing rural Alabama communities were initiated by both FFA and 4-H clubs in the state. The FFA program is called the Building Our American Communities or BOAC program and 4-H's call theirs the Community Resource Development Program or 4-H/CRD.

In Akron both FFA and 4-H members were familiar with each others' programs and in joint discussions identified Akron's problem of no community recreation facilities. They felt that together they could get more done.

To begin their project the members conducted an informal survey and found that the families in town were wholeheartedly in favor of their project of building a recreation park for Akron.

FFA and 4-H members and their leaders, Glyne Gober, vocational agribusiness teacher at Akron Community School, and Hale County Extension Farm Agent Grant Gober, presented their problem and their proposed solution to the Akron city government. They talked to Mayor Pete Ramey and City Councilman John Ballard. The city endorsed the idea and provided 10 acres of land on the city limits near the residential areas. The city also donated \$275 toward the project and made some of its trucks and equipment available. The land was ideal, five wooded acres and five open.

The members then asked Hale County Probate Judge Richard Avery and Riley Lucas, county engineer, for help in clearing and shaping the land. The county promptly dispatched men and equipment to Akron and cleared and leveled the open land of the park.

Akron Finds A Way

By Elbert Williams



FFA Advisor Glyne Gober and 4-H's Grant Gober.

The two groups developed a plan for their park and began collecting the materials they needed to build the planned facilities. The \$275 donation from the city of Akron was used to buy items that could not be obtained otherwise.

"But we had a hard time spending the money," said 4-H Agent Gober. "Everyone we contacted was so enthusiastic about the project that most of the needed materials were given free."

Hale County Superintendent of Education R. E. Ramey donated some pipe and basketball goals. Principal Joe Donald Ray, of Akron Community School, helped with the school's support and assisted in gathering materials.

A "Community Pride Grant" of \$100 from the Standard Oil Company to the Akron 4-H Club will be used on the recreation park.

Using the ag shop in the Akron School, members built the park equipment. Everything was made of heavy duty metal for durability and freedom of maintenance. Basketball goals were assembled. An enormous swing set was constructed. Volleyball net uprights were put together.

In February, the basketball goals were moved from the school to the park and anchored in concrete at each end of the basketball court. The next day the club members moved the gi-

gantic swing set out and erected it in the playground area of the park. The Akron 4-H and FFA Recreation Park had become a reality.

A few weeks later work was completed on the volleyball court and softball field. Picnic tables were built and installed and the barbecue pits were to be finished soon.

The FFA and 4-H members themselves will supervise the use of the park and will provide periodic maintenance, such as cutting the grass and keeping trash picked up.

Clarence Abrams, 16, president of the Akron FFA Chapter, called the park "a pretty nice deal." "We've never had anything like this before," he said. "It will help everybody in our community, especially the kids, because sports are so important to them. The members of our FFA chapter are real proud of it. And so are the other students. They are even writing themes about it in English class."

"Our park will help boys and girls who don't have any place to play now," said Russel Stone, 11, president of the Akron 4-H Club. "And if we take good care of it, it should last for a long, long time."

And so the cooperative effort of two of Akron's youth groups has resulted in a new recreation park for the town. And Akron has one less problem.

First the work . . .

and then the play



THE CHAPTER SCOOP



NEWS, NOTES, AND NONSENSE FROM EVERYWHERE

by Jack Pitzer

Kenneth Hellevang, Mark Leiseth, Jon Peterson, David Peterson, Don Peterson, Ron Peterson, Bruce Job, and Calvin Thompson had perfect attendance at *Sisseton*, South Dakota, FFA meetings last year.

N-N-N

The whole *Seymour*, Iowa, Chapter was guest at a chili supper and basketball game sponsored by *Centerville*, Iowa, since *Seymour* won the pest hunt.

N-N-N



Bowling Green, Missouri's, annual boar testing program helped them win best swine exhibit at state fair.

N-N-N

State Secretary of Agriculture James McHale was guest speaker at *Annville-Cleona*, Pennsylvania, banquet.

N-N-N

Ken Knels, Montana Star State Farmer from *Fairview* Chapter lives and farms in North Dakota.

N-N-N

In order to spark interchapter activity, *Aurelia*, Iowa, Chapter is sponsoring a photo contest for the district.

N-N-N

Winner, South Dakota, planted trees and shrubs around the local hospital.

N-N-N

Greenhands of *West Columbus*, North Carolina, made an agricultural Christmas tree. They decorated a painted tree branch with color photos of scenes.

N-N-N

A "fitting and showing day" was hosted by *Apple Valley*, California, Chapter so members could practice for the show season. Trophies were awarded.

N-N-N

Six *Cumberland*, Illinois, FFA'ers went on a three day outing to develop their chapter's program of work.

N-N-N

The bratwurst and sauerkraut foodstand operated by *Colfax*, Wisconsin, FFA at the fair was mighty profitable. Both for publicity and the treasury.

N-N-N

Bowling Green, Ohio, held a tractor operator's contest for members at its summer parent-member picnic. Contest was judged on skill and safety.

At a *Parker*, South Dakota, meeting they decided to get a camera to record chapter activities and vo-ag field trips.

N-N-N

Summertime chapter activities included lots of recreation. In Missouri, *Adrian* had a watermelon bust and films.

N-N-N

And *El Paso*, Illinois, took a nice long fishing trip up in Minnesota.

N-N-N

Westminster, California, has an annual beach party and the helpful, dedicated, hardworking advisor usually gets thrown into the ocean anyway.

N-N-N

Six *Windsor* FFA'ers went to Big Creek Lakes, in Colorado, for fishing, hiking, and motorcycle riding.

N-N-N

After a hot July chapter meeting, *Fairbury*, Nebraska, rented the pool at the "Y" for a swim party.

N-N-N

They also had a tractor driving contest for themselves and their dads. To help get everyone's mind off of the severe drought.

N-N-N

Wellington, Missouri, canoed down Current River and camped overnight. Also played 12-chapter volleyball tourney.

N-N-N

Warrensburg, Missouri, had a Weiner roast and swim party.

N-N-N

Santa Ynez, California, FFA ends school with a week-long trip to the High Sierras for its members.

N-N-N

New signs on outskirts of *Bloomfield*, Nebraska, welcoming folks to town are courtesy of FFA.

N-N-N



The *Gadsden*, New Mexico, Chapter made \$45.00 on a tape dance!

N-N-N

Idea: Use FFA WEEK recorded public service radio announcements at intermissions and at basketball half times.

N-N-N

Greenhand officers of *Glenwood*, Arkansas, are Greg Mooney, Carl Plyler, Joe Montgomery, David Wacaster, Bruce Barbre, Howard Green, and Tommy Grant.

Members of *Sandpoint*, Idaho, repaired brick fireplaces at the city's public beach as a BOAC project.

N-N-N

A float loaded with livestock and fresh vegetables took first place for *Trenton*, Missouri, FFA.

N-N-N

The FFA Alumni Affiliate of *Williston*, North Dakota, provided a \$25.00 bond to chapter Star Agribusinessman.

N-N-N

Mauston, Wisconsin, is having a scrap metal drive to help the rural fire department and to clean the country.

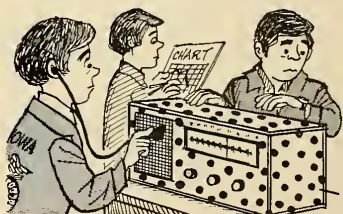
N-N-N

Haven, Kansas, has four State Farmers—Phillip Fishburn, Bruce Schlickau, Alan Schmidt, and Stan Newby.

N-N-N

All members of *Saline*, Louisiana, Chapter's dairy chain plan to show animals at the state dairy show this fall.

N-N-N



During FFA WEEK, *Jefferson*, Iowa, had a billboard and several radio spots.

N-N-N

A poster contest with a "saving energy" theme was organized by *Elkader*, Iowa, FFA for first and second graders.

N-N-N

FFA'ers in *Forest City*, Iowa, spoke at an adult farmer meeting on the topic "How FFA Members See the Future of Agriculture."

N-N-N

Scholarship monies from *Reedsburg*, Wisconsin, FFA sent 17 kids to a camp for retarded. FFA also bought a color TV for the adult home at the camp.

N-N-N

Dwayne Moss, *Bartow* Senior FFA, in Florida, reports that they sent 15 delegates to state convention in Daytona Beach. Nine earned State Farmer degree.

N-N-N

Albany, Missouri, bought coffee for 360 "coffee breakers" in their community at four local restaurants one day of FFA WEEK.

N-N-N

Lots of action in chapters now! Let's hear about some new ideas for involving members in FFA, for having fun, for getting publicity, for raising money.



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What Your Officers Think

AN OPINION POLL

"WHAT is the greatest problem facing our nation today?"

This was one of the many tough questions state FFA officers attending the annual State Presidents' Conference in Washington, D. C., July 21-27, were asked in a survey conducted by *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine.

The survey was taken to find out how the state officers felt on certain issues of national concern and of concern to the FFA organization. The magazine staff made clear that the survey was not intended for use to influence the action of governing groups of the FFA.

Several written comments were made by the 75 officers who filled out the questionnaires and some of their comments are listed along with the survey results below.

OPINIONS ON NATIONAL ISSUES

Question: "What is the greatest problem facing our nation today?"

Results:	Inflation	64%	Watergate	0%
	Honesty (Lack of)	13%	Farm Prices	7%
	Educational System	3%	Taxes	0%
	Other	13%		

Comment: "America is still the best country in the world. Although we have our problems I am still optimistic about America's future. As we get ready to celebrate our bicentennial we should remember one thing. This is, 'That America's Song is Still Unsung.' As a member and state president of the Future Farmers of America I have seen the caliber of the young men and women of the FFA and am confident that the future of America is in good hands." (James Thompson—New Mexico)

Q "Should tax money be used to help pay campaign expenses of political candidates?"

R Yes 28% No 71% Undecided 1%

Q "Should a limit be placed on the amount of money a political candidate can spend on their campaign?"

R Yes 73% No 24% Undecided 3%

Q "Do you usually believe what you read or hear in advertisements?"

R All of it 0% Some of it 97% None of it 3%

Q "Should the government control agriculture?"

R More 7% Less 44% About as it is now 45%
None 1% Undecided 3%

Comment: "Agriculture is the most basic industry in America and should secure a position in government that will match its importance to the individual." (Steve Newton—Georgia)

Q "Do you think there should be quotas established on the export of farm products?"

R Yes 63% No 32% Undecided 5%

Q "What is the biggest problem facing the farmer today?"

R High land prices 7%
Too much government control 4%
Supplies and equipment cost too much 52%
Prices of farm products too low 28%
Others 9%

Comments: "The ups and downs of farm prices hurt the farmers who go into farming when prices are high. Then get hurt when it is low like the price of cattle now." (Sammy Mathis—Mississippi)

"When in trouble farmers don't get up and tell their story like other large industries do." (Delon Clarksean—Minnesota)

Q "Should the government guarantee a profit to farmers?"

R Yes 25% No 71% Undecided 4%

OPINIONS ON FFA ISSUES

Q "Should the FFA attempt to establish a control over the dress code and hair style for FFA members?"

R Yes 49% No 48% Undecided 3%

Comment: "I feel that dress code is fine but the hair length should be left up to the person."

Q "Should FFA let anyone who wishes to do so join FFA, or should it remain the organization of students enrolled in vocational agriculture and/or agribusiness?"

R Anyone can join 9%

Only vocational agriculture/agribusiness students 91%

Comments: "I feel that vocational agriculture is the basis of the FFA. FFA is not for everybody. We shouldn't pretend that it is. It is to help those students with a real and tangible interest in agriculture. Quantity is no replacement for quality. Let's keep agriculture in the FFA." (David Ervin—North Carolina)

"Let us, the FFA, keep our attention on the future of vocational agriculture and take care of our own interests. Not all of our chapters are 100 percent membership. Let us get these people who are not members into the organization before we become concerned with bringing in students not in vo-ag." (Steve Lemmons—Washington)

Q "Does FFA need any new contests?"

R Yes 51% No 44% Undecided 5%

Comment: "The FFA must continue to increase its contests and awards in order to keep pace with our changing agriculture/agribusiness." (Paul Stanfield—Alabama)

Editor's note: The following suggestions were offered for new contests. (Horse judging, agribusiness, extemporaneous speaking, farm management, job interview contest, national horse and a soil/agronomy contest.)

Q "Does FFA need additional proficiency awards?"

R Yes 37% No 55% Undecided 8%

Editor's note: The following suggestions were offered for new proficiency awards. (Horse production, record books, rabbit production, soybean and corn production, and farm management.)

Q "Should we discontinue any of our present contests or proficiency awards?"

R Yes 3% No 94% Undecided 3%

Editor's note: The following suggestions were offered for contests and awards to delete. (Livestock production, animal judging and horticulture.)

Q "Should the FFA change the Public Speaking Contest in any way?"

R Yes 28% No 65% Undecided 7%

Comment: "Manuscript speeches have been out of style for about 20 years. I see little use for such a contest as it is difficult for judges to judge the same way at each contest. An extemporaneous contest is more educational and can be more uniformly judged." (Lyle Willey—Vermont)

Editor's note: The following suggestions were offered by officers for changes in the public speaking contest. (Add extemporaneous speaking, add impromptu speaking, have at least one speech major and one agriculture major as judges, ask more questions, and use standard forms nationwide.)

Q "Would you like to see the National FFA Convention held in the summer or remain in October?"

R Summer 4% Remain in October 95%
Undecided 1%

Q "Should we elect our national officers differently than we do now?"

R Yes 7% No 92% Undecided 1%

A VOCATIONAL agriculture course in ornamental horticulture helped Scott Meischen choose his profession and find a way to pay for his college education.

Scott is a Texas Lone Star Farmer and winner of the State FFA Horticulture award who started with a two-year horticulture course as a junior at Lanier High School in Austin, Texas. He signed up for the course because it was the only horticulture course offered by Lanier's vocational agriculture department and instructors U. D. Adams and C. F. Corley.

"My father always encouraged me to take an interest in agriculture, but I had no interest in ornamental plants before starting the course," noted Scott, who is now majoring in ornamental horticulture at Texas A&M University.

"During the first year of the course, we learned such things as methods of plant propagation, plant diseases, pruning, transplanting, and basic physiology. We went into greater depth on these same things in the second year, as well as covering such things as marketing and landscaping," explained Scott.

Not long after the course began, Scott was thoroughly interested in ornamentals. By the spring of his junior year, he was busy building his own greenhouse in his backyard.

"The house was 20-feet by 20-feet when I first built it. Two benches ran the length of the house, one on either side of a middle aisle. I added 10-feet on to the house for storage and working area the next year. Now I'm thinking about enlarging again. I'm also trying to work out an automatic watering system for the house."

Scott started growing plants from cuttings as soon as the house was finished. For the first year, he grew them only for his pleasure, then he obtained a store license and floral certificate and began selling his plants.

"I've stayed away from exotics so far," Scott explained. "Since I'm away at school it would really be hard to give them the care they require. Also, some customers who really don't know much about caring for plants have spent as much as \$100 at a time. There's less risk of them losing relatively easy to grow plants, I hope. At least I haven't had much trouble with customers bringing back dead plants."

"With the plants I raise, the only thing that has to be done when I'm at school is watering and my parents take care of that for me."

Whenever a problem arises, Scott goes to Adams, Corley, or Ted Fisher, the Travis County extension horticulturist. His father, Wilbert Meischen, is also qualified to give advice. He taught vocational agriculture at Raymondville, Texas, for 20 years before becoming ex-



Scott checks the bonsai he planted as a course project at Texas A&M.

By Jean Pfluger

Horticulture Course Opens the Door

ecutive director of the Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas.

Scott works hard during school vacations and on occasional weekends at home to keep the greenhouse going. He prepares from 200 to 300 hanging baskets for each of his sales. After the baskets are established, he has to keep the plant growth healthy. This requires numerous hours of pinching and cutting back shoots.

During the school year, Scott has a weekend sale about every six weeks. Through the summer, he is open every weekday.

"When I have extra plants, I sell them to nurseries around town. I am in the process of getting a wholesale certificate from the Texas Department of Agriculture," Scott said.

Besides selling plants, Scott also does some landscaping. He has done home yards, pool areas, and a doctor's office.

By the time he receives his college degree, Scott will have had plenty of experience to go along with it. He feels he will be able to put both to good use.

"Americans are becoming more aware of and interested in flowers all the time. Presently, Europeans use several times as many flowers as Americans, but that is changing," related Scott.

"I'm planning several short courses on such things as indoor plant propagation, terrariums, home landscaping and bonsai just to get more individuals interested in plants."

After college graduation, Scott plans to go into a larger retail and wholesale operation in the Austin area.

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Know Your Shotgun

(Continued from Page 38)

ting more than twice the number of shot in the air. But this is just part of the story. Most shotguns tend to pattern smaller number 9 and number 8 shot better than number 7½ and number 6. With larger shot, bird-sized holes and patches sometimes appear in a pattern, something you wish to avoid.

Everyone should pattern his shotgun to satisfy himself as to how it performs and handles different shot. This is easily done. Get several pieces of paper more than 30 inches square. Newsprint from the local newspaper will do; just tape two strips together. An alternative is to tape two or three lengths of wrapping paper into a large sheet. Use an old refrigerator carton or big chunk of cardboard for a backing. Staple the paper to it for support. The only other thing you'll need is a pencil tied on a 15-inch string.

Set the target in a safe place, step off 40 yards, and fire at it. Take the string, find the center and most-dense part of the pattern, set the end of the string here and use it like a school compass to draw a 30-inch circle. If you have a modified choke, 55 to 65 percent of the shot should be within this circle. But don't be surprised if it is off a bit either way. No production line shotgun is perfectly machined.

Also study the pattern to determine that you are getting an even distribution of shot rather than scattered patches. Check the pattern at various ranges, 25 and 30 and 35 yards, in addition to 40. Use different size shot and see how the patterns compare. Learn all you possibly can about your gun's performance.

For an all-purpose weapon, modified choke is your best choice. But for strictly upland bird hunting, I'd recommend improved cylinder. A choking device can be put on a single-barrel gun to give you the option of all chokes.

Another common mistake is that some gunners buy "express" shells because they believe the added powder will extend the range and thus the killing capacity. Actually, with the so-called high base shell there is no significant increase in range but penetration is better on longer shots. For most hunting, particularly upland birds, field loads are plenty adequate, and they have one definite advantage: less recoil. When you get a shotgun that kicks like a mule, you subconsciously start flinching, which only encourages misses.

The gauge gun you choose is a personal choice, with the 12 gauge generally giving the best all-around performance merely because it is larger. There is no reason for recommending

the 16 gauge. It really has nothing to offer significantly over either the 12 or 20 and ammunition is much more difficult to find, especially in varied shot sizes. The 20 gauge is a lighter, faster-handling gun than the 12, and by using three-inch magnum loads you can get comparable 12 gauge performance. But there is a hidden factor here that most people do not realize. A lightweight 20 shooting express or magnum loads will kick much harder than will the heavier 12 gauge. The more the gun weighs, the less it will recoil, if guns being compared are using shells with the same amount of powder.

And finally, most people can take shotguns off a sporting goods store rack and shoot them with fair-to-middlin' proficiency. Yet it must be remembered that the typical gun, by necessity, is designed for the average-sized shooter. If you are abnormally tall or short, or you have extra long or short arms, the shotgun might not fit properly. The gun should subconsciously come to the shoulder naturally where you can, without effort, look down the barrel or ventilated rib. If you must mentally remind yourself to pull the gun tight against the shoulder or force your cheek down to get the proper sight picture, the gun needs some alterations. Fitting a gun to an individual gets rather involved and we won't go into it here; but any gunsmith can do the job for a nominal price. There isn't much work required.

This might not seem like much of a big deal, but you don't know what you are missing until you get a shotgun which really feels natural and comfortable. And if it improves your accuracy just two or three more birds killed per box of shells, this savings alone will soon pay for the alterations.



"You mean now that I have a part-time job you expect me to buy my own gas?"

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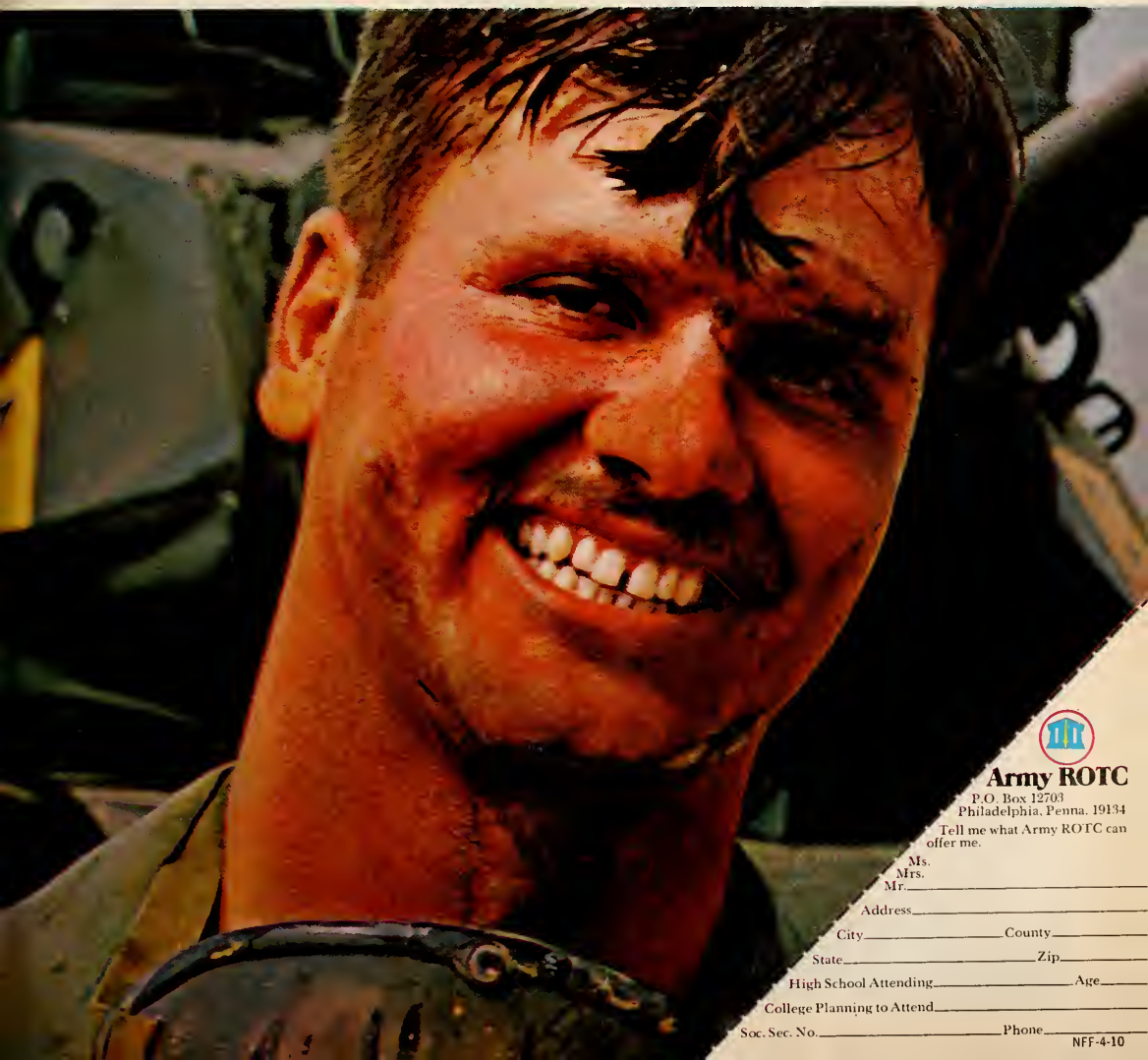
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FFA in Action

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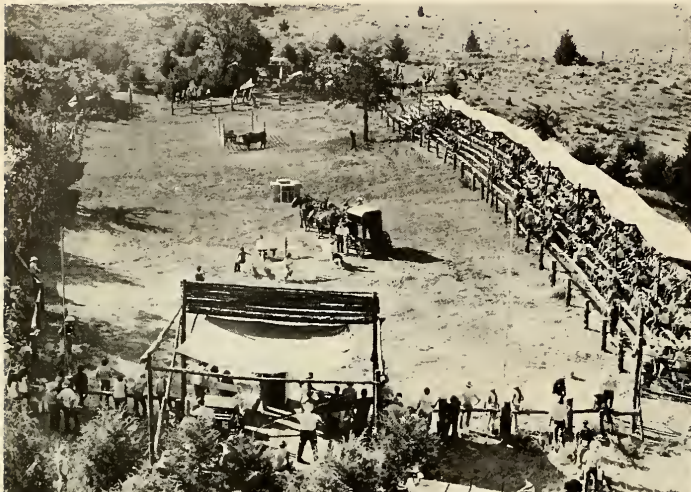


Photo by American Hereford Association

Over 5,000 cattle enthusiasts gathered at this ranch in Kansas for the field day.

Cattlemen Dream

FFA National President Mark Mayfield was the featured speaker at the recent All-American Hereford Dream Field Day at the Rusk Ranch in Sun City, Kansas. Speaking to the youthful crowd of 5,000 Hereford enthusiasts, Mark made it very emphatic why he loved to be an American and thought every person, young and old alike, should take another positive look at America.

Nearly every state was represented and many FFA members and their parents were on hand for the event.

Country and western recording artist Jimmy C. Newman introduced a newly cut record "The All-American Hereford Dream."

Thirty-two national showmanship contestants showed up from as many states to compete for cash prizes and beautiful plaques. It was a big day for hosts Arlos and Maxine Rusk.

There was something for everyone to do; as the junior judging contest was going on, the men's group had nationally prominent speakers to bring them up to date on the latest Hereford and beef happenings while the women's group were introduced to some new beef recipes that were cooked on the spot and sampled.

Various winners in some of the youth contest events were as follows. In the national showmanship contest, the six finalists were Richard Olsen, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Herbert Doan, Blountville, Tennessee; John Stilwell, Delaware, Ohio; Amy Andersen, Long Eddy, New York; Mike Perez, Encino, New Mexico; Darwin Solberg, Glenfield, North Dakota.

In FFA team judging, the winner was the Waynoka "B" team with Darrell Hull, Scott Bixler, and Mark Nickelson, coached by Wayne Dimmick, all of Waynoka, Oklahoma.

Top ten individuals in FFA were Mark Nickelson, Waynoka, Oklahoma, first place; Dennis Schoeling, Alva, Oklahoma, second; Jeff Fellers, Burlington, Oklahoma, third; Mike Shubert, Burlington, Oklahoma, fourth; Dwight Hull, Waynoka, Oklahoma, fifth; Ricky Pickard, Hooker, Oklahoma, sixth; Randy Bennett, Hermiston, Oregon, seventh; Alan Ott, Kiowa, Kansas, eighth; Joey Wright, Roberta, Georgia, ninth; and Alan Beck, Natoma, Kansas, tenth.

Winning in the post-high school (19-22 years of age) was Alan Armbruster, Burlington, Oklahoma.

Successful Showmanship

The Buffalo, Wyoming, Chapter held

its first annual livestock showmanship contest at the Johnson County Fairgrounds. It turned out to be a "big success."

Approximately 25 members fitted and showed their own animals.

In Class I of sheep, winners were; Larry Elsom, Melody Ennis, and Don Blakesly. Class II winners were Ray Boardman, Kelly Ennis, and Steve Bishop. In the overall sheep showmanship, Ray Boardman took first place.

After sheep showmanship, the contest moved to beef showmanship. During Class I of beef, winners were Randy Norman, Tom Carr, and Bill Carr. In Class II, winners were Linda Ritchie, Guy Mitchell, and Dianne Borgialli. In overall beef showmanship, Linda Ritchie won.

A slight break was taken before going into the round robin showmanship contest where each of the top three overall showmen from beef and sheep had to show six animals within a ten minute period.

After this designated time, Linda Ritchie was awarded the Grand Champion Showmanship trophy which was donated by Joe Foss, a past president of the Buffalo FFA Chapter.

Larry Elsom was reserve champion showman with Ray Boardman taking third place.

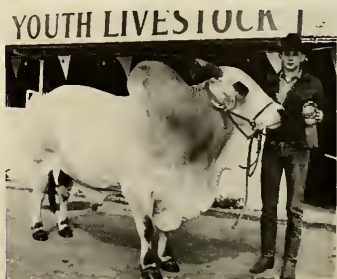
In years to come more types of livestock are hoped to be added to the competition.

Project History

In the fall of 1953, the Fort Meade, Florida, Chapter got a Hereford bull through the Sears Roebuck Foundation.

(Continued on Page 54)

This Brahman bull was one of the early herd sires in the FFA livestock chain.



Livestock Trends

(Continued from Page 34)

sheep transactions continued to slip, moving from 19.2 million head in 1972 to 18.1 million in 1973.

In the study, a merchandising transaction is the effective transfer of title on one head of livestock. The value is the dollar amount of that transaction. Therefore, animals that are sold more than once during the current year are included as more than one transaction.

The merchandising process itself continued to gain in importance as a cattle industry function, as indicated by another annual increase in the merchandising turnover rate—a measurement of the number of times the average head of livestock changes ownership during the course of a year. In the case of cattle and calves, the merchandising turnover rate increased from 1.93 times in 1972 to 2.02 times in 1973. For hogs, the rate decreased slightly to 1.22 times from 1.25 times in 1972.

On a regional basis, the study results showed the northern plains (Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska) continuing as the volume leader among the survey's seven standard geographical regions, with 67.2 million head carrying a transaction value of \$11.9 billion. This represents 28.4 percent of the nation's total volume of livestock transactions, and 27.8 percent of the total value.

The southern plains (Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas) continued as the value leader with \$12.3 billion in livestock transactions on 62.2 million head, representing 28.8 percent of the national value of livestock transactions, and 26.3 percent of the volume.

The annual survey is conducted by the commission as part of its economic and legal research activities which are aimed generally at modernizing the body of laws under which livestock are marketed.



"I might have known I couldn't sneak in—even dad's farm is buggy!"

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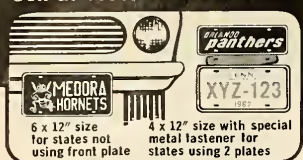
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FFA in Action

(Continued from Page 52)

They had had two heifers prior to getting the bull. They also bought a purebred Hereford cow and added it to the herd and then won a purebred Hereford heifer through Sears Roebuck's Beef Breeding Contest. Over a period of about 15 years, the chapter won three purebred Hereford heifers and two purebred Brahman heifers.

Today, the chapter has a purebred herd of both Hereford and Brahman cattle. The combined herd consists of approximately 30 head of brood cows, plus ten head of replacement heifers, five yearling bulls, and two herd sires.

Under the leadership of former Advisor T. A. Cochrane, who is now county vo-ed coordinator, the Fort Meade FFA beef cattle herd continued to grow.

The offspring of many of the chapter's cattle were shown either as chapter cattle or sold to individuals and shown by them. For four consecutive years, the chapter has been premier exhibitor of Hereford cattle in Florida. Also many of the individual animals have been the premier bull or female.

The beef cattle operation fits into the learning situation nicely. Castration, dehorning, worming, vaccination, spraying, training, and fitting are conducted by the classes. Plus they get feed and nutrition experiences. Students also learn about rotational grazing, fertilization practices, and mowing to control noxious plants.

From the experience gained through the chapter's beef herd, many members have been spurred on to get cattle of their own. Connally Barnett, 1973 American Farmer recipient, is an example of this. As a freshman he owned one head and from there he obtained purebred Brahman cattle which he showed. He

continued to enlarge his herd, plus purchasing several head of grade cattle.

For seven consecutive years, Fort Meade has had an American Farmer recipient. Each one had as his major productive enterprise beef cattle. And each, to one extent or another, received the incentive from being involved in the various aspects of the Fort Meade FFA Chapter's beef cattle operation.

Mr. T. A. Cochrane, the driving force behind the chapter herd development, brought the herd a long way in herd development and improvement from two head to over 50. He attributes a great deal of the success to the former beef breeding program carried on for several years by the Sears Roebuck Foundation. This enabled the chapter to obtain outstanding herd sires and females through that program, which in turn upgraded the quality of animals owned by the chapter and in the community.

In 1973, Mr. Cochrane became county coordinator for vocational agriculture. Gary Lee, teacher with Cochrane for five years, and Ben Speight, a former student of Cochrane's, are carrying on the beef project to implement their teaching program too.

Chain of Encouragement

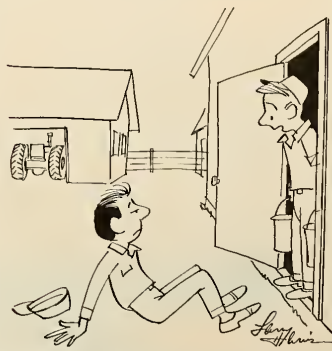


Vice President Billy Stewart pays the McDaniels for eight Ayrshire heifers.

The Saline, Louisiana, FFA Chapter recently added two registered Guernsey heifers and eight registered Ayrshire heifers to their dairy chain at a cost of \$2,325. Prior to this the chain included Jersey and Guernsey breeds.

The purpose of the chapter dairy chain is to encourage and assist members in livestock investment. At present, twenty members belong to the chapter chain. Sixteen of these members have agreed to return a six months old heifer to the chapter and the original animal belongs to them. Four members have taken the option to pay for the animals. They pay original purchase price, no interest being charged, by the time they finish school.

A chapter dairy chain committee has charge of the operation of the chain and works out all the details. (Robert Hammond, Reporter)



"But gosh, Uncle Fred, with both hands full I had to kick the door open!"

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES



Big Walnut FFA designed this unusual stage setting for the chapter banquet.

Among the Flowers

Flowers and awards were the bywords as nearly 400 people gathered for the Big Walnut, Ohio, FFA Parent-Youth Banquet. Tulips and geraniums, grown in the vo-ag department greenhouse, enhanced a bridged stream flanked by dogwoods, flowering crab, and green grass—stage setting for the enjoyable evening.

Max Fisher, 1973 American Farmer degree recipient, presented some thought provoking remarks on what goals can be attained and how a young member can work and plan for the future. Entertainment was provided by the Greenhands of the chapter who impersonated celebrities including Sonny and Cher, Raquel Welch, and Geraldine Jones.

Three awards were presented for the best organized and most complete FFA notebooks. These awards were presented to Larry Wollet, Mark Van-Hoosse, and Allen Fling.

Special star proficiency awards were given by local business firms in addition to the FFA Foundation award.

The star public speaking award for the Creed division was earned by Ruth Page; and for the Prepared Speech division it was earned by Bill Riffle.

Three special ecology awards were given by a local firm to Tony Arthur, \$25.00; David Hale, \$15.00; and Martin Hall, \$10.00.

The project book awards were also sponsored by a local firm and were awarded to Dick Fisher, \$25.00; Tony Arthur, \$15.00; Jeff Piper, \$10.00; and Bill Riffle, \$5.00.

Honorary Chapter Farmer degrees were awarded to Dorothy Barcas for her outstanding assistance to the chapter in fiscal matters and to Dan Williams for helping with chapter floats and the farming program in many different ways.

The Distinguished Service plaques were presented to Martha Heil, Roger Daugherty, Dr. Richard Miller, and Chuck Bachman.

The FFA queen and her court were announced at the banquet with Cindy Downey being crowned 1974-75 chapter queen by retiring Queen Cheryl Worster. Included in Queen Cindy's court were freshman, Pam Burwell; sophomore, Heidi Dennison; junior, Martha Hall; and senior, Ruth Brown.

Retiring senior chapter officers paid special tribute to their parents by presenting their mothers with a rose. Each made some special remarks and introduced their parents to the banquet assembly. The 1973-74 officers then installed the 1974-75 officer team who closed the banquet.

Antique Open House

The parent-son mixer, an annual affair of the Geddes, South Dakota, FFA Chapter, marked the culmination of the FFA school year.

Parents of FFA members, as well as all the prospective ninth graders and their parents, received formal invitations to attend the night's activities. Format of the evening was similar to an FFA meeting. As roll was called each FFA'er introduced his or her parents.

The Honorary Chapter Farmer degrees were presented. The new FFA officers were installed. End of the year awards such as Star Chapter Farmer and Star Greenhand were presented. A slide series on a typical year in the Geddes vo-ag department was shown including: crop production, animal science, ag mechanics, farm business management, FFA and adult education activities.

The South Dakota state FFA president
(Continued on Page 56)

Larry Mykkelsen, left photo, made an exhibit of hand corn picking tools he rebuilt. On right are the tables and chairs remade for the log cabin. Ron Horst, in bottom, displays horse gear.



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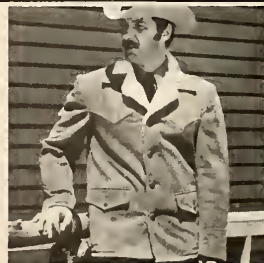


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FFA in Action

(Continued from Page 55)

dent, Rich Stoeber, gave a talk. A slide series showing each FFA member with his or her FFA project was shown. After the meeting was adjourned, guests were invited to have refreshments and to an open-house in the vo-ag building.

The lunch was furnished by the FFA and FFA. The FFA had the installation of their new officers earlier that same evening.

The open house included an antique fair. Twenty-two FFA members entered agricultural antique displays. Some of the antique displays included: a belt driven burr-mill for cracking grain, blacksmith's forge, antique wood plane, hand corn picking equipment, horse drawn one-bottom plow, and draft horse harnessing equipment.

Antiques were gathered and restored by members using skills learned in vo-ag shop to clean and restore the antiques. Most members did the restoring in shop during free periods. The projects were all financed by the members except for a table and chair set to be used in the new museum being developed in Geddes.

This museum will be housed in an original trading post structure, known as Papineau in territorial times, which was moved to town and restored by the Geddes FFA Chapter. (Gail Sperlich, Advisor)

Summer Jobs

When school was out, most young people were relaxing; but work went on for the Future Farmers of Owasso, Oklahoma.

The boys and girls pulled weeds around the parking areas and swept the sidewalks of downtown Owasso. Although it was hard work and a few blisters came on some hands, it was fun and was enjoyed by all the members.

The FFA chapter is also interested

Everyone pitched in and helped get the work done on the summer work project.



in the safety of the small children who play on the grounds at Ator Elementary School. The big project for the members was to remove rocks, rake, and level the top soil that was hauled into the area around the new temporary building. When the ground was ready, it was sodded with Bermuda grass to provide a safe play-ground for the small children this fall. (Noble Sokolosky, Reporter)

INTERNATIONAL

International Traveler

Tim Daugherty, 1972-73 national FFA vice president of the Central Region, traveled for seven weeks in Iran as an FFA ambassador. Tim made the trip for FFA just after leaving office in November of 1973 in cooperation with the Near East Foundation.

Purpose of Tim's trip was "to tell the people about a youth program that we have in FFA. I wasn't there to start a program. I was merely there to inform instructors, principals, and students about the potential of leadership and citizenship training."

Tim was accompanied in Iran by officials of the Near East Foundation and had a different interpreter at each of the eight schools he visited. Travel was often by jeep. Students there were 16-21 years of age and were very interested in learning from Tim.

"The schools I visited were three-year boarding schools just to study ag. This was their high school; only it is an ag school and the kids live there. Besides the agricultural courses, they studied chemistry, math, and English."

Opportunities for these Iranian technical ag graduates are back on the farm or in the villages as technicians. Immediately after graduation the students serve a two-year term of service in the villages of Iran as part of the military service helping people adopt new practices. The graduate cannot go on to college or a university.

Girls are new to the program in Iran and the schools are beginning to change to four-year programs.

These changes will help increase the number of citizens with education.

Currently there is no organization like the FFA in Iran. The students were intrigued to learn about FFA members' opportunities to make decisions and exercise leadership.

Tim says "about all the time I was over there I lived on rice. In the homes where I ate, the food was pretty good. Dress of the students is Westernized already, however, it is a mark of success to wear a suit. So most people do wear suits."

Reflecting, Tim concludes, "It was a fantastic experience because I didn't know them and they didn't know me or

the FFA. I had to start from the ground up. It makes you appreciate things more than you ever did before."

RECREATION

Competitive Campers

Eighteen Kelso, Washington, members attended this year's District FFA Leadership conference held at Spirit Lake in June. Four state officers as-



sisted the district officers in planning the program of activities.

There were 62 FFA members from nine chapters present including the group from Kelso.

Recreation had its part during the three day camp and one of the favorites was the fishing derby. Paul Parker caught the most fish and Diane Lund brought in an 18-inch trout for the biggest fish. The advisor-member canoe race was won by Howell-Howell from Kelso and Mitch Wharton took third in the rowboat race. There were also volleyball tournaments, a parliamentary procedure contest, a speaking contest, and a Creed contest. (*Rick Howell, Reporter*)



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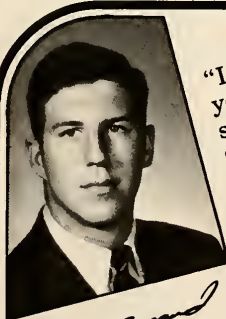
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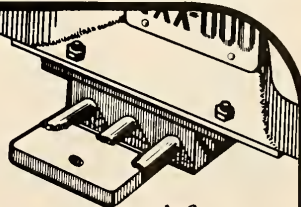
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Photos by Author

Members of the Washington FFA Association play an active roll in "Celebrating Tomorrow's Fresh New Environment" at Expo 74.

By Gary Bye

WHAT could be more natural than seeing FFA members at a fair? Really nothing unless it is in the middle of downtown Spokane, Washington, at this decade's only major Worlds Fair—Expo 74.

But its only fitting for FFA members to be actively involved in a fair that is "Celebrating Tomorrow's Fresh New Environment," the theme of the fair. That's why selected members from throughout the state of Washington are traveling to Spokane this summer.

The members are serving as tour guides for the agriculture exhibit which has the theme "Water—Key to Agricultural Abundance." It is a joint effort between Washington State University and the Exposition Food and Soil Association.

"The exhibit is visited by more than 2,000 persons per hour," says Dan Birdsell, a local vocational agriculture advisor who coordinates the selection and participation by the FFA guides.

The idea of using FFA members as guides came early in the planning for the agricultural exhibit. "We felt FFA members represented tomorrow's agriculture and its concern for the environment," remarked Scott Barr, chairman of the Expo Food and Soil Association. "The members are also knowledgeable enough about agriculture to answer most of the questions that the Expo visitors might have," adds Barr.

The fair which opened May 4, and runs through October, plans to use close

to 100 FFA members as guides. Two members are involved each day and may work as long as a week. The duties are then passed on to other FFA volunteers. This allows a large number of members to attend Expo which has many fascinating displays and entertainment from around the world.

The FFA guides are not the only FFA members involved in the Worlds Fair. Agriculture Day was celebrated on July 9 at the fair and helping to honor the theme were 37 members of

the Washington FFA Band. The band members had performed together at the state convention a month earlier. They came from all parts of the state to stage two performances for some of the more than 30,000 daily fairgoers. The final performance was presented in the middle of the Spokane River on a floating stage. The river runs directly through the Exposition grounds. Director Jack Prindle who conducted the band at the Expo performance says "Playing at the World's Fair was a tremendous experience for the band members. Their performance was quite good under such unusual conditions. It is something the members can be very proud of."

Also helping to celebrate Agriculture Festival Day at Expo was Keith Mohler, national FFA vice president from the Central Region. "The FFA appreciates the opportunity to take part in this Environmental Worlds Fair and to represent the future generation of agriculture," Keith told the crowd of on-lookers. "The FFA organization is working for environmental improvement and we are proud to be recognized in today's tribute to agriculture," he added.

Among one of the more pleasant tasks FFA members were called upon to do was escorting the agricultural royalty from Washington and other northwest states on a tour of the fairgrounds. Queens and princesses from the beef, dairy, and wheat industries were represented.

Expo 74 is surpassing all expectations for attendance. If visitor reaction is an indication of the impact that the fair has on environmental awareness, it is a major success. Washington FFA members seem very proud to be a part of it all. Besides, what could be more natural than FFA members at a fair.

A pleasant task for some FFA members was escorting the agricultural royalty.



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Jim: "Do you still have trouble making up your mind?"

Sam: "Well, yes and no."

Larry Hetrick
Bryan, Ohio

There are two kinds of individuals: those who create happiness wherever they go and those who create happiness whenever they go.

Phillip Manning
Cerro Gordo, North Carolina

During a coffee break two office cronies were talking.

"You must be the luckiest man in the world," one said.

"How do you figure?" asked another.
"Because you have a wife and a cigarette lighter—and they both work."

James Carlisle
Waverly, Alabama

Question: What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

Answer: Bugs Bunny.

Judy Beier
Wonewoc, Wisconsin

Steve: "Why do the people in Germany call the Volkswagen the 'belly button'?"

Skeeter: "I don't know, why?"

Steve: "Because everybody has one."

Janine Grant
Sonoma, California

Marv: "What did the determined corn farmer say?"

Harv: "If this corn don't grow I'm going to raise cane."

Mike Huntington
Tieton, Washington

Mike: "Why won't your uncle give to this local cause?"

Joe: "My uncle is so stingy he won't even join a fight unless it's free-for-all."

Jim Downing
Gainesville, Florida

The city visitor stopped at the general store and asked: "Have you anything like automobile tires?"

"Yep," said the storekeeper. "life preservers, doughnuts, and rubber bands."

Karen Voegtline
Mesa, Arizona

Tax Collector: "That's right. Always pay your taxes with a smile."

Mr. Jones: "I try to, but you always insist on cash?"

Beth Rozus
Shelby, North Carolina

Teacher: "Can you name a bird that is now extinct?"

Albert: "Yes, Tootles our canary. The cat extincted him last night."

Sandy Love
Blacksburg, South Carolina

Inflation is getting so bad that when one teenager drove his jalopy into the station and asked for a dollars worth of gas the attendant sprayed a little behind his ear.

Bobbie Brantley
Avinger, Texas

If a little chicken could speak, and found an orange in its nest, what do you think it would say?

"Oh, look at the orange marmalade!"

Greg Johnson
Edgewood, Iowa

After reprimanding several students for eating candy during class, the teacher noticed Johnnie with a lump in his cheek.

"Are you eating candy, John?" she asked.

"No, I'm just soaking a prune for recess," he replied.

Don Killian
Fosston, Minnesota

Small boy: "What becomes of cars when they get too old to run?"

Mom: "They sell them to your Dad."

Kenny Davis
Atkins, Arkansas

The vocational counselor told the young applicant: "Your vocational aptitude test indicates that your best opportunities exist wherever your father holds an influential position."

Thomas LaMance
Phoenix, Arizona

Bobby: "Dad, what are those holes in the board?"

Dad: "They're knotholes, Son."

Bobby: "Well, if they're not holes, what are they?"

Jim Beebe
Springfield Center, New York

Doctor: "Don't you know my hours are from two to four?"

Patient: "Yes, but the dog didn't."

Andy Saville
Kirby, West Virginia

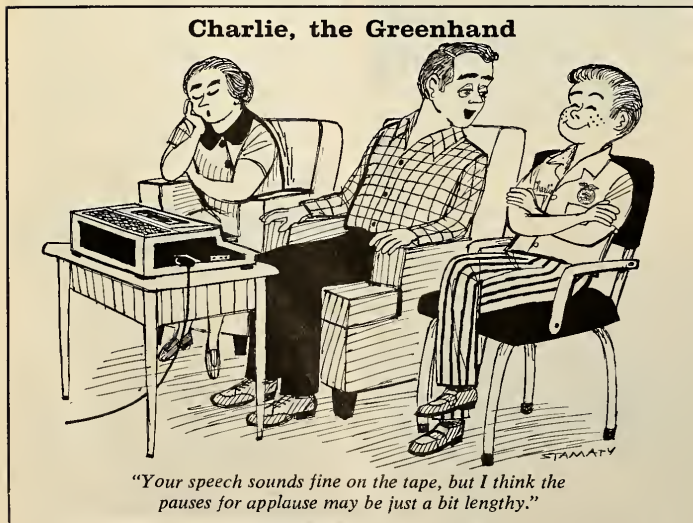
Don: "Can't a bicycle stand alone?"

Ron: "No, because it's two-tired!"

Lessie Taylor
Henning, Tennessee

Who is the big daddy of jokes?
Pop Corn.

Stanley Buz
Hackettstown, New Jersey



"Your speech sounds fine on the tape, but I think the pauses for applause may be just a bit lengthy."

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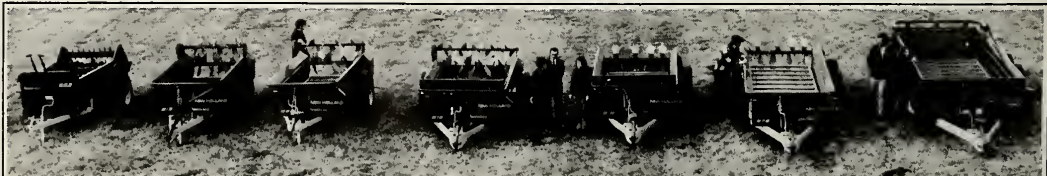
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