You’ll be ahead with your choice of

5 Great New McCormick FARMALLS

Big new exclusives of the new Farmall 400 (above) and Farmall 300 help you do up to 20% more daily. You hitch in seconds with new Fast-Hitch . . . control implements easier with new hydraulic Hydra-Touch . . . boost pull-power on the go with Torque Amplifier . . . do pto jobs faster with completely independent pto.

Now, 5 pace-setting new Farmalls . . . all with exclusive new Fast-Hitch to bring back-click-and-go convenience to every farm, large or small! All with the greatest hydraulic systems ever developed for more complete implement control! All with other big new "Farmall Firsts" . . . to bring you new handling ease, new comfort, new economy, and new work capacity! With drawbar horsepower stair-stepped from 8.89 to 45*, you can choose the new Farmall sized, equipped and priced exactly right for you! And you’ll be ahead for years to come with a years-ahead new Farmall.

*Estimated drawbar horsepower.

Test drive the new Farmall that fits your farm. Prove to yourself—it leads all others in its power class—in performance—in value! See your IH dealer now.

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER


5 Sizes—16 New Models—
to Fit Every Farm, Every Need!
YOU GET UP TO 20% LONGER WEAR AT NO EXTRA COST WITH FIRESTONE TRACTOR TIRES

Many tractor tires may appear to be the same, but it is the extra service you get from the tire that will make a big difference in your farm costs.

Like farmers everywhere, you will find that Firestone Tractor Tires are the longest wearing tires money can buy. And, one of the reasons for this extra long wear is Firestone's tough tread rubber compound. It doesn't cost you a penny more; yet it gives years of extra service. You get greater drawbar pull because the tread bars retain their sharp biting edge longer. The new tread rubber compound resists rapid wear on hard surfaced roads and hard soil. It also gives better performance in all kinds of tough stubble.

Compare before you buy! Let your Firestone Dealer or Store show you why Firestone Tractor Tires last longer, pull better and do more work for your tire dollar.

Always specify Firestone Tires

Get More Winter Traction with Firestone Tires on Your Car and Truck

The Town and Country is the greatest mud, snow or ice passenger tire ever built. A quiet highway tire as well as a traction tire.

The Super All Traction truck tire takes hold and moves the load in mud, in snow, or on wet or icy roads.
The National
Future Farmer
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WINTER, 1955 Vol. 3, No. 2

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THE COVER PHOTO

By Mack M. Derick

The cover photo is of George Corrow, Pat Smith, Marie Smith, and Terry Viens, all of Vermont. The boy in the picture (look again, fellows) is a former member of the Orleans, Vermont, FFA Chapter. George, now married and a "family man," is field representative for United Farmers Creamery, North Troy, Vermont.

The girls — well, information on them can get out of date in a hurry, but if any of you fellows are really interested the Editorial Offices will be glad to oblige you with the latest data available at the time of your inquiry.

MAGAZINE STAFF

Box 1180, Alexandria, Virginia

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send both old and new addresses to Editorial Offices, THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER, Box 1180, Alexandria, Virginia.
What happens when your fields defrost?

Watch what happens when your fields defrost. Does melting snow disappear vertically, downwards into your soil? If so, you have good water storage . . . good protection against next summer's dry spells. Or does it disappear laterally, into gullies, creeks, or river? Then something is wrong underneath. Next summer's dry spells will hurt you. Your soil lacks storage capacity.

Most farm land needs increased capacity to store water. We must open the pores by mixing in surface trash, crop residues, and manure.

Two outstanding machines make the job easy and profitable: the New Idea stalk and vine shredder, and any one of four New Idea manure spreaders (including the new PTO, 120 bu. spreader).

Use them consistently. Spongy soil that stores tons instead of pounds of water will be your reward . . . a reward that you will count up in higher yields, year after year.

New Idea
FARM EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Dept. 1455, Coldwater, Ohio
A Fellow Told Me...

The Results of the Livestock Judging Contest in the Winter Issue

Y'all sure do like judging contests! The entries were really pouring in when I dropped by the magazine office the other day. They had a bushel basket—a holdover from the farm I suppose—and it was full and running over with entries then.

The final count reached 4,378. And that's a lot of entries to grade—and there were lots of winners. Seventy-one had a perfect score for the entire contest! Two hundred eighty-six had three correct placings, while three hundred seventy-five hit two classes right.

Here are the official placings:

Duroc barrows ............ A-C-B-D
Hereford steers .......... D-A-B-C
Brahman bulls .......... C-D-A-B
Hereford heifers .......... B-A-D-C

The members of the Editorial Staff of the magazine meant to put the names of all winners in the magazine—but that was before they found out you fellows knew your livestock so well. And you can understand, it would take about two pages just to list the names of the winners.

By the way, your interest in the contest (including your entries as well as the dozens of special letters you wrote asking for more contests) has got the Magazine Staff busy working on plans for another big Judging soon.

If there’s space available at all it might be in the Spring issue. But here’s something else cooking in that office that you’d like to know about. Something you’ve been asking for ever since the first issue of your magazine — The National FUTURE FARMER.

There’s a lot of thought being given to increasing the number of issues soon. No, not to a monthly. At least not yet. But something was said about “Six in ’56.” That would mean five issues during the school year, instead of our present three, and one in the summer, as now. There’s nothing official on it yet—but watch for the announcement in the Spring issue.

That’s about it for now. My New Year’s Resolution is to keep snooping around, so I can look after your interests. And if you ever have any special request, just let me know.

Happy New Year!!!
mounting horsepower

has added 70 acres to

the average American farm

Fewer farms, but larger farms! Fewer farmers, but vastly larger harvests! Fewer farm horses, but millions more farm horsepower! That’s the amazing story of American agricultural progress that has made us the best-fed people in the world. And horsepower has led in that achievement!

AC has been building spark plugs all through this period—pioneering to increase the work-value of farm engines. Latest and greatest of these horsepower triumphs is the exclusive AC Hot Tip Spark Plug with a super-fast-heating insulator tip that burns away combustion residues which would deposit on ordinary plugs and cause them to “short” or “misfire.”

See how the AC Hot Tip insulator is skirted away from the center wire in a thinning cone that really heats fast? To keep your car, truck, tractor and other farm engines at their horsepower peak, watch your plugs—always replace with AC Hot Tip Spark Plugs.
A THRILLING NEW WAY TO
Learn Dancing
AT HOME
Now you can know the thrilling popularity of being a really good dancer. This new course is guaranteed to teach you how to dance in the privacy of your own home. You get the equivalent of 35 to 50 hours of studio dance instruction ALL FOR ONLY 30c PER LESSON.

IT TELLS YOU WHAT TO DO
First, learn timing, rhythm and balance. Easily and quickly from specially-written music and steps, too easy to follow until you are ready to let an expert teacher. Two extended play 78 rpm phonographic records are part of each Course. You can play them over and over again until you have mastered every step.

IT GUIDES YOUR FEET
At the same time, you learn just where to move your feet by following the famous Step-Guide with its amazing Footprints. Even the most advanced steps that give exciting variety to your dancing are easy when you follow the Footprints.

IT SHOWS YOU WHAT TO DO
Besides the vocal instructions and the Step-Guide, you also learn how to stand, how to hold your partner and how to move your feet, simply by looking at the dozens of clear photographs in the Recreation Manual showing step-by-step positions for every dance step. This Three-Way Course is the sure, fast and easy way to become a good dancer, and you learn in your own home at only 30c a lesson.

IMPROVE YOUR DANCING WITH NEW STEPS
Experienced dancers especially want the new For-Rand Course to learn new steps and give variety to their dancing.

TEACH OTHERS
You can easily teach your wife, husband, children or friends to dance with this easy-to-follow Course.

Looking Ahead
DIETHYSTILBESTROL
Don't let that word scare you. It probably will mean more to you than any word since antibiotics if you are in the cattle feeding business. Designed only for beef cattle fattened for slaughter, it is now on the market from Eli Lilly and Company under the trade name of Silbosal.

MILK MAKERS
Would you be interested in a way to make first-calf heifers produce like mature cows? Or would you like to increase the milk production of your present cows by 50%—with an increase in butterfat of up to 140%? Naturally, you would! Using a new growth hormone, researchers at the University of Maryland and the University of Minnesota have found that they could get a high increase in milk production. At Maryland they injected the hormone, daily, into two cows that had passed the two-month peak of their lactation periods. One cow increased from 36 pounds a day to 55 pounds a day; the other from 25 to 40 pounds a day. Butterfat content increased from 1.34 pounds to almost three pounds for the first cow, and from 1.2 to 2.89 for the second. After 14 days the hormone shots were stopped, and production returned to normal.

Next came a pair of identical twin heifers. One received a hormone shot every day for two weeks before she calved and after that received no hormones at all. The other twin was given nothing other than the usual care. The twin with the hormone produced 25% more milk in a 280-day test than the twin receiving exactly the same feed and care, but no hormone; with the hormone, 7,082.5 pounds and 233 pounds of butterfat; without hormone, 5,418 and 197 pounds of butterfat. You will hear more about this.

SUGAR SPRAY
To help tomato plants stand the shock of transplanting, researchers have found that, five days before transplanting, plants should be sprayed with a solution composed of 1% cups of sugar in a gallon of water. Results are plants that start growing much sooner, regardless of type.

FLY BAIT
For control of house flies that are immune to DDT, researchers at VPI have found that a mixture of 25% strength Malathion and granulated sugar proves effective. Mix thoroughly, six pounds of sugar with four ounces of 25% Malathion powder. Not more than six pounds should be mixed at one time. While the mixture is pretty safe, it should be kept out of the reach of children. When using, spread thinly on dry surfaces where flies gather.

THINGS TO WATCH
LIVESTOCK: The seasonal low for hog prices is expected about the time you read this. Prices should show a modest advance during January. Cattle prices will probably be at least as high as this time last year.

POULTRY AND EGGS: Prices are well below a year ago for all poultry products because of heavy production. Egg prices will probably continue the downward trend. A reduced slaughter in January shows the possibility of slightly better prices for broilers.

GENERAL: While consumer spending is continuing at record levels—purchases are exceeding the output of the nation’s factories—prices to farmers continue about 3% below a year ago. Total farm production is close to record levels, and stocks carried over from past years are large.
Power you'll be proud to own

America's Finest Diesel
...with Power Steering

From livestock to grass... in all products for agriculture... some one name in each classification stands as a symbol for that which is best. And so it is with the Case Diesel... the five-plow, six-cylinder tractor that is finest in power on the big, tough jobs. Yet, its handling qualities and riding comfort give you gentleness that you've never known in field work... with Power Steering for those short turns and long days... instant starting directly on diesel fuel by merely touching a button. And—you'll thrill to a new kind of economy, not only in fuel... but in upkeep as well.

In the two-plow class the Case Tractor stands out too... with the savings it makes in time, labor, convenient operation. There's speedy 3-point Eagle Hitch... the "one-minute hook-up sitting down" to a wide choice of rear-mounted plows, harrows, utility carrier, field cutter as shown. Its adjustable tread, front and rear, fits most any row spacing. And there's shock-free steering... Bodyguard® seat with torsional rubber suspension... Constant Hydraulic Control for instant operation of mounted implements... famous Case low-cost upkeep that makes dollars saved add up into real money. Start now to meet today's needs for a changing agriculture with a truly thrifty tractor.

New Wheel-Type Disk Harrow has instant hydraulic lift... extra weight for working down cotton and corn stalks, heavy soils... unusual leveling action.

New Field Cutter slices and slashes tough stalks, crop residues... drives by PTO.

Look to this Sign
for Complete Dealer Service

Whether you want information, a demonstration... talk about a deal, buy a part or get shop repairs... see your nearest Case dealer. Ask him for catalogs or a field trial on your own farm. Find out about the Case Income Payment Plan to fit your farming system. For pictorial folders write to J. I. Case Co., Dept. A—915, Racine, Wis.
new gain-boosting ingredient

Stilbosol

(DIETHYLSTILBESTROL PREMIX, LILLY)

now available for record beef feeding profits...

A powerful, gain-building ingredient is now available to help cattle feeders get more beef at a lower cost. It’s Stilbosol.

Stilbosol boosts gains as much as 37% on high-corn fattening rations. Feed costs have been slashed as much as 20%.

Scientific experiments and on-the-farm feeding trials indicate that Stilbosol may be the most important advance in animal nutrition since the introduction of antibiotics as growth stimulators.

This is welcome news to cattlemen. Margins are tight. The dramatic, new development comes at a fortunate time to keep beef feeding profits from slipping.

FASTER, CHEAPER GAINS WITH STILBOSOL

Research conducted by Iowa State College, Eli Lilly and Company, various feed manufacturers, and experienced cattle feeders check closely on the benefits of Stilbosol.

Rations containing proper Stilbosol levels have put an extra ½ to ¾ pound of gain per day on fattening steers. Total gains have hit a record 3½ pounds per day for sustained feeding periods of 70 to 112 days.

Cost of gain has been cut from 2 to 4 cents a pound. Profit margins have been increased by as much as $25 to $30 per steer with the use of Stilbosol-fortified rations. That’s good anytime. It’s especially welcome these days.

BENEFITS MANY KINDS OF RATIONS

While most dramatic results have occurred with high quality steers on high-corn rations, Stilbosol has stimulated considerable gain with many types of rations. This has been true whether fed to steers or heifers for slaughter. And, true, when fed to feeders of varying weights above 600 pounds.

JUST A PINCH DOES THE JOB

Stilbosol is exciting news from every angle. A little goes a long way. Your beef supplement manufacturer will mix 10 pounds of Stilbosol carefully into a ton of his brand of beef feed. The feed will look the same. It just packs more growth power.

When steers or heifers are fed 2 pounds per head daily of such Stilbosol-fortified supplement, they will receive the proper daily level of the growth stimulant. As usual, you use such supplements in your regular beef fattening ration.

Because it is so powerful, Stilbosol will be sold only to professional feed manufacturers. Need for extremely accurate mixing prohibits its home use.

CARCASS GRADE AND SELLING PRICE EQUAL

Cattle receiving Stilbosol-fortified supplements have been bringing at least equal prices when marketed. Dressing percentages and carcass grades have been essentially the same as check lots receiving no Stilbosol.

Cattle getting Stilbosol appear normal and act normal in all respects but three. They eat a little more, gain a lot faster, and make their gains more economically.

COSTS A LITTLE MORE...WORTH A LOT MORE

Supplements containing Stilbosol are expected to cost an extra $7 to $10 more per ton than the same supplement without the gain-booster.

At $10 a ton extra, it’ll cost you about 1¢ more per head per day. But that investment pays big dividends. Depending upon the kind of cattle and ration fed, Stilbosol has been returning $10 to $20 for every dollar invested in the growth stimulant.
When fed to steers on high-corn rations, Stilbosol boosts gains as much as 37% while slashing cost of gain as much as 20%. Stilbosol is truly called the new beef profit builder.

SELECT SUPPLEMENT IN SAME WAY
You still select the type of supplement you'd normally pick to do your particular job... whether it be complete, high protein, lower protein, or whatever. Just be sure that Stilbosol is added. Look on the bag or ingredient tag.

Stilbosol will make both a good and a poor cattle supplement more efficient. However, Stilbosol will never make a poor supplement the equal of a top-quality supplement that contains Stilbosol. Stilbosol merely piles its benefits on top of those originally built into the beef supplement.

Stilbosol is not a substitute for such nutrients as proteins, minerals, and vitamins. Rather, Stilbosol appears to improve the nutritive properties of any and all supplements and feeds consumed by beef cattle fed for the market.

ONLY FOR BEEF CATTLE FATTENING RATIONS
And, here's a very important point. Stilbosol-fortified rations are not now designed or recommended for any kind of livestock except beef cattle to be fattened for slaughter.

For the present, that rules out its use in rations for dairy cattle, beef breeding stock, sheep, swine, poultry... or anything else.

The sale of Stilbosol and its use in beef fattening supplements are subject to Federal Food and Drug regulations.

Feeding of the final Stilbosol-fortified supplement should be done with equal care. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Insist on beef fattening rations fortified with Stilbosol.
More and Better
Legume
Inoculation
for Soybeans
Clovers
Alfalfa . . .
All Legumes

- More bacteria
  per seed
New humus base makes
a better home for the NITRAGIN
bacteria, helping them to multiply
more and live longer in the can. More
nitrogen-fixing bacteria for the money!
- Covers seed better
New NITRAGIN is finer, fluffier,
sticks more bacteria to each legume
seed, puts more bacteria to work on
each seedling.
- Bigger soybean package
Supplies each soybean seed with still
more bacteria and more humus for the
same low price—about 10¢ per acre.
May be used with or without water.
- Surer inoculation
Helps produce stronger stands that
yield higher, fix more nitrogen per
acre. It's NITRAGIN for nitrogen!

FREE
TEACHING
AIDS

Roots
Booklets
Inoculum
. . . for class and club work . . . help to teach
the conservation and cash value of legumes
in the rotation. Your letterhead request will
promptly bring you our complete list.

THE NITRAGIN CO.
3161 W. Custer Ave., Milwaukee 9, Wis.

THE NEW
NITRAGIN

Studies show that supplying
more nitrogen-fixing bacteria to
each legume seed improves re-
results. New NITRAGIN does
just that in more ways than one.

Hoehne, Colorado

I am a member of the Hoehne Chap-
ter of the FFA and if possible, I would
like to have some addresses from other
Future Farmers, with whom I can cor-
respond.

Jimmy McDonald

OK fellows. Why not write this
Colorado lad?—ED

Portis, Kansas

The only thing wrong with The Na-
tional FUTURE FARMER is that it
should be published more often. I en-
joyed the talk by our president, David
Boyne, in the Fall issue. Keep writing
the helpful articles and interesting
stories.

Ned Wiersma

Pine Island, Minnesota

Although all your articles are good,
I enjoyed very much your article en-
titled "So You're a Reporter." Being a
Chapter Reporter, this article gave me
many pointers on how to serve my chap-
ter better and become a better reporter.

Jim Hanson

Neillsville, Missouri

I am very much interested in your
magazine. I read each issue from cover
to cover, and my family and friends read
some articles, too. I enjoy the contests,
and would like to see more of them. I
also would like to see this magazine a
monthly. I am a sophomore in high
school, and I sure do enjoy agriculture!

Alan Naedler

Tucson, Arizona

I really enjoy your magazine, and
would really like to see it come out more
often. I think your articles, stories, and
even ads are pertinent to modern farm-
ing, and FFA work. It's good to hear
about activities of other chapters around
the nation. Right now, we are making
articles for exhibition in the Arizona
State Fair, in farm shop. I also want
to say that your judging contest articles
are real fine.

Sam Dunlap

New Haven, Indiana

I was very pleased when I received
the Fall issue of The National FUTURE
FARMER with the Judging Contest in it.
I enjoyed placing the classes, and I
surely do hope you will have another
contest soon.

Roger Wissman

Malcomb, Iowa

I am a member of the Brooklyn
(Iowa) Poweshiek Chieftain FFA Chap-
ter, and I found the enclosed contest
blank in The FUTURE FARMER. I
am entering the contest.

It was interesting and I am especially
anxious to see how the Brahman bull
section comes out. We don't have much
contact with Brahman bull judging in
this section of the country. Thanks for
the interesting contest.

Stanley V. Vogel

Terre Haute, Indiana

Enclosed is my one year subscription
of your wonderful magazine.

I find this magazine very interesting.
It is difficult that I'll ever be a farmer,
being raised in the city and having no
relatives who are "officially" farmers ex-
cept for my aunt and uncle who "farm"
about 4-acres, as a hobby, mostly. He
and my grandmother have raised a few
hogs . . .

Reading farm magazines and articles
have brought me closer, in a manner of
speech, with the American farm.

George Dean

Hillsdale, Michigan

I received my first issue of The Na-
tional FUTURE FARMER, and was
very well pleased.

In our area a lot of barns were built
of the same style and material about the
same time. Now they are getting
ragged, beat-up, and falling down. I
would like to see an article with some
pictures of a milking polebarn and milk-
ning parlor, and their prices and sizes.

Bob Brown

Sounds like a wonderful suggestion,
Bob. Thanks for making it—and we'll
try to carry out your suggestion not later
than the Summer issue.—ED
B.F. Goodrich

Power-Grip tractor tires have bigger cleats to deliver more traction

"No chains needed in mud with Power-Grip."

Lawrence E. Flood and his son farm 400 acres near Council Bluffs, Iowa. They grow oats, clover, alfalfa and corn, raise dairy cattle and hogs. Muddy, hilly fields could cause traction problems, but Flood reports new B. F. Goodrich Power-Grip tractor tires pull better than any he's used, particularly over slick covercrops. Power-Grip cleats have a bigger face area to press against the soil—and there are more of them. Count the cleats on leading makes of tires, and time after time you'll find that in the same size this B. F. Goodrich tire has more cleats. Extra, big cleats deliver greater power for the really tough jobs. You work more land in less time.

"I prefer Power-Grip tires because in plowing bottom land where front wheels often load up with mud, I still get plenty of traction." So says Gordon Keleher of Sioux Falls, S. D. Bigger Power-Grip shoulders are square cut to defy slippage. They're reinforced at the base to wear longer, higher to penetrate deeper. No other tire is wider than B. F. Goodrich Power-Grip tires. No other tire gives you so much power and wear for your money!

Low-cost Super Hi-Cleat tire digs in. "This tire runs clean, whether in mud, tough alfalfa sod or plain old gumbo," says Glenn Riffe (left), Windfall, Ind. B. F. Goodrich Super Hi-Cleat tires sell at low prices. Yet have the same tread design you've seen come on new tractors for over 3 years. With the Super Hi-Cleat use low-priced, easy-steering Defiance front tires.

There's a B. F. Goodrich tire for all your farm needs. See your B. F. Goodrich retailer today. His address is listed under Tires in the Yellow Pages of your phone book. Or write The B. F. Goodrich Company, Tire & Equipment Division, Akron 18, Ohio.
A field test will tell YOU
what owners have already told us

Nor long ago we asked Massey-Harris owners what they thought of their tractors. "Great," they told us, "unmatched for economy, power, ease of handling".

You'll discover why they're so pleased in the way a Massey-Harris takes a plow or disc through rough, rolling land... a combine or corn picker over long hours... the way it plants and cultivates on less fuel.

You learn about its power when a tough spot can't pull the engine down and you go right through - smoother, faster, with a reserve that seems to enjoy a chance to show itself.

You thrill to its easy handling on headlands, guiding close to corn or cotton rows, planting a loose seedbed.

And you'll be amazed at the work you do on so little fuel. Massey-Harris tractors squeeze more out of fuel--make it go farther, get it to the drawbar with minimum loss.

The efficiency of a Massey-Harris is also in the tools that make tractor and implement a close-working unit... in the hydraulic control and vari-action Hitch-All that make operation so easy. Massey-Harris tractors are built in six power sizes and a variety of models for every farm, crop, and purpose.

The whole story of Massey-Harris economy, power, ease of handling as owners tell it, is contained in the booklet, "Out of the Mailbag". For your free copy see your Massey-Harris dealer, or write Massey-Harris, Dept. A-315, Racine, Wis.

MAKE IT A Massey-Harris
Outstanding for Economy, Power, Ease of Handling

Reader Roundup

Granotn, Wisconsin

Your magazine is tops among my ag boys. They eagerly await each issue and only wish that it came more often. Each boy in our chapter receives the magazine. We include it as part of their FFA dues. I am sure the magazine is bringing home the FFA ideals more than we can do in our small way.

Francis Steiner
Ag. Instructor

Auburn, Alabama

I want to congratulate you and your staff on the latest issue of The National FUTURE FARMER. I can truthfully say that each issue continues to get better and this last one was indeed 72 pages of a real magazine.

You and your staff are doing a wonderful job in publishing a magazine that we can all be proud of and you can count on us to do all that we can to keep our subscriptions as near the top as possible.

T. L. Faulkner
Executive Secretary
Alabama FFA

Idaho Falls, Idaho

Here in Idaho I receive The National FUTURE FARMER, and find it very instructive and enjoyable. Really, I believe that it links our organization of the FFA closer together, and certainly does a good job of it. It gives members first hand knowledge of what our national officers think and what they are doing.

Congratulations to a magazine that I sincerely hope will be a monthly!

Gene Thiel

Fort Lewis, Washington

I have been receiving my copy of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine. I only wish it were a monthly magazine. I am a former Future Farmer member, and holder of the American Farmer Degree.

It sure is a connection between Future Farmers for me. You don't receive much of that kind of literature in the service. I am proud to have been on the Indiana Ex. Comm. when the magazine was started. So I am glad I have contributed something to such a fine magazine.

So keep up the good work.

Cpl. Karl B. Sliger
U. S. Army

Thanks, Corporal. And thanks to all of you fellows for writing us-including the great number whose letters don't make "Reader Roundup." We're pleased so many of you like your magazine—and we certainly like to have your suggestions.—ED
Reader Roundup

Cottondale, Florida

I am entering your contest on judging animals...not only to try to win a prize, but also to practice judging. I hope to be on the judging team this year.
Jewell Hillmon

Cainesville, Missouri

Enjoyed judging the livestock very much. Wish you could have it in every issue. Hope that The National FUTURE FARMER can become monthly.

Why not a few stories on different breeds of sheep, hogs, and cattle?
So long.
Leland R. Taraba

Harrah, Oklahoma

I think it was a good idea to place livestock in The National FUTURE FARMER magazine to be judged. It will help improve livestock judging. It will also help people to realize the importance of good stock.

I enjoy your magazine very much.
Dale Masterson

Sallis, Mississippi

I am an FFA member, go to school at McAdams High School, am in the 10th grade. I enjoy your magazine, very much. So does the rest of the family.

Jimmy Terry

Pell City, Alabama

An impressive sight is to see the officers [at the National Convention] perform their duties just as we do on a state and local basis, ... But the sights and memories of a lifetime were to see and hear the National Chorus and Band perform and know they represented almost every state in the nation. We learned, too, that FFA members from everywhere are the same, held together by the knowledge that they hold membership in one of the greatest organizations in this great land of ours. . . .

George S. Johnson
Edison Graham
Steve Milan

Williamsport, Maryland

A couple of years ago you published an article or some pictures of a home-made post hole digger. Would it be possible to find out how it was made, and was it suitable for a Ford Tractor?

We have a boy in the FFA and think it is very good for them. He is our second one to be in it!

Mrs. Ralph Hounbaker

It's our understanding this was designed for a Farmall and would need some alteration for use on a Ford, but we're checking further on this point.—ED

It's easy to develop healthy, high-producing herd replacements when you raise your calves on Albers Calf Rearing Plan.

This money-saving program is so easy to follow that hundreds of dairymen all over the nation are switching to it daily. They like the fact that the Albers Plan requires only 3 to 5 weeks of liquid Suckle feeding. From then on, they can raise their calves on only a pound of Calf Manna a day and almost any available grain ration.

And talk about results—Albers Calf Rearing Plan has developed more World Record milk and butterfat producers than any other program ever conceived! Unlike most calf feeding programs, the Albers Plan encourages the development of big cows with plenty of pannick capacity. This saves you real money later on when these cows come into production, for they can produce vast amounts of milk with little or no grain supplement.

Try Albers CALF MANNA and ALBERS SUCKLE on your very next group of calves. See your Albers dealer today or write for the FREE booklet, "Albers & Months Calf Rearing Plan."
A Mother Was Determined to Keep Her Son on the Farm . . .
A Son Was Willing to Work. Result: Star Farmer of America

MOTHER’S determination to keep her son on the farm and the boy’s willingness to work led to Burd Schantz’ record of accomplishments that won him the title of Star Farmer of America.

Mr. Schantz died when Burd was 13 years old. The 65-acre home farm, purchased when the boy was two, had been devoted to the production of poultry, and Burd didn’t like the idea of raising chickens all his life. He preferred cattle.

“I decided if it took cattle to keep him on the farm I’d let him get them,” Mrs. Schantz said. “He always said this farm was big enough for chickens and cows both, and it’s turned out he’s right.”

Mrs. Schantz took another long step when she decided to pay transportation costs to send Burd to Kutztown High School, 12 miles away, where he could take a course in vocational agriculture. The local school offered no agriculture in its curriculum.

Burd never did get away from raising chickens, but he has made a fine start in establishing himself in the dairy farming business. He raised chickens to earn money to buy his first heifer calf, paying $150 for a registered Holstein in the late summer of 1947. That fall he bought two more about the same age, and three more in the spring of 1948 that cost $250 each.

Burd’s records show he earned $1,554.84 raising chickens that first year. He spent $1,200 of it for heifer calves.

“Every time I’d get some money from my chickens I’d turn right around and put it into the dairy,” he said.

His plan worked, despite the fact that when his heifers first started producing in 1949 they gave him seven bull calves in a row. They made up for it the next year with seven heifer calves. It was in 1949, when Burd was starting his junior year in high school, that he remodeled part of the old barn for a milking parlor, bought a milking machine, built a milk house, and obtained other equipment needed for producing Grade A milk. The barn, built in 1878, had been used for raising poultry and storing feed. Schantz still keeps about 1,200 birds in one wing. He recently had to do some more remodeling to expand his milking facilities, and the milk house already is becoming too small to be adequate for his expanding herd.

His producing herd of registered cows now totals 22, with 22 heifers growing into his plans for expansion. Attesting to the quality of his cattle is their production record last year averaging 14,005 pounds of milk and 510.9 pounds of butterfat per cow. The Pennsylvania Dairymen’s Association gives an award for exceptional accomplishment in dairy herd improvement to farmers whose herds average above 400 pounds of butterfat per year.

In addition to that thriving enterprise, he raised 1,200 capons for the Christmas market, and he’s in 50 percent partnership with Mrs. Schantz in raising pullets that are sold for egg production.
All the crops on the farm belong exclusively to Burd. He raises corn and small grains on 70 acres of cropland included in the home farm and two other small farms that he rents, and has an additional 45 acres for pasture and hay. He has reseeded the pastures to a grass-legume mixture, fertilizes them regularly, and makes extensive use of electric fences to rotate grazing. All of the grain and hay produced on the farm goes into feed for the dairy cattle or for Burd's chickens.

When Burd first started his dairy herd all machinery on the place was horse drawn, and not very good at that. Mrs. Schantz hired a man to do the plowing and other field work during the first year after her husband's death, but soon decided the practice didn't pay.

"By the time I finished paying the hired man and feeding the horses there wasn't anything left," she said. "I told Burd that if there were any crops raised he was going to have to raise them."

During the last seven years Burd has replaced the horses with two tractors and has a full line of equipment to go with them. He purchased all the machinery new. A new silo, 12 feet in diameter and 60 feet high also has been added to the farm.

"I figured I was going to be farming a long time and there wasn't any sense buying machinery somebody else had worn out," he says.

He has done custom work for neighbors with his combine, corn picker, and baler to help pay the cost of the machinery. He hires a 17-year-old boy to help with work of the farm.

With all his investment in livestock, machinery, and other equipment, Burd has had neither the time nor money to do much "fixing up" around the home. The buildings are neatly painted and sturdy, but the Schantz farm is no showplace. Burd will take care of that angle later, especially if his matrimonial plans with a neighborhood girl work out.

Right now, he's concentrating on paying off about $4,500 he owes on equipment and cattle.

Burd doesn't have any really definite ideas about what he wants to accomplish in the future except that he'll stay in the dairy business.

"I'll just keep on expanding, and I guess the rest will take care of itself," he says.

His expansion already amounts to the accumulation of a $30,000 investment in farming over a period of seven years. Counting off the money he owes, he still can add his net worth at about $25,000.

"He's earned it," says Raymond Heimbach, vocational agriculture teacher at Kutztown High School. "Burd works from five o'clock in the morning to eight o'clock at night most days, and the cows have to be milked at 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. every day, including Sundays."

Young Schantz does find some time to take an active part in community affairs. He is president of the local Young Farmers group and recently was chairman of the membership drive for the Berks County Farmers' Association. In addition, he holds membership in the Grange, Lutheran Church, Lehigh Valley Cooperative Dairy, Berks County Farmers' Association, Dairy Herd Improvement Association, and Berks County Cooperative Association.

Last spring he was placed on the national honor roll of the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association and received a diploma in recognition of his achievement in dairy production.

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Lower left—
He raised chickens to finance his first heifer calf; his herd of registered producing cows now totals 22.

Right, below—
Burd and his vo-ag teacher Raymond Heimbach look at a sample from the 45 acres devoted to pasture and hay.
the kids can't wait to take over!

You know it by the way a boy’s eyes light up when he takes the wheel of a new tractor like the Minneapolis-Moline Model BF. Then a man can appreciate what power farming means to the young folks! Modern MM farm tractors and power-matched machines open a whole new future of progress and plenty for the boys and girls who stay on the land to become tomorrow’s farmers. For power farming means greater production per hour, per acre...lower-cost production to keep the kids happy and prosperous on the farm.

Your Minneapolis-Moline Dealer is your community’s sparkplug of power farming—the years-ahead MM way! See him and get the facts on the modern MM tractors and machines built to make farming easier and more profitable...an ever better way of life!
I

ON OKLAHOMA, like most other states, pigs are the most popular project with FFA boys. Even the boys who later branch out and make a name for themselves in breeding cattle or other types of farming often get their start with a show barrow.

As far as an FFA project is concerned, there isn’t anything better than hogs. A boy can have a breeding gilt program, a farm-to-market project and a fat barrow project. All this and it isn’t with too much initial expense compared to other livestock projects. In addition, there’s a fast turnover with hogs.

A classic example of just one of many Oklahoma boys who made good in the hog business is Monroe Kottwitz of Kingfisher. In his freshman year in vocational agriculture Monroe fed out three barrows, which he admits now were of questionable breeding. He wanted something better, so he started building a Berkshire breeding herd.

By his senior year his name had been placed on the American Berkshire Association’s honor roll for registering more Berkshires in one year than any breeder in Oklahoma. His big year came in 1953, however, when Monroe showed one of his Berkshire barrows to grand champion of the Tulsa State Fair and another barrow to grand champion of the entire show at the American Royal. And at the national FFA convention in Kansas City he won the coveted honor of “Star Farmer of the South.”

Monroe Kottwitz now sells all of the barrows and breeding swine he produces to other FFA boys. He is only one of hundreds of Oklahoma FFA boys who have been successful in the show ring and have used their winnings as stepping stones to becoming firmly established in the business of farming. Oklahoma hogs have won swine shows from San Francisco to Austin, Minnesota.

In 1954, alone, Oklahoma FFA boys drove more than 12,000 head of hogs in local, county, district, state, and national shows. And whereas 20 years ago good hogs could be found in only a hand-full of FFA chapters, swine production now has spread to all sections of the state.

Some FFA chapters, naturally, have been more successful in the hog business than others. Some chapters have gone in and out of the hog business as the market went up and down. Others have defied the markets and stayed in through “thick and thin” and have managed to make money.

One such FFA chapter is Locust Grove, in northeastern Oklahoma. I wanted to find out why Locust Grove had been successful in the hog business.

W. A. “Andy” Hesser, the veteran vocational agriculture teacher, was perched atop one of the Locust Grove FFA property boxes in the swine barn at the Tulsa State Fair when I found him. He was talking hogs. Andy Hesser has been sitting on the same property boxes talking hogs to all who will listen to him for nearly 20 years. And before he had stopped talking on this particular day he had sold a Chester White boar for one of his boys to another FFA boy for $125. He sold more before the fair ended.

Since Hesser came to Locust Grove 19 years ago the Locust Grove Chapter has acquired a name as the place to find “the right kind” of breeding swine.

Hesser’s hog story really begins in 1937 when the vo-ag teacher bought three Hampshire barrows. After much persuasion, two of his FFA boys—Herman Sanford and Clifford Rucker—agreed to feed and show the barrows, the first any Locust Grove boys had ever shown. Luckily, all three barrows placed in the money at the shows that fall.

One of Herman Sanford’s barrows was grand champion at two state fairs and Hesser hauled the barrow to Kansas City in the back end of his car. Herman’s Hampshire placed champion of the FFA division, grand champion of the junior show, and reserve grand champion of the entire show at the American Royal.

Herman Sanford’s winning pig sparked the beginning of the hog program at Locust Grove. While in 1937 there wasn’t a registered hog to be found in the county, the Locust Grove community alone now produces some 200 head of registered breeding swine annually. Locust Grove FFA boys, in their first hog sale held this fall, offered 133 of their finest breeding swine and barrows for sale. Buyers came from every section of the state and from even outside the state.

Herman Sanford, the FFA boy who “started the whole thing” in 1937 with Monroe Kottwitz’s door was opened with a pig project his freshman year; he became Star Farmer of the South, top Berkshire breeder in Oklahoma.
his prize-winning show barrow, is a successful hog man in his own right today. He annually raises over 100 head of Chester Whites on his farm at Locust Grove. And Clifford Rucker, the other boy who showed one of the first barrows, has a younger brother, Wesley, who later showed 50 grand champion hogs for Locust Grove—a chapter record—and is now a successful Chester White breeder.

Hesser has always maintained that his FFA boys' breeding projects are more important than their show animals. Their show barrows are only advertising for their breeding stock at home. That's why 95 percent of the barrows Locust Grove boys have shown are from their own breeding.

The same is true of other FFA chapters in the state who have consistent winners in the show ring. Their blue ribbon barrows make customers for their breeding stock at home.

We still hadn't learned what had made Locust Grove a success in the hog business. I still wanted to know how they did it.

"Good management is the secret to raising hogs to make money," Hesser said. "Any FFA boy can feed hogs successfully if he likes hogs, is willing to work at the job and follow the rules." He points to his own FFA boys as proof.

Hesser, for years, has been 'breeding up' Locust Grove hogs by buying the best boars he could find to breed to his sows. He always buys a proven boar.

The object nowadays is to raise a meat-type hog which will be an economical feeder and ready for the market in from five to a half to six months. The meat-type hog will rustle for his feed better, have bigger litters, the sows are better nurser and, the pigs are bigger than lardy hogs.

Feeding is important. "FFA boys should use whatever grain they can raise on their home farms," Hesser says, "then supplement it with a high protein feed such as alfalfa leaf meal, soybean or linseed meal — adding a complete mineral and addition of animal protein factor."

Locust Grove boys feed their hogs on a special ration which they have mixed in large quantities. They feed a different ration for growing pigs, for fattening pigs, for brood sows, and for breeding boars. They make a profit on the rations they feed.

Controlling external and internal parasites is a must, Hesser believes. "You can't feed hogs unless you control parasites." The best way, he thinks, is to rotate pastures regularly and to worm pigs on a strict schedule.

"No hog can live and do well with worms. It will take from 750 to 1000 pounds of feed to put on 100 pounds of gain on a wormy pig," according to Hesser. "In order to make a profit the hog feeder must put 100 pounds of gain on with not more than 350 to 450 pounds of feed."

The cheapest gain is made on small pigs. It is more important that you give close attention to how you feed nursing and weaning-age pigs. If they don't start right, they won't end right.

Pasture is also important: hogs must have both spring and fall pasture. Locust Grove boys run their hogs on oats, ryegrass, lespedeza, fescue and vetch. A good pasture program can cut feed costs ten percent, and since feed is 80 percent of the cost of the hog, that is a big saving. Besides, pasture is a must to turn out the firm kind of pig which makes the most profit on the market and will win in the show ring.

Locust Grove boys try to vaccinate their pigs for cholera when they are six to 12 weeks of age. They spray with chlorodane and DD1 for external parasites every two weeks. They worm their pigs when they are ten to 12 weeks old.

Saving pigs which are farrowed is important to making a profit in the hog business. Hesser points out. Locust Grove FFA boys average saving eight or more pigs in each litter, while the national average is only four and a half pigs saved per litter.

The FFA boy who wants to be a success at raising hogs must have the facilities to handle them. He must not over-stock. "If he gets too many sows on his place he can't feed them properly, can't manage them or save their pigs," Hesser maintains.

Sows should be bred to farrow their pigs in the spring and fall because the weather is most ideal then. Sows should farrow in August and September or February and March. Too, the pigs will be ready to market in the peak spring and fall months. (Ideal time for farrowing might change in different regions of the country.)

In order to stay in business, the FFA boy must get two litters a year from his sows. Hesser doesn't believe a farmer can be successful at raising hogs if he gets in and out of the business every time the market goes up or down. "Most folks who try it find they are always getting in at the wrong time and getting out at the wrong time. Almost without exception, they will be out when they should be in," he says.

Hesser recommends, when the market is on a low ebb, that hog raisers cut down on the number of sows they keep, Cull the herd. Keep the best sows. When the market starts to strengthen, start increasing the number of sows and boars.

There's not much reason, if any, why FFA boys can't make money raising hogs, Hesser believes.

One thing for sure: they are staying in the hog business at Locust Grove!

Andy Hesser, Locust Grove vocational agriculture teacher for 19 years, as he talks with Willard Wolf about one of his Chester White Barrow winners.

This Berkshire barrow, declared grand champion of the American Royal in 1953, was the second champ in two weeks for Monroe—the other at Tulsa.

Wesley Rucker, one of the most successful hog breeders of Locust Grove, has shown 50 grand champions. In 1937 his older brother fed out one of the first.
The soil in your corn fields has a big job in late July and August. To make 100-bushel-per-acre yields, corn needs about 4 pounds of nitrogen per acre per day from the time of silking until the ears are well filled out and ripening. Out of its total needs of 140 to 150 pounds of nitrogen for the season, an acre of corn consumes some 130 pounds of nitrogen in this peak period of growth.

Of course nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and other nutrients are needed right from the start of growth. Planting-time fertilizer is well spent to supply this. But corn that fires and shows nitrogen hunger late in summer is all too common. That’s why successful growers who get consistently high yields are consistent users of plenty of nitrogen fertilizer.

The fact that corn needs lots of nitrogen late in life is a big reason for the growing popularity of nitrogen side-dressing at cultivation. But that’s not the only way to do the job. Modern forms of nitrogen are adapted to feeding your corn and other crops throughout the summer even when put on the previous fall, as well as in spring and summer.

Nitrogen Division, long-time leading supplier of nitrogen to the fertilizer industry, supplies many forms of long-lasting nitrogen, quick-acting nitrogen, and combinations with both these qualities. You can get nitrogen to spread dry, nitrogen to spray or inject in the soil, nitrogen to dissolve in irrigation water, or even to spray on foliage.

Yes, today you can get modern fertilizers to supply nitrogen to fit every practical method of farming... nitrogen at low cost per pound, easier and faster to spread... for bigger yields at lower cost per bushel. Use plenty of nitrogen in ’55 to keep farm profits alive!
As an experiment, half the 320 tons of hay put in this barn in 1953 was chopped, half baled, but the cows wasted more of the baled this winter. They also eat more when Joe and his father sprinkle salt water on it. "We like this barn best for labor it saves us," they say, and it frees them from worry about bad weather (they dry hay inside after a few hours of field curing) and they get hay with more leaves and higher protein content. Cows push the self-feeding mangers in from both ends of barn.

Joe Kargel looks at the 42-inch fan and 10-horsepower motor at the side of the barn. The fan blows drying, cooling air into an air chamber in the middle of the barn, and tunnels in center of both ends of barn carry this air to all the hay in the barn. Tunnel sections are removed as cows eat their way into the hay.

Joe folds up gate which controls flow of air in tunnel. Gate can be locked in any of tunnel's arches, making it possible to dry hay at any spot in barn. Lateral ducts on floor (opening at lower right) carry air to sides of barn and are spaced to insure complete circulation through all the hay stored in barn.
Even the farmstead arrangement is efficient on the Kargel farm. The house is convenient but not too close to other buildings. Everything is built on a knoll with good drainage, and barns are located to give livestock the most protection from winds. There are 55 acres of pasture and hay-grain-corn rotation is used on the rest, with grain following three years of alfalfa.

A new way to handle hay revolutionized this Minnesota farm. Any ideas here you can use?

If you're looking for little labor and lots of efficiency on a dairy farm, visit Joe Kargel and his father at Lake Elmo, Minnesota. They farm 250 acres, milk 28 cows, have no hired help and plan to increase their milking herd to 75 cows by the end of next year. The buildings and cows do most of the work on this farm and Joe and his father do the planning. You get your first idea of how efficient the operation is when you look at their Quonset 40 by 100 hay drying and storage barn, with self-feeding mangers at each end and the cows feeding themselves. Alongside this is a Quonset 32 by 132 loose-housing barn where the cows find shelter when they're not eating. It's only a few steps from one end of this barn to a Quonset 20 by 156. The closest end of this is a holding area leading to a big 8-cow pit milking parlor with feed bins overhead and a milk house at one side. An 8-foot vestibule separates all this from a calf barn and lets the cows out of the milking parlor. And it all started because the Kargels wanted a better way to handle hay.

Two men put a cow a minute through this 8-cow milking parlor. Dial settings on feed chutes give each cow the right amount of feed in bowl, there's hot and cold water in each pit, the men raise and lower gates at a touch and sloping concrete walls on stalls give cows minimum foot room, makes them all stand still.

These cans will be replaced by a bulk cooler just as soon as a bulk route is established in the Kargel neighborhood. Two big windows at Joe's left give complete view of the milking parlor. Joe's oldest son (he has four) is only 12, but the work is so easy in this milking parlor that he frequently mans one pit.
As others see us is not always a pleasant thought . . . but you'll take pride in this, the exception to the rule. You'll want to share the ideals of the FFA with the youth of other lands when you read below the statements made about you by agricultural representatives from foreign lands who attended the 27th National FFA Convention.

"I would like to bring the ideals and the methods of FFA back to my own country in organizing our rural youth."—Huany Chen-Chin, Teacher, Vocational School of Agriculture, Chia-yi, Formosa, Free China.

"The things which impressed me most . . . the FFA Convention was totally in the hands of the delegates. . . ."—Abolhasson Goodarzi, Teacher, Agricultural College, Tehran, Iran.

"I greatly admire the vigorousness and activeness of your youth . . . the delegates of FFA conducted meetings with a complete parliamentary procedure. . . ."—Lo Mei-Kuang, Teacher, Vocational School of Agriculture, Chia-yi, Formosa, Free China.

"I liked very much . . . the great cooperation that everybody wants to give to the FFA Foundation. . . ."—Carlos Salinas, Supervisor, Agricultural Education of Rural Schools, La Paz, Bolivia.

"In Germany we have no friendly connection between agriculture and industry. . . ."—Herbert E. A. Kubisch, Social Worker in Agriculture, Hanover, Germany.

"I was deeply impressed and thrilled at how the FFA boys behaved and deliberated during the entire convention. . . ."—Miguel Ramos Ocampo, Superintendent, Masbate National Agricultural School, Masbate, Philippines.

"Besides the great solemnity of the whole convention, I was very much impressed by . . . the public speech contest . . . the presentation of the Star American Farmers . . . the presentation of the donors to the FFA. . . ."—Oscar Miranda, Director, Vocational Agricultural School, Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

"It is unusual for me to observe that a young Future Farmer was presiding over the Chief of Agricultural Education for the United States . . . It is important for me to note that the people engaged in agriculture in U. S. A. receive a high respect from every member in the society."—Ali M. Izadi, Teacher of Agriculture, Shiraz, Iran.

"I cannot help but shed tears during that joyous moment when the parents and a wife of one of the boys were called on the stage to receive and share the honors they deserved in making the Star Farmers of America."—Domingo C. Gaberton, Principal, Agricultural High School, Manila, Philippines.

"When boys' parents were honored. . . . I was easily moved to tears . . . It was my greatest acquirement to be able to find that Americans thought spiritual lives more important than materialistic lives."—Lin Chin-Kui, Teacher, Agricultural Vocational School, Ilan, Formosa, Free China.

"What impressed me and touched me most was the presentation of the parents of those National Officers to the public with due recognition . . . Love in the family, bonded by strong family ties, makes a strong nation . . . The unselfish devotion of the authorities to the cause of the FFA can be felt by any observer . . . The full support of the public and businessmen is commendable. That is what makes the FFA the greatest youth organization in the world."—Napoleon D. Dignadice, Supervisor, Vocational Education Department of Education, Bureau of Public Schools, Manila, Philippines.

The National Association received a new rostrum from the Rocky Gap, Virginia, Chapter. The chapter members constructed the gift using 240 pieces of wood from 38 species of woods native to the state. The number is significant in that each piece of wood represents an FFA organization in the state: 208 local chapters, one collegiate chapter, and 31 federations. Above, David Boyne, Virginia State FFA President David Miller, and Rocky Gap Advisor Bruce Robertson observe points of interest about the rostrum.
Top National Foundation Awards go to Donald Sanford, Jr., Jasper, Alabama, Farm Electrification; Raymond DeHart, Rocky Gap, Virginia, Farm Mechanics; Wilbur Lawrence, Ashland, Virginia, Soil and Water Management; and Warren Durham, Fort Pierce, Florida, Chapter Safety Award.

UPPER RIGHT:
Dennis O'Keefe, Westerville, Ohio, as he speaks on "What Have We Done," the achievements of FFA. He won the national contest, and a $250 award.

CENTER RIGHT:
Star singer Pattie Page, in town for the American Royal, accepts help from David Boyne with jacket she wore in Royal parade sparked by FFA band.

LOWER RIGHT:
Star Farmer of America Burd Schantz participates with other Future Farmers in the American Royal parade enjoyed during the Kansas City convention.

BELOW:
A Florida amateur contestant entertains for the benefit of the more than 9,500 persons who registered October 11-14.
Meet Your NATIONAL OFFICERS


National student secretary PHILIP BROUILLETTE... Star State Farmer 1952... from Richford, Vermont... accompanied Gunter to England, 1953... last year was state association president... father has a dry goods retail store, so Philip has most of the responsibility for the 600-acre dairy farm, 100 head of dairy cattle, maple orchard.

• • •

BILLY GUNTER... national 1954-55 president, FFA... 20 year old... from the Sunshine State... Florida State Association vice president, 52-53... one of two members the organization sent to England last year as exchange student with Young Farmers Clubs of Great Britain... now a junior in agriculture education at University of Florida... in partnership with parents on 120-acre farm primarily devoted to dairy production, featuring a herd of 35 Guernsey cattle, a few beef cattle, and a flock of layers.

• • •

Vice president for Central Region LOWELL GISSELBECK... Watertown, South Dakota... married... wife accompanied him to Kansas City for convention... farms on 1,100 acres owned by him and his family... he has 11 dairy cattle, 39 beef cattle, 14 hogs, 400 chickens, 160 acres of grain and hay... South Dakota Association president.

• • •

JAY WRIGHT... national vice president, Pacific Region... current winner of Pacific Region Star Farmer award... in one-third partnership with father and older brother in a Nevada ranch totaling about 500 acres, runs about 580 head of beef cattle annually... from Alamo, Nevada... about 150 acres of ranch is under irrigation and cultivation... past state FFA president... won Pacific regional FFA Soil and Water Management award, 1952... currently treasurer of the State Young Farmers' Association... active in Farm Bureau work.

• • •

From Holland Patent, New York... national vice president for North Atlantic Region... CHARLES ANKEN... 19... past state association president... now operates a rented 120-acre farm, raises grain, other feed crops... has 34 head of Holstein dairy cattle... helps with 255 acres his father farms... active in local Grange... a director of the Oneida County Artificial Breeder's Cooperative... teaches Sunday School... in high school was president of sophomore, junior, and senior classes.

• • •

BOBBY FUTRELLE... Southern Region vice president... from Mount Olive, North Carolina... now a student at North Carolina State College... studying agriculture... past president of state association... superintendent of Sunday School two years... president of all four high school classes... salutatorian in high school... keeps five brood sows and feeds out pigs with corn grown on farms... on two farms operated by family, crops are tobacco, truck crops, pastures.
NEW DODGE "Job-Rated" TRUCKS

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A better deal for the man at the wheel

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New easy-chair seats, big one-piece windshield, more vision area than any leading make. New cab sealing against dust, drafts. New two-tone interior styling.

A BETTER DEAL IN STEERING EASE!

New steering system gives top maneuverability on or off the road. And Dodge continues to offer shorter turning than any other comparable trucks.

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Pick-up floors as low as 23 1/2 inches from the ground... to give greater loading ease. Lower running board for easier entry. Lower hood for added visibility.

A BETTER DEAL WITH POWER-DOME V-8's!

Great new 145-hp, Power-Dome V-8's make Dodge 1 1/2-, 3/4-, and 1-ton models the world's most powerful low-tonnage trucks! Power-Dome V-8's are also available in 1 1/2- through 3 1/2-ton models!

TESTS PROVE POWER-DOME PERFORMANCE! Under AAA-supervision, a Dodge pick-up with Power-Dome V-8 averaged over 22 miles to the gallon in a 714-mile economy run... climbed Pikes Peak in 20 minutes, 46.8 seconds. Proof of unequalled power-with-economy! Another Dodge pick-up went 50,000 miles in 50 days without repairs to prove Dodge trucks' rugged construction! See your dependable Dodge truck dealer today!

DODGE "Job-Rated" TRUCKS A PRODUCT OF CHRYSLER CORPORATION
PUBLIC SPEAKING contests can be fun. Maybe you're saying “Not for me. My knees knock so loudly when I get up in front of a group that I can hardly hear my own quaking voice!”

Have you heard of Demosthenes? That poor fellow stuttered like crazy, but it didn’t keep him from becoming a great orator of ancient Greece. He practiced hour after hour with pebbles in his mouth to overcome his hated stuttering.

Choosing a Subject

Start thinking today about a subject for your FFA speech. Remember, it has to be an agricultural subject. (By the way, read through the rules for the National FFA Public Speaking Contest. You will get valuable clues on what things the judges are looking and listening for.)

In picking your subject, choose something you are interested in. You can’t interest other people if the subject bores you. Choose something you are already familiar with and which you can learn more about. Jon Greinemann won the number one spot at the 24th National FFA Convention with his “I Caused an Accident” speech. Jon knew what he was talking about when he urged his listeners to put safety first.

Deciding on a Title

Finding a title for your speech won’t be as hard as you might think once you’ve decided on your subject. You can have a simple title that tells just what you are going to talk about. Herbert McFetridge used the title “Farm Price Supports” for his first-prize winner in 1950.

If you want to keep your audience guessing a little while, try using a mysterious-sounding title. For example Philip Anderson called his speech on cotton “The Benevolent Monster” and Philip walked off with the first prize. Titles may also be selected because the words just sound good together, like “Green Gold,” another prize winner.

Planning Your Speech

No matter how good your subject and how clever your title, you won’t win unless your speech itself is good. Organize it carefully so that one point follows another logically. Don’t jump from one fact to another, tie it all into a neat package.

If you have learned how to outline in English class, you’ll find it a big help in preparing your speech. Spend some time in your school library if you need material for your speech. Ask your teachers. Your federal and state governmental agencies will supply you with fine material on many subjects. Write to businessmen and companies who might have information you need. You will be surprised to see how eager people are to lend a hand.

Giving the Speech

When the moment comes to get up and give your speech you will probably wish you were out in the corn field somewhere instead of facing an audience. Ask any good speaker if he didn’t have the same feeling on his first speech, and he will probably tell you that he had it on his 100th speech too!

Being a little scared is part of good public speaking. It keeps you alert: it makes you seem enthusiastic to your audience. If you were perfectly calm you would probably sound bored . . . and if you seem bored the chances are strong that your audience is already asleep!

Another tip—the look on your face can make or break your speech. Don’t grin when the subject is serious. And a joke may fall flat if you give it the poker-face treatment. A smile in the right place helps.

Keep your audience’s attention. That doesn’t mean you have to jump around or wave your arms. You don’t want them to pay attention to your body; it is what you are saying that is important. Use your hands to emphasize points occasionally, but use them naturally, the way you would in talking to the fellows.

Practice your speech until it is really a part of you. Go over and over it. Make the family listen; tell them you want their criticism and don’t get hurt when they give it. You may feel silly doing it, but try giving your speech to the cows or your dog. The idea is to get used to hearing your voice giving your speech. The more practice you have, the more relaxed you are going to be on the big day.

Public speakers aren’t born you know. They are made. You can make yourself into a good public speaker—and today is a good day to begin.

WIN with words

By M. E. White
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Best news of all, the Super 88 makes all these advancements in tractor design available at a competitive market price.

The new 88 is one of the Oliver Super tractors—models 55, 66, 77, 88 and 99—developed to offer a standout value in each of five power classes.

The Oliver Corporation, 400 West Madison Street, Chicago 6, Illinois.
Chickens Came First

Phil Alampi—American Farmer, College Graduate, Vo-Ag Teacher, Commercial Poultry Farm Owner, Radio-TV Farm Director—and laying hens have helped him all the way.

By Jeanne Roberts

MARY’S LAMB followed her to school one day, but Phil Alampi’s chickens went with him. He took 150 hens to Rutgers University—to “lay his way through college,” and this they did. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture, just four years after he had received the American Farmer degree at the second national FFA Convention in Kansas City in 1929. And most of the financial support came from the eggs laid by the flock of chickens. Phil was one of the first Future Farmers of America, and now he’s one of the “first” men in radio and TV farm broadcasting, with three shows: Farm News, Home Gardener, and Home Handyman.

Phil Alampi took the vo-ag course at Glassboro, New Jersey. High and was very active in the FFA organization. Not only was he a live wire in his local chapter, but he was also made a member of the New Jersey State FFA executive Committee. He served as the New Jersey delegate to the National Convention and carried a full program of vo-ag projects.

As a result of his good work in the FFA, he was awarded the New Jersey State Farmer degree, and later the same year walked off with the American Farmer degree, having poultry and vegetables as his main projects. His two “kid” brothers later followed in his foot-steps, making three American Farmer degree winners in one family.

In 1930, Phil packed up the poultry flock he’d developed in his “spare” time and took it off to Rutgers University to pay his way. He kept it in a 24x24 laying house at the college farm. The poultry house was part of a scholarship he received; he fed and took care of his flock before breakfast and at night. While completing requirements for his degree he found time for such extra-curricular activities as the apple, dairy, and poultry judging teams, track cross-country, basketball, and boxing teams, and he served as vice president of the Rutgers Ag Club. He was a member of Alpha Zeta fraternity, and won a Phi Beta Kappa Key, besides. After graduation from the College of Agriculture, he spent a year investigating the poultry market practices in New York City for the government. Following the successful completion of this job, he taught agriculture at Woodstown High School for 10½ years. During this time he received his Master of Education degree in shopwork and was elected to the Phi Delta Kappa fraternity.

Phil bought and developed the Alampi Poultry Breeding Farm at Williamstown, New Jersey, in 1935. Times were tough, but Phil combined his “book learnin’” with his practical experience to build up an outstanding poultry breeding program. His 150 hens from school were part of the founding flock of his 5,000 breeding birds which now produce hatching eggs for a hatchery on a year-round basis. Although his brother now manages the farm for him, Phil still takes an active part in the farm work, since it helps out with the program material for his radio and television broadcasts. He uses the farm as a testing ground for his sponsors’ products, and it helps him, too, to keep a very real contact with the farm market, and with farmers.

You have only to listen to him any morning Monday through Saturday, between 6:00 and 6:30 a.m. on Station WNBC-WNBT to know why he’s running what the New Jersey State Fair Committee calls “The Most Outstanding Farm Program on the Air,” when they awarded his Farm News the blue ribbon for the years from 1947 through 1953. He also received recognition as having “The Most Outstanding Gardening Radio Program on the Air” for 1949-1953, and “The Most Outstanding Gardening TV Program on the Air” for 1950-1953. His wife and three sons joined him in the celebration of his “anniversary” show this year, commemorating his 2,500th farm broadcasting program on two networks.

This is a success story, certainly. And it started when an FFA American Farmer decided that his chapter project could “follow him to school one day,” and pay his way through college.
Pardon... but are Your Hazards Showing?

Twenty-four Future Farmers from five states joined forces—or records—and almost stole the show from adult delegates to the National Safety Congress in Chicago this year. They participated in a new type safety program for rural young people in those states, and reported that they had discovered and removed hazards including 6,000 protruding nails, 5,000 improperly stored tools, 1,200 poor electrical connections, 600 broken floors, and 300 smashed windows and bottles.

This accident-prevention idea is called the Community Improvement Project (CIP) and was begun by the Farm Bureau Insurance Companies in Ohio six years ago, and now is co-sponsored by the insurance companies and FFA state organizations participating. The team which collects the most points during a number of safety inspections in each state wins the trip to Chicago. Judging of the teams is carried out at the annual state association conventions.

Five man Future Farmer teams from the following chapters together with their advisors made the trip to Chicago, all expenses paid by the insurance companies: Ripley, West Virginia; Hinesburg, Vermont; Madison-Guilford, Connecticut; Fort Recovery, Ohio, and Commodore, Pennsylvania.

Chapters interested should contact their state FFA advisors, or the Safety Department, Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, 246 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

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Foundation Boosts NFA Work

Cash awards of more than $13,000, provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Incorporated, were awarded to Negro boys from as many as ten states at the national convention of New Farmers of America held in Atlanta, Georgia, September 27-October 1. A total of 11,322 members participated in the Farm Mechanics, Dairy Farming, Soil and Water Management, Farm and Home Improvement, and Farm Electrification Foundation Awards.

The New Farmers of America, now 20 years old, is showing progress and increased interest in their farming programs and participation in Foundation Awards. They now number 38,000 members in their 979 local chapters throughout 17 southern states.

Among the winners of awards made at the national convention were K. H. Malone, Jr., of Huntsville, Texas, and Cicero Moore, of Tuskegee, Alabama, who won top awards of the organization. Malone, winner of the Star Superior Farmer Award of $225, operates a dairy business that netted him $4,412 last year. He and his wife have just purchased 180 additional acres for enlargement. His dairy business was started

Cicero Moore, Alabama NFA farmer, won coveted H. O. Sargent Award as his supervised farming program while studying vocational agriculture.

Moore won the H. O. Sargent Award of $250, an award made annually to the most successful Negro farmer who is a former student of vocational agriculture and who has not been out of school for more than ten years. He started his farm program as a father-son partnership, before entering the U. S. Army for three years, with 135 acres of cotton, corn, peanuts, and truck garden; 1,200 broilers; 36 head of swine; and 32 beef cattle. During the past six years he and his wife have reduced the mortgage on their $29,360 farm to $6,000, remodeled the farm house, screened and painted the house inside and out, installed running water, wired the house for lights, landscaped the yard, rebuilt the barn, constructed a broiler house, a laying house, and two farrowing houses, fenced the farm, and made numerous other improvements in his farming program.

The FFA Foundation, Incorporated, was organized in 1944, and is supported by contributions from individuals, organizations, business and industrial concerns. The Sponsoring Committee, headed this year by W. A. Roberts, president of the Allis-Chalmers Corporation, is made up of representatives from the nation’s top business and industrial firms who contribute to the fund from which awards are made to the Future Farmers of America and to the New Farmers of America through an organized program. It is through this program that the Foundation provides a reward program for outstanding work of farm boys while strengthening the ties between industry and agriculture.
Polio Prevention Possible

Your younger brothers and sisters, as well as the next generation, may feel as free of the dread disease polio as this age feels comparatively free from worry about smallpox! The results of a medical evaluation will be known this spring, and there is a possibility that youngsters will be taking vaccinations against polio before entering school just as that smallpox vaccination is required now before the memorable first day at the beginning of school.

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has been conducting throughout selected areas in 44 states field trials of the Salk Polio vaccine. One million eight hundred thirty thousand children in the first three grades of schools have participated in these groups, either taking the vaccine and being observed, or not taking it and being observed. Now work is going on to determine the effectiveness of these trials, and if a label “successful” is the outcome, and the vaccine is licensed next spring by the Laboratory of Biologics Control of the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D. C., the Foundation will lose no time in putting the control factor into work. To provide for that possibility, they will purchase enough of the vaccine to provide for 9,000,000 vaccinations of three shots each, to be offered to all children in the field trials who served as the control group, but who did not receive vaccine. It will also be available to pregnant women and to the nation’s children who will be in the first grade of school next spring. Thus, if the vaccine is licensed, the most susceptible groups in the population will have protection before the next polio season, and work will be begun to insure control for the whole population, eventually, to wipe out one of those dreaded “uncontrollable” diseases.

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MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN
Samuel Adrian Baugh was born March 17, 1914, in Temple, Texas. He played High School football at Sweetwater, Texas, and went on from there to become a brilliant All America passing star at Texas Christian University at Fort Worth, Texas.

Sammy Baugh retired from football in December, 1952. Today he lives on his 6-section Twin Mountain Ranch with his wife and four children, near Rotan, Texas, where he raises registered Hereford cattle. Although he was born and reared in the city, so to speak, old timers will tell you Sammy always wanted a ranch, and one of the reasons he started playing professional football was so he could have it.

It is estimated that during his career, “Slinging Sam” made almost a quarter of a million dollars playing football. As he puts it, “Half of it went to taxes, and half went to Texas.” And that part that went to Texas went into one of the best Hereford ranches in that part of the State.

Recently Samuel Adrian Baugh was elected to the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. He richly deserved it, for he has done for football what Babe Ruth did for baseball.
Square Dance On Wheels

"Circle to the left and canter to the right, sway your sweetly gently and make a purty sight" is just one of the many square dance calls which has taken on a new meaning at California State Polytechnic College in San Luis Obispo, California.

Taking the idea from International Harvester, the California students, Don Bunce, a sophomore from Napa and a past FFA member; Richard Genger, a senior from Ontario; Richard Thompson, a sophomore from Whittier; and Dick Avard, a sophomore from Alhambra, introduced the dance last April at a school festivity, and performed so well that among other invitations they were invited to put on their show at the recent California Farm Bureau Federation convention in Long Beach.

The dance, requiring four Super C Farmall tractors which were supplied by International Harvester, is maneuvered in regular square dance style with even a caller and records of hoedown music. Turning in a tight circle, swinging back to the center and touching tool-bars ever gently, the dance was a tremendous crowd-pleaser.

The key to the dance is a hitching device for rapid-fire maneuvers allowing implements, used as partners, to be picked up with touch control. The partner might be a disc, a cultivator, or a planter—any kind of a farm implement which can be maneuvered by the hitch.

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What a Leading Educator Thinks About the FFA

"If other countries could have the privilege of an organization such as yours, it would surely help revolutionize their countries, economically, socially, politically, and morally."

"I suppose that if a visitor were to come from abroad and see you in school and at work with your projects he would be most impressed by your gaining scientific knowledge and applying that knowledge at an early age to the operations of the farm.

"But while a foreign visitor seeing your work for the first time would be thus impressed, I myself do not believe that the acquisition and application of technical knowledge, important as that is, is truly the most vital aspect of the FFA program.

"In your work together you learn the essential democratic lessons of leadership, followership, cooperation, decision making, independence, and group responsibility. All of these qualities are essential to the maintenance of one of the most precious conditions of life, namely, human liberty. For, in our free society, we put our faith in the judgment of all the people; what you as an individual think, what judgments you make, help determine the future not only of yourself but of all your comrades and of the nation itself.

"One of the reasons I have great faith in the ability of America to meet its modern problems is that we have such organizations as yours teaching the lessons not only of technical efficiency, but of human dignity, and of democratic decision making, cooperation, and individual responsibility."

Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, President of Penn State University, being presented the honorary Keystone Farmer Degree by Jerry L. Fuhrman, State FFA President. Dr. Eisenhower is a brother of President Eisenhower.
Blue Ribbon Winner

By L. I. Samuel

Arvill Newby gets support of Mom and Dad while preparing a Jersey cow for the Texas Junior Dairy Show where he showed the prize winning Jersey herd.

STAR LONE STAR farmer Arvill Newby is on the road to being one of the best dairymen in the state. From his meager beginning in 1949, when he bought one registered Jersey heifer, his herd has grown until now he has 17 registered cows and heifers, and three registered Jersey bulls.

Arvill is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Newby, who are dairy farmers in the south central part of Wise County, Texas. He and his dad use the same Grade-A barn and sell their milk together, since the State Health Department requires that milk coming from the same barn cannot be sold separately.

There's no chance of mixed records, however, with the Dairy Herd Improvement records they keep. The senior member of the partnership usually milks 25 cows, all Jerseys, while Arvill has eight in the barn now. The Star Farmer still has his first Jersey in the herd, Sparkling Tejas Dorinda, now an aged cow called Tejas. She was second in the Texas Junior Jersey Production Contest this year, with a record of 609 pounds of butterfat in 305 days on a twice-a-day milking.

The show ring is where Arvill has really excelled. He has been showing Jerseys at various livestock shows such as the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth, the State Fair of Texas at Dallas, the Heart of Texas Jersey Show at Stephenville, and many county shows, since 1948, when a family tragedy caused him to enter the show ring for the first time. His brother was killed at the age of 16, and Arvill went in to show his brother's awarded registered heifer which he fitted and had planned to show. Arvill carried on his brother's plans and showed the heifer for three years. Since then, he's won on his own a total of 38 champion ribbons, 157 blue ribbons, three plaques, six banners, and about 160 other place ribbons as well as 13 showmanship awards and best-fitted awards.

Arvill has been given only one heifer.
He received her in the spring of 1951 from the Springtown Dairy Improvement Association. He turned back her first heifer call to the association. He has bought six other animals, and raised the rest. He says some people think he paid too much for his foundation stock, but Arvill figures that their records in the show ring and in the barn have convinced him that you have to pay for good stock.

"I've financed my program several ways," he says, "My dad has loaned me money several times, and I've bor-rowed from the bank at Weatherford to increase my program."

He figures his net worth now at slightly over $7,470. An American Jersey Cattle Club representative has classified Arvill's herd twice—in 1952 and in 1953. The 1953 score was 86.67, the "very good" bracket. In 1953 his DHIA herd average was 535 pounds of butterfat and slightly over 10,000 pounds of milk in 305 days. His cattle were appraised by the Wise County Farmers Home Administration supervisor, a director of the Texas Jersey Cattle Club, who valued the herd at $8,270.

Besides dairying, Arvill has other interests in his supervised farming program. He raises hogs, peanuts, watermelons, corn, and grain sorghums, sudan, and vetch for hay, and is in partnership with his dad on a lot of equipment on the farm. In addition, he rents 43 acres of land used to raise feed for his cows.

Leadership activities haven't suffered because of all the other activities. He held nearly every office in the Springtown FFA Chapter before graduation, and in 1953-54 he was Area V (in Texas) president as well as chapter and Arlington District FFA president. In school he has been active in basketball, softball, baseball, and track. Now he attends Texas A & M College, where he majors in—can you guess—dairy husbandry!

**CAN YOU TOP THIS?**

Peter Funderburg, member of the Pell City FFA Chapter of Pell City, Alabama, planted 22 acres of DPL 12 variety cotton, and picked 20 bales, averaging 500 pounds each, in the drought stricken area of Alabama. His total expenses were $1,094.20, and his gross income was $3,960.00 with a net profit of $2,865.80.
It's an Idea

FFA members of the North Atlantic Region and their friends sent a flood of congratulatory telegrams to Frank Atwood, farm program director of Radio Station WTIC, Hartford, Connecticut, when he received the Honorary American Farmer degree. Mr. Atwood is pictured here in the convention press room as he read some of the telegrams.

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Making Trees PAY
By Bill Prince

A KENTUCKY farmer was offered $7,000 for 310 trees, but did not sell. With the help of a forester he marked the trees that were ready to sell, asked for bids, and received $12,600 for 199 trees!

There has never been a more favorable time to make a farm wood lot pay. Timber is scarce almost everywhere on earth, and while the United States uses more than half the lumber, half the paper, and two-fifths of the wood products produced in the world—it has less than a tenth of the forest area.

The U. S. Forest Service says that saw timber is being cut at twice the rate of replacement. And the farmers, who own more than a third of our forests, produce less than one-seventh of our saw timber!

At least half of the farmers in this country have sizable wood lots, and even a small income from these could mean the difference between profit and loss for some farmers. Actually, timber conservation on the farm has come to be a matter of economic necessity, for no good farmer can afford to pay taxes on land that is not productive.

There is no mystery about developing a wood lot to where it will add to the farm income. It is no more difficult than pasture management. Yet for many years growing trees has been considered outside the basic practice of agriculture by the man who matters most—the farmer. The first person to benefit from a well-managed woodland is the owner. The timber it yields will put cash in his pocket. It will save his land from erosion and conserve the water he uses. It will bring him profits from areas that might otherwise be considered of little value.

Once started, a forest will probably grow by itself. It will, however, grow faster and bring more profit if the owner helps it along. The goal in managing a farm wood lot is to have as many trees of the best quality possible. This means keeping the stand neither too thick nor too thin.

By all means seek the advice of a professional forester—usually available without charge—on the management of your wood lot area. You will need advice if you already have a forest, or if you want to plant trees.

Trees of a useful variety started on the right land will be sure to return a profit to the owner. But, in spite of this, trees should be planted only on land that is better suited to grow trees than anything else.

It has been said that timber is a farm savings bank to be drawn on in times of need.

“Timber is our legal tender,” says a farmer in Arkansas. “My forest is my bank,” says a farmer in North Carolina. “I go to it and get money. And it keeps right on coming.”

Take the case of this farmer. He had a cash offer of $2,000 for all the timber on his wood lot, and it was a real temptation. But he decided to sell only part of his timber, and for this part—that which he and a forester considered ready to cut—he received $1,105. Now he could have made $895 more by cutting all his trees.

He figured it this way: Interest on $895 in ten years is about $295. Yet if he left this timber, it would increase in value about $625. By keeping a good stand of trees untouched, he is keeping his capital and taking only the interest. And very good interest, too!
In Tennessee a farmer was offered $1,800 for the timber on his tract of woodland. He asked the advice of a forester before selling, and decided to do his own cutting and marketing. He cut $5,000 worth of timber from his wood lot, and left a fine stand of young trees "in the bank."

A farmer in Michigan owned a wood lot on which there was a small stand of oak. He had never considered it of much value until he was offered $800 for the timber in the tract. He decided to check further on the value of the trees. He later sold a part for $950, and at the same time put his wood lot into shape for better cutting in the future.

The value of timber on farms is becoming more widely recognized. Three of the largest insurance companies in the United States have a huge program of woodland loans. One company said it had $50 million to loan if it could find borrowers. Insurance investors have discovered that trees can be a cash crop, too.

In his book, Developing Farm Woodlands, J. F. Preston says "... the growing of wood as a farm crop, developing a good woodland, and its careful management will pay farmers who undertake the business."

In discussing reforestation, Mr. Preston says that while profit is not realized in cash immediately, "Actually the returns may come in the form of increased value of the whole farm before the new forest is large enough to produce."

Once more you are cautioned to seek the advice of a forester on your forest problems, but here are four very basic tips on making a farm wood lot pay.

1) Control fires to protect seedlings and other young trees. Cooperate with your neighbors to keep fires out of your woods.

2) Make improvement cuttings in young timber. Take out poor quality trees. Remember that some of the waste timber can be used for fuel, posts, or pulpwood.

3) Sell trees for their highest value. This is important. Check markets before cutting, and cut each tree for the product or purpose that gives the best return.

4) Log your own timber. A farmer would not think of selling potatoes in the ground or cotton on the stalk. Do your own woods work. Do it in the fall or winter when, perhaps, you and your machinery would otherwise be idle.

Remember that immediate cash income from your wood lot is unlikely—unless it is in exceptional shape. But with the proper management, it is like money in the bank—and you are the cashier! It will be there—probably when you need it most.

Christmas Trees For Sale—in 1960!

By Jacob Javornik

SOME CHAPTERS have money making projects of donkey baseball, Christmas card sales, sweet corn projects, magazine sales, or many other methods. No such short term projects for the Pine Township FFA Chapter in Indiana County, Pennsylvania! They're planning for the Future; they're planting Christmas trees to be ready in six to eight years!

Indiana County is widely noted for the production of Christmas trees, and the idea seemed to be a natural for the insurance of steady income for the chapter's treasury. Investigation proved that the idea was possible, and the boys set about to find out culture practices, availability of land, and finances. They discussed the project with the superintendent of the Pine Township Coal Company, and the program was put into effect immediately, since both the land and the trees were made available to the chapter through the coal company. A contract was drawn up so that trees would be planted each year by the boys. In seven years one third of the planted trees would belong to the chapter.

As a site for the project the boys were given an old abandoned farm which had not been cultivated for 20 years. Even so it was not necessary to do much clearing, and planting began in April when 11 acres were set out. Each year more acreage will be used until seven years from now when the contract will expire, there will be a total of 101 acres. In planting they used a distance of 6' x 6', which gives them approximately 1,200 trees per acre. For variety they selected the Red Pine and Scotch Pine, since they had been big sellers in the past. All the planting had been finished for the year by May 1, to be resumed again next year after the frost leaves the ground. The hand method, with mattock and regular hand planting tools, was used, and all 52 chapter members took an active interest in the starting of a new Christmas tree crop for the future!

Pine Township Chapter members and their advisor, Jacob Javornik, discuss culture practices of evergreen seedlings with Pine Flats nursery manager, John Nelson.
The SAP Made Money

By Kenneth Orne

OPERATION SUGARBUSH added up to new skills, fun, and profit for the Chester, Vermont, Chapter of Future Farmers.

One day a fellow brought up the idea of sugaring this spring. The very next day another fellow brought in word that his grandfather would turn over his sugarbush (or sugar orchard) to the vo-ag class. And in no time at all the whole gang was out at the maple grove listing what supplies to buy, what equipment to borrow, who'd do what job, and when.

The first big job was repairing the sugarhouse, as the roof had fallen in and the walls were out of line. Lumber was located, free of charge, along with some steel roofing; and weekends were spent in construction.

With that out of the way, seven fellows worked one Saturday to stack a woodpile. It was an all-day job with two fellows cutting down stubs with a cross-cut saw, one driving a horse which pulled logs down the hill, two with chain saws cutting logs into three-foot lengths, and two more splitting and piling wood.

The next operation moved back to the shop where the rusty equipment was tackled. First, the pans had to be cleaned of rust. Even with the help of hydrochloric acid and sandpaper, it took a lot of elbow grease to make the pans useable.

Then came the job of repairing leaks. Everyone had a turn at tinning a soldering copper, sweating on patches, and soldering holes. A total of 12 pounds of solder was used before the equipment was leakproof.

Along with the manual labor, some classroom study was necessary so everyone would know the process to follow in making maple syrup. The class learned that the trees were to be tapped about three feet from the ground. The tap-hole would be bored one to two inches deep with a 3/8-inch bit. A spout, driven into the hole, holds the sap bucket.

The wood immediately under the bark gives the sap, the largest amount coming from the ring made by the preceding year's growth. The group hoped to be ready for the first run, which produces sweet, transparent sap consisting of almost pure sucrose and water. Each succeeding run is less sweet and clear.

With three or four runs per season, the average net is about three pints of syrup to the tree—depending largely on weather conditions just as winter is breaking up. Vermont normally has ideal conditions for gathering sap: frosty nights and warm, thawing days.

So with excitement running high, the Chester vo-ag class assembled at the sugarbush the first of March. The weeks of work were about to pay off.

Since the grove was above the boiling house, the plan was to pipe the sap down. The boys laid two-inch pipe and then some half-inch pipe, with a dumping station every two or three rods. These dumping stations were nothing more than a bucket with a pipe soldered to the bottom to fit a tee in the main line. As sap was gathered, the bucket was moved along to the next tee. With four or five boys gathering at one time, all 700 buckets could be emptied in about two hours.

Boiling the sap, to evaporate the water, is a continuing process once it is started. So stoking the fire, stirring the syrup, removing scum, and testing for doneness was an all-day, all-night job. Crews were assigned to the various operations, with crews standing by to take over when the first crew needed rest.

The Chester Chapter can tell you that working a sugarbush is hard work from beginning to end. But 29 gallons of syrup was a rewarding sight. Stickers were made up for the cans, and the syrup sold like hot cakes.

Almost every boy who took part feels confident that he can operate his own sugarbush when and if the time arrives. The happy ending to Operation Sugarbush is a wealth of practical experience gained—and money in the bank.

HERE'S SOMETHING NEW on the maple syrup horizon, reported in a recent issue of Agricultural Research. This spring many maple syrup producers will be collecting sap in plastic bags instead of the time-honored wooden buckets. The semi-transparent bags have a special advantage—they permit the sun's ultra-violet rays to sterilize the sap and prevent its spoilage by microbial fermentation. Because of contamination by micro-organisms, maple sap often becomes discolored,ropy, or sour. But given sunlight and cool weather, the plastic collecting bags will keep the sap unspoiled. The yield, of course, is a better grade of syrup at a better price.
The Birth of the FFA Jacket

By Oran Nunemaker

How did your jacket come into being? A depression, a new chapter band, an enterprising chapter advisor, and an interested jacket manufacturer all had their part in the creation of the jacket which is now worn by thousands and recognized as an official symbol of a Future Farmer of America.

In 1933, general lack of money during the depression and the expense to both the state and national convention influenced W. A. Ross, national executive secretary, to accept the offer of J. H. Lintner, Advisor of Fredericktown, Ohio, for his chapter band of 30 members to play at the national convention. Previously only state bands had been invited to perform at the convention.

The boys were excited, of course, but they had no uniforms except summer ones consisting of trousers, shirt, and cap of blue cotton material with a yellow silk necktie. This was hardly appropriate for the nippy October weather of Kansas City, and the chapter advisor set about to right the situation.

Corduroy jackets were currently “the rage” for high school students at the time, and letters were sent by the chapter to Universal Uniform Company in Van Wert, Ohio, who might manufacture some distinctive jackets for an honored band which was to play at the national convention. Conferences began on whether or not the emblem might be embroidered on the back for identification, since the only one available for a pattern was the one engraved on the chapter charter. It was used as a model, however, and a pilot jacket made in the spring of 1933 pleased the members of the chapter. The eagle was not added to the official emblem until a year later, so the original jacket appeared with only the cross-section of the ear of corn, the owl, and the plow. National blue was not available from the manufacturer, and navy blue was used.

The popularity of the new jacket caused the chapter members to order them both for general wear and for FFA gatherings. An inquiry to Mr. Ross as to whether the jacket might be added to the official uniform led to the manufacturer sending a representative to the convention. After official action was taken a contract was made which justified ordering the cloth of the national blue.

By the time this action had been taken the eagle had been added to the emblem which not only increased the cost but presented the problem as to where the lettering which designates the chapter and state should be placed. Several experimental jackets were made with emblem in back and front... with the name under the emblem and the eagle included as part of the insignia... with the emblem too low... and with the emblem too high. When the jacket was finally adopted the name of the state appeared over the emblem, the chapter below. And as a result of the performance at the national convention by a local chapter band during depression years—a jacket was born!

You Can Strut, Too...

...when you join the blue jacket parade!

Wherever you go... to district meetings, state conventions, judging contests, livestock shows, or father-son banquets... Future Farmers are recognized by their distinctive blue jackets!

Almost as much as the emblem itself, the blue corduroy jacket is being thought of as symbolic of the FFA.

The striking uniformity, as well as the fine quality of the official FFA jackets, are due to the high standards required by your own national officers and board of directors.

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The First One Doesn't Have A Chance!

"And now, gentlemen," said the Senator, "I wish to tax your memory."

"Good heavens," muttered his colleague, "why haven't we thought of that before?"

Mildred Zimmerman
Jarrett, Virginia

"Does your wife ever pay you any compliments?"

"Only in the winter. When the fire gets low, she says, 'Alexander, the grate.'"

Lois Miller
Lost City, West Virginia

"Would you have a small shark in stock?" the customer asked the pet-store owner.

"A live shark?" gasped the man.

"What on earth do you want with one?"

"The neighbor's cat has been bothering my goldfish," she explained, "and I want to teach it a lesson."

Jim Roker
Norfolk, Nebraska

"Steady, boy—STEADY!!!!"

Son: "Pop will you help me find the common denominator in this problem?"

Pop: "Good Heavens, son, you mean they haven't found that thing yet—they were looking for it when I was a kid!"

Charles Houghton
Six Lakes, Michigan

He: "I guess you are pretty mad because I came home with this black eye last night."

She: "Not at all. When you came home last night, you didn't have that black eye!"

Milton Campbell
Jamestown, Alabama

Customer: "That chicken I bought yesterday had no wish-bone."

Butcher: "It was a happy and contented chicken, madam, and had nothing to wish for."

Lowell Wagner
Sabin, Minnesota

Angry lady: "If you were my husband I would feed you poison!"

Man in same state: "Madam, if I were your husband, I'd take it!"

Gerald Larson
Elkader, Iowa

A Texan heard that a factory in Ohio was in the market for bullfrog skins. He wired that he could supply up to 100,000 on demand. Needing the skins badly, the factory wired him to send the entire 100,000.

About 10 days later a single frog skin arrived with this letter: "Gents, I'm sorry about this, but here's all the frog skins there were. The noise sure fooled me."

Ruth Uren
Fairfax, Minnesota

YOU COULD NAME THE GREEN HAND

The Green Hand is to appear as a regular feature . . . but we don't have a name for the guy. Why don't you send us your suggestion? It might be chosen, and then you could tell your great grandchildren that you named The Green Hand.

We'll christen him in the next issue with the name getting the most votes. And if you really want your suggested name to win, here's a tip. Every subscriber's signature appearing on your letter counts a vote.

Just give him a first name only, if you prefer, and send it not later than FFA Week to The National FUTURE FARMER, Box 1180, Alexandria, Virginia.

???, THE GREEN HAND

STAMATY

"Well, I'm not wasting any."
JOHN DEERE
POWER STEERING

Makes Driving a Soft Touch

Until you experience the thrill of John Deere factory-engineered Power Steering at the wheel of a Model "50," "60," or "70" Tractor, you'll never realize what a tremendous difference this great new feature can mean to you in your farming operations.

Every time you take the wheel, tireless hydraulic muscles save you time and work. You'll marvel how easily the tractor handles—through deep sand or mud... in bedded or irrigated land... over rough ground... with heavy, front-mounted tools—in extreme as well as in average conditions. There's no feeling of strain or tenseness. You're relaxed and much more at ease even after long hours in the field. And, your wife, son, daughter, or an older member of the family can handle the tractor just as easily, just as surely as you, yourself.

Your John Deere dealer is eager to demonstrate Power Steering and the many other modern features of John Deere Tractors. See him soon.

John Deere Power Steering is an outstanding engineering achievement. It is an integral part of the tractor, not an attachment. A positive, gear-driven pump supplies hydraulic pressure—through a control valve—to actuate a steering vane which turns the front wheels at your command. The vane is enclosed in a cylinder, concealed between radiator and grille, and located close to the front wheels where the effort is needed. Factory-Engineered Power Steering for row-crop tractors is another John Deere "first," available as optional equipment at extra cost for John Deere Models "50," "60," and "70" Tractors.

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The new Allis-Chalmers ALL-CROP Drill... world's first quick-hitch, tractor-mounted drill... makes this a practical possibility on your farm!

Seed and fertilizer are accurately metered a new way... in twin bands side-by-side... faster... at uniform depth. Seedlings are side-nourished... protected from fertilizer burn.

You not only save costly seed but get stronger stands... quicker catches of grass and legumes with your grain.

Designed for many crops and uses, the low-cost ALL-CROP Drill fertilizes and plants grain, grass, and legume seed... all in one operation. Or, it can be used as a fertilizer spreader alone. With handy SNAP-COUPLE mounting and time-saving hydraulic lift, the ALL-CROP Drill matches the big acre capacity of its famous namesake, the ALL-CROP Harvester.

Now seeding dollars can yield more... a lot more! Your local Allis-Chalmers dealer can give you full information... or write us for free illustrated catalog.

Ingenious Allis-Chalmers Micro-Feed accurately meters the seed... spaces kernels evenly in the row... at faster speeds. Positive Force-Flo system drills or broadcasts fertilizer evenly.

ALL-CROP Drill attaches with SNAP-COUPLE to WD-45, WD or CA Tractors. Dotted line shows how new Torsion-Spring design maintains uniform seeding depth in uneven ground.

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