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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
STATE COLLEGE, NEW MEXICO

September 23, 1929

Mr. Henry C. Groseclose,
Blacksburg, Virginia

Dear Mr. Groseclose:

I am sending herewith an application for a state charter for a New Mexico Branch of the Future Farmers of America.

The men who signed this as president and secretary are teachers of vocational agriculture. Mr. H. M. Gardner, the State Adviser, is teacher trainer in agricultural education.

There are thriving local chapters at the eight places shown on the list of local chapters, and at the yearly meeting in December I believe the organization will metamorphose into a going, worth while students' affair. We are especially anxious to have a charter granted immediately, however, in order that our boys who attend the vocational contest in Kansas City in November may also act as New Mexico delegates to the national Future Farmer meeting. Thus, if there are any requirements that are not met by this application, I shall appreciate your writing at once, or telegraphing collect if such can be described in a telegram.

I shall appreciate information as to how these delegates are qualified to represent us at Kansas City.

Thanking you, I am

Very truly yours,
Frank E. Wimberly
Frank E. Wimberly,
State Supervisor
Agricultural Education

FEW:MMB

STATE DEPARTMENT OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
State College, New Mexico

SUGGESTED STATE CONSTITUTION

Future Farmers of New Mexico

Article I. Name and Purposes of the Organization.

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the New Mexico Association of "Future Farmers of America." Members of local chapters are hereinafter referred to as the "Future Farmers of America."

Section B. The purposes for which this organization is formed are as follows:

1. To promote vocational education in agriculture in the public schools of the State of New Mexico.
2. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of farming occupations.
3. To create and nurture a love of country life.
4. To encourage recreational and educational activities for students in vocational agriculture.
5. To promote thrift.
6. To encourage cooperative effort among students of vocational agriculture.
7. To strengthen the confidence of the farm boy to himself and his work.
8. To promote scholarship among students of vocational agriculture.
9. To develop rural leadership.

Article II. Organization.

Section A. The New Mexico Association of "Future Farmers of America" is a State organization of affiliated local chapters in schools having organized instruction in vocational agriculture under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Section B. Local "Future Farmer" chapters shall not be organized in schools where systematic instruction in vocational agriculture is not given under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Section C. Members of local chapters shall meet, organize, and adopt the State constitution as their own, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the State secretary for membership in the State organization. After this application has been approved by the State secretary the members of the local chapter may then be known as "Future Farmers of America."

Article III. Membership.

Section A. Membership in this organization shall be active, associate and honorary.

Section B. Active membership. Any student of vocational agriculture who is regularly enrolled in a part-time, day-unit, or all-day class, is entitled to active membership in "Future Farmer" chapters upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. A member may retain his active membership for three years after completing his systematic instruction in vocational agriculture.

Section C. Associate membership. Any former student of vocational agriculture may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. Any former active member of a "Future Farmer" chapter may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting.

Section D. Honorary membership. Instructors, school principals, superintendents, business men, and others who are helping to promote vocational agriculture may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

Article IV. Membership Grades and Privileges.

Section A. There shall be four grades of membership based upon achievement. These grades are (1) Green hand, (2) future farmer, (3) State farmer, and (4) American farmer. (These terms to be used until approved or modified by the First National Congress).

Section B. "Green Hand." Qualifications for Election.

1. Fourteen years of age.
2. Be regularly enrolled in a class in vocational agriculture.

3. Possess facilities for and have a satisfactory program of supervised practice.
4. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the local chapter of "Future Farmers of America."

Section C. "Future Farmer." Qualifications for Election.

1. Satisfactory completion of at least one year in vocational agriculture, including a program of supervised practice.
2. Earn and deposit in a bank, or otherwise productively invest at least \$25.00

Note: Any modification of (2) above must be approved by the State adviser.

3. Be regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture with an approved supervised practice program.
4. Recite from memory the "Future Farmers" creed.
5. Be able to lead a group discussion for ten minutes.
6. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular local chapter meeting of "Future Farmers of America."

Section D. "State Farmer Degree." Qualifications for Election.

~~The qualifications for election are left to the various State organizations. The following qualifications are simply suggestive:~~

1. At least one year of systematic instruction in vocational agriculture with an outstanding supervised practice program in operation as approved by the State Supervisor.
2. Pass some occupational test supplied by the State staff.
3. Earn and deposit in a bank, or productively invest at least \$200.00. This may include the \$25.00 saved while advancing to the grade of "Future Farmer."
4. Be familiar with parliamentary procedure by having held office in the local chapter.

5. Be able to lead a group discussion for forty minutes. (Endorsement on this point to be submitted by high school principal or superintendent).
6. Make the school judging team, debating team, or some other team representing the school.
7. Show marked attainment in scholarship in all school subjects (grade 85 or above).
8. Possess qualities of leadership as shown by having held responsible positions in connection with student and chapter activities.
9. ~~Each State shall be entitled to elect 10 qualified individuals but where the State membership exceeds 500, not more than 2 percent of the total State membership may be elected, fractions counted to the nearest whole number. Only copies of written records of achievement verified by the local adviser shall be submitted to the State adviser by the local executive committee at least one month prior to the State convention. The adviser will then review the records and submit his findings to the State Executive Committee. This committee will nominate at the regular State Convention the candidates who have been found most worthy to receive the honor. Synopsis of these records shall then be read by a member of the Executive Committee when the students are nominated. The delegates shall then proceed to elect to the "Third degree" the number of candidates to which the State is entitled.~~

Need not be in State constitution

Section E. "American Farmer." Qualifications for election.

1. Hold the degree of "State farmer."
2. Be engaged in a farming occupation or have definite plans for becoming a farmer.
3. Possess demonstrated ability to farm by having conducted an outstanding program of supervised practice throughout the period of vocational training.
4. Earn and deposit in a bank or otherwise productively invest at least \$500.00

Note: In cases where the applicant had assisted in the support of dependents the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Trustees, may be considered as an investment.

5. Must have held office in a State organization or have represented a State in a national contest.
6. Possess demonstrated ability to work with others by having participated in some agricultural cooperative enterprise or movement.
7. Be recommended by the National Board of Trustees and receive a majority vote of the delegates present at a National Congress of "Future Farmers of America."

Section F. Associate and honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office except that of adviser in the State and local organizations and that of Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Adviser in the National Organization. Exceptions to this provision are permitted during the first two years of a chapter's existence.

Section G. Only members who have been elected to the grade of "American Farmer" are eligible to hold national offices after 1929. One year after the New Mexico organization has been chartered all New Mexico officers shall have attained the "State Farmer degree." Officers in the local chapters must not rank lower than the grade of "Future Farmer."

Section H. Associate and honorary members are eligible to election to any degree provided they have done outstanding work in promoting vocational agriculture and the organization of Future Farmers of America.

Article V. Officers.

- Section A. 1. The officers of the New Mexico Association of "Future Farmers of America" shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, adviser, and reporter. These officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at a regular State convention of "Future Farmers." The officers shall perform the usual duties of the respective officers. Each local chapter shall be entitled to two delegates in the State convention, who shall represent the local chapter in balloting for officers and members who are nominated to be advanced to the grade of "State Farmer."
2. Officers of the local chapter shall be identical with those for the State organization and shall be elected annually at a regular meeting of the local chapter.

Section B. The executive committee of the State organization of "Future Farmers of America" shall consist of the State officers ex-officio and three active members elected by the delegates in State convention. This committee shall perform the usual duties of an executive committee, review and approve receipts and disbursements, act as a nominating committee, and be responsible for the welfare of the organization.

Article VI. Meetings.

Section A. A meeting of the State Convention of "Future Farmers of America" will be held annually and at least 30 days prior to the meeting of the National Congress of "Future Farmers of America," at such time and place as may be determined upon by the State Executive Committee.

Section B. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly or oftener and at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Executive Committee of the Local Chapter.

Article VII. Dues.

Section A. Membership dues in a State organization shall be fixed by the State Executive Committee subject to approval by a majority vote of the delegates present at the State Convention of "Future Farmers of America."

Section B. The dues of any local chapter shall be fixed by a majority vote of the membership of that chapter.

Article VIII. Amendments.

Section A. Amendments to the State constitution shall be submitted in writing by the delegates from any chapter at any annual State Convention of "Future Farmers." Amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

Section B. In order to secure flexibility by-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of the State organization or local chapter, providing they are not in conflict with the State constitution, which is also the constitution for each chapter.

Article IX. Insignia.

Section A. The insignia of the "Future Farmers of America" shall be made up of four symbols, namely (1) cross section of an ear of corn, representing common agricultural interests, since corn is native to America and grown in every State; (2) the owl, representing wisdom; (3) the plow, representing tillage of the soil, the basis of modern agriculture,

and (4) the rising sun, representing progress.

Section B. All active, associate, and honorary members shall be entitled to wear the insignia. All "Green hands" are entitled to wear a bronze insignia. All "Future farmers" are entitled to wear a gold insignia. All members elected to the degree of "State farmer" are entitled to wear the gold insignia on a rectangular key base. All members elected to the degree of "American farmer" are entitled to wear the gold insignia directly mounted on a key.

CREED OF A FUTURE FARMER

I believe in the future of farming, with a faith born not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of farmers; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come up to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of farm life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and the public interest in marketing the product of our toil. I believe we can safeguard those rights against practices and policies that are unfair.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so - for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

Local Chapters, New Mexico Association of "Future Farmers of
America".

Chapter	Address	No. of Members
Rincon Valley	Hatch, N.M.	21
Melrose	Melrose, N.M.	19
Hagerman	Hagerman, N.M.	13
Raton	Raton, N.M.	28
Spanish-American Normal	El Rito, N.M.	8
Texico	Texico, N.M.	11
Tularosa	Tularosa, N.M.	16
Las Cruces	Las Cruces, N.M.	30

THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Application for Charter

To Henry C. Groseclose,
Blacksburg, Va.

We, R. W. Ludwick....., President; David W. Hulet....., Secretary;
and H. M. Gardner....., Adviser, officers of the State organization
known as New Mexico Assn. of Future Farmers of America
....., a State organiza-
tion for students of vocational agriculture, having at present 8.....
..... (number)
chapters and 146..... members, and being empowered to act for this
(number)
organization, do hereby make application to be chartered as a branch of
the "Future Farmers of America".

We are attaching to this application (1) the proposed State consti-
tution and by-laws under which we desire to work; (2) a copy of our State
program of work for the year; (3) a list of all local chapters and a
statement of the total membership of each; and (4) a check for \$5 to
cover cost of issuing charter.

The names and addresses of our State officers are as follows:

President:	<u>R. W. Ludwick</u>	<u>Clovis, N.M.</u>
	name	address	grade of membership

Secy.	<u>David W. Hulet</u>	<u>Hagerman, N.M.</u>
State Adviser.....	<u>H. M. Gardner</u>	<u>State College, N.M.</u>

If granted a charter, we promise to comply with the national constitution and by-laws of the Future Farmers of America and to work for the success of the organization.

We certify that the information given in this application and attached hereto is correct.

Signed: *R. W. Ludwicks*.....
State President

David W. Hulet.....
State Secretary

H. M. Gardner.....
State Adviser