

M I N U T E S

JOINT MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

AND

NATIONAL OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

NOVEMBER 5 - 6, 1978

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MINUTES

JOINT MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND NATIONAL OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Kansas City, Missouri
November 5 - 6, 1978

Sunday Morning - November 5, 1978

The meeting of the Boards of Directors and National Officers of the Future Farmers of America was called to order at 8:15 a.m. in the Music Room of the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri, by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Those present in addition to the Chairman included:

Board of Directors

- C. M. Brewer, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Jackson, Mississippi
- John W. Buntin, Program Officer, Western Branch, DSVPO/BOAE, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
- Paul M. Day, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education, St. Paul, Minnesota
- *Roger Lawrence, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Hartford, Connecticut
- Duane Nielsen, Chief, Vocational Education Personnel Development Branch, Div. of Research & Demonstrations/BOAE, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
- Byron F. Rawls, Chief of the Southern Branch, DSVPO/BOAE, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
- *G. G. Scroggins, Assistant Director, Vocational Agricultural Education, Austin, Texas
- *J. W. Warren, Education Program Specialist/DVTE, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.

Officers

- C. Coleman Harris, Secretary, Board of Directors, U. S. Office of Education, Washington, D. C.
- J. M. Campbell, Treasurer, FFA, State Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia

Alternate Member - Board of Directors

- Herbert W. Mackey, Asst. Regional Commissioner, Occupational and Adult Education, U. S. Office of Education, Dallas, Texas

Board of National Officers

- *J. Ken Johnson, National President, Macogdoches, Texas
- Howard C. Morrison, National Secretary, Gilbert, Arizona
- Peg Armstrong, National Vice President, Newhall, Iowa
- Chris Hardee, National Vice President, Chiefland, Florida
- Rob Hovis, National Vice President, Helena, Ohio
- Dee Sokolosky, National Vice President, Owasso, Oklahoma

Consultants

- Quentin Christman, Teacher of Agriculture, Rugby, North Dakota
- James Guilinger, Teacher of Agriculture, Sycamore, Illinois

*Member of FFA Finance Committee

(OVER)

W. A. McLeod, Jr., Teacher of Agriculture, Red Springs, North Carolina
R. C. Weber, Teacher of Agriculture, Larose, Louisiana
Vernon D. Luft, Associate Professor, Agricultural Education, North Dakota
State University, Fargo, North Dakota
George W. Wieggers, Jr., Professor, Agricultural Education, University of
Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee

Others Present for all or portions of the meeting

Edward J. Hawkins, Administrative Director, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Harry J. Andrews, Manager, National FFA Supply Service, Alexandria, Virginia
Wilson Carnes, Editor, The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine, Alexandria, Virginia
Robert W. Cox, Executive Director, National FFA Alumni Association, Alexandria,
Virginia
John H. Pitzer, Manager, Official FFA Calendar, The National FUTURE FARMER
Magazine, Alexandria, Virginia
K. Elliott Nowels, Program Specialist/Information, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Ted E. Amick, Program Specialist/Contests, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Tony Hoyt, Program Specialist/Leadership, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Lennie Gamage, Program Specialist/International, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Robert A. Seefeldt, Program Specialist/Awards, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
George Verzagt, Chief Accountant, FFA, Alexandria, Virginia
Donald N. McDowell, Executive Director, National FFA Foundation Sponsoring
Committee, Madison, Wisconsin
Bernie Staller, Assistant Executive Director, National FFA Foundation Sponsoring
Committee, Madison, Wisconsin
James P. Clouse, Professor, Agricultural Education, Virginia Polytechnic
Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
William P. Harsh, Consultant, Hallmark Cards, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri

1. INVOCATION -- Mr. Paul Day, Member of the National FFA Board of Directors, gave the Invocation.
2. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA -- Program adjustments were requested and made.
3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Lawrence), seconded by Peg Armstrong (Mr. Day) and carried that the Minutes of the July meeting be approved.
4. APPROVAL OF GOVERNING COMMITTEE MINUTES - Coleman Harris, Secretary, reviewed the Minutes of the four Governing Committee Meetings held since the July Board Meeting. (See Appendix A)
5. SEATING NEW MEMBERS -- The Chairman, H. N. Hunsicker, reported that Commissioner of Education, Ernest Boyer, had authorized qualified USOE representatives to render program service in agricultural education, which in turn make them legally eligible for appointment to the FFA Board of Directors. The National FFA Advisor therefore appointed them to serve on the Board of Directors as OE/Vocational Agriculture staff representatives (See PL 81-740). The following were appointed and officially seated for indefinite terms:

*Parentheses indicate joint action by the National FFA Officers and Board of Directors.

Larry P. Rathbun, California (Board Consultant) was unable to attend the meeting.

Byron F. Rawls, Chief of the Southern Branch, DSVPO/BOAE,
U. S. Office of Education/DHEW, Washington, D. C. 20202
(202/245-9787)

Duane Nielsen, Chief, Vocational Education Personnel Development Branch, Div. of Research & Demonstration/BOAE, U. S. Office of Education/DHEW, Washington, D. C. 20202 (202/245-9793)

J. V. Warren, Education Program Specialist/DVTE, U. S. Office of Education/DHEW, Washington, D. C. 20202 (202/245-9600)

John W. Bunten, Program Officer, Western Branch, DSVPO/BOAE, U. S. Office of Education/DHEW, Washington, D. C. 20202
(202/245-9786)

Byron Rawls requested that mail be sent to his home address -- 4205 Selkirk Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22302 (703/323-5572)

Chris Hardee mentioned the fact that all discussions held should be listed in the Minutes, especially those that are seconded and discussed.

6. OFFICIAL FFA JACKET -- Following an explanation of the bidding procedure, it was agreed to extend the Official FFA Jacket contract with Universal Uniform Company through 1981. The Official FFA Catalogue price for the jacket is \$19.50.
7. FINAL UPDATE OF 50th ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES -- Coleman Harris, Convention Coordinator, explained briefly the operational procedures and the staffing plan for the 1978 National FFA Convention. Each of the nine convention managers were then introduced to review their area of work with the Board.

Convention Program - Tony Hoyt -- Mr. Hoyt discussed major convention program activities including the Vespers and highlights of each session. He also announced that President Carter would address the convention at 2:00 p.m. on November 9. He further explained that security checks on Thursday would require ID cards for FFA members and badges for adults. It was pointed out that the closed circuit TV had been moved to H. Roe Bartle to provide an additional 4,500 seats over the Music Hall, which was used in 1977.

Contests - Ted Amick -- Mr. Amick reported briefly on each Contest. Special attention was called to the use of the computer for scoring and for the preparation of news releases.

Awards - Robert Seefeldt -- Mr. Seefeldt provided an overview of the Awards selection and recognition process to be carried out during the convention. The new 1978 Agricultural Proficiency Awards booklet was distributed. It was further explained that the booklet would be sent to all chapters, as a part of the Chapter Guide.

Press and Information - K. Elliott Nowels -- Mr. Nowels was introduced as FFA's new Director of Information replacing Dan Reuwee who is now Director of Information for the American Soybean Association in St. Louis, Missouri. The News Operations which will function in the Little Theater of the Municipal Auditorium was explained with emphasis on the expanded TV and radio interviews planned for this year's convention. Details regarding news services for the President's visit were also covered.

(OVER)

International - Lennie Gamage -- Mr. Gamage explained that the International Office would function in Room 204E of H. Roe Bartle. The office will be operated by CeCe Gaddy and Teri Yates, International Interns. Several countries will be represented at the convention. Some of the largest delegations will travel into Kansas City from Canada and Mexico. Mr. Gamage also discussed briefly the Presidential visit to the convention which he will coordinate for the FFA.

National Agricultural Career Show - George Verzagt -- Mr. Verzagt highlighted the 1978 Career Show, which for the first time will be held in the South end of the new H. Roe Bartle Exhibition Hall. In addition to the fact that the number of exhibitors is approximately double that of last year, Mr. Verzagt explained that 44 states will exhibit in the Hall of States, a food service operation will function in the Career Show area and a talent show will be running almost continuously throughout the two and one-half day show. A total of 120 paid booths, 48 state booths and 14 national booths as well as the Supply Service sales area will make up the show for 1978. (See Appendix B)

Sponsors - Donald N. McDowell -- Mr. McDowell and Bernie Staller reviewed the Sponsor Program, with emphasis on the Sponsoring Committee meeting on Wednesday and the Sponsors' Dinner on Thursday evening. Mr. McDowell also pointed out the importance of the Executive Sponsor Reception scheduled for Thursday afternoon.

Registration - Wilson Carnes -- Mr. Carnes reported that registration would be conducted in the lobby of H. Roe Bartle and operate as per the following schedule

Monday	1:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Alumni - Woody Cox -- Mr. Cox reported on Alumni meeting plans and called special attention to the five National FFA Leadership Workshops being sponsored by the Alumni during the convention. A sixth workshop scheduled for Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. will be for adults. This workshop will deal with legislation and will feature the following top leaders:

Gus Douglass, Commissioner of Agriculture, West Virginia
Wes Watkins, U. S. Congressman from Oklahoma
Doyle Conner, Commissioner of Agriculture, Florida
Fred McClure, Administrative Aide, U. S. Senator John Tower, Texas

Also on Wednesday, November 8 at 11:25 a.m., a special meeting of vocational agriculture teachers and state staffs will be conducted by the NVATA and the Alumni to discuss the actions of the Secondary School Principals' Association, regarding the dropping of the National FFA Convention from their approved list.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Day), seconded by Howard Morrison (Mr. Warren) and carried that official commendations be given the national staff and all those working with them for the planning and preparation for the National FFA Convention. Following the passage of this

motion, it was agreed without vote by the adult Board members to also commend the National FFA Officers for their work and dedication in preparing for this Golden Anniversary Convention.

8. RESPONSE TO DATE BY USOE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' LETTER OF JANUARY, 1978, TO THE U. S. COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION -- Mr. Hunsicker made the following comments to this letter:

1. Joan Cieutat has replaced retired Ms. Virginia Nicholson as the new secretary in the Vocational Agriculture-FFA Program at OE.
2. Dr. Boyer designated and approved use of a legal counsel.
3. Permission was granted to duplicate small jobs at OE. Paper will be provided by OE for large jobs to be duplicated at the FFA Center.
4. Unfortunately the Office of Education has not been successful in obtaining FTS telephone service for government and professional FFA employees at the National FFA Center due to unforeseen technical difficulties. However, efforts to obtain some type of telephone service is being pursued and it is anticipated that a solution will be forthcoming in the near future.
5. The travel budget limitations have been relieved somewhat although it still has not reached the point of complete satisfaction. Travel in government, as you know, is scrutinized carefully and the Office of Education is required to place limitations upon it.

Sunday Afternoon - November 5, 1978

The meeting was reconvened at 2:05 p.m. by the Chairman.

9. IN RETROSPECT - REPORT BY THE 1977-78 NATIONAL FFA OFFICERS -- Reports were made by each of the National FFA Officers. (See Appendix C)

Chairman Hunsicker and several members of the Board commended the officers for their insight on several recommendations, their informative and indepth reports and dedicated services as National FFA Officers. This was followed by a round of applause.

MOTION -- It was moved by Mr. Day, seconded by Mr. Warren and carried that the Board recognize the exceptional leadership and commitment of the National Officers, the perception and high quality of the observations and recommendations given on their reports and express sincere thanks and appericiation for their dedicated service to the Future Farmers of America.

MOTION -- It was moved by Mr. Buntin, seconded by Dr. Nielsen and carried that the points made in the reports of the national officers be put in the form of points for action for the next Board meeting.

10. APPROVAL OF CONVENTION AWARDS AND HONORARY DEGREES TO SPEAKERS AND OTHERS -- The Chairman called upon Mr. Harris who presented the names of certain individuals to be considered for the Honroary American Farmer Degree.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Rawls), seconded by Peg Armstrong (Mr. Brewer) and carried that the Honorary American Farmer Degree be conferred at this convention upon Ernest L. Doyer, Commissioner of Education, for his help to the FFA and his participation in the 51st National FFA Convention.

(OVER)

MOTION -- It was moved by Dee Sokolosky (Mr. Brewer), seconded by Howard Morrison (Mr. Scroggins) and carried that the Honorary American Farmer Degree be conferred at this convention upon Paul Harvey for his support and help in building the image of the FFA.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Day), seconded by Dee Sokolosky (Mr. Brewer) and carried to suspend the rules regarding the policy of recommending the awarding of the Honorary American Farmer Degree to advisors of the Star Farmers and Star Agribusinessmen.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Dr. Nielsen), seconded by Howard Morrison (Mr. Day) and carried that the FFA present a plaque to the schools of the four Regional Star Farmers and four Regional Star Agribusinessmen bearing the name of the advisor or advisors of the respective students. This would be for this year only and taken up again in January or July.

11. ADMEENDMENTS TO OFFICIAL BOARD POLICY

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Day), seconded by Howard Morrison (Dr. Nielsen) and carried to amend the current Board policy, Page 17, Section F1, Item 4, to strike the words "and advisors" to become effective January 1, 1979.

MOTION -- It was moved by Peg Armstrong (Mr. Scroggins), seconded by Dee Sokolosky (Mr. Buntten) and carried to amend the current Board policy, Page 17, Section F, Item 4, by striking the words "Certificate of Appreciation" and insert the word "Recognition."

12. FINAL REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE NATIONAL OFFICERS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL FFA CONSTITUTION, BYLAWS AND OFFICIAL MANUAL -- Howard Morrisn explained the procedure followed by the officers in preparing their recommendations on the Constitution and Bylaws' proposals. He further briefed the Board on the fact that since the officers were split on several of the questions, they had determined that it would be most appropriate to only provide the national officer rationale to the delegates on the items upon which there was total agreement by the officer team. The amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws and the Official Manual are as follows:

1. Article V, Section E (second paragraph) - MEMBERSHIP -- Do not pass-2 to 4.
2. Article VI, Section A - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP DEGREES AND PRIVILEGES -- Do not pass-2 to 4.
3. Article VII, Section A (third paragraph) - PROCEDURE FOR CHOOSING CANDIDATES FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE -- Do not pass-1 to 5.
4. Article XII, Section B - MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS -- Do not pass-6 to 0. (Proposal 1)
5. Article XII, Section B - MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS -- Do not pass-6 to 0. (Proposal 2)
6. Article XV, Section A - DUES -- Do pass-6 to 0.
7. Article VI, Section A - THE FISCAL YEAR -- Do pass-6 to 0.
8. Pages 30 and 31, PROPOSED REVISIONS IN THE OFFICIAL FFA MANUAL, 1978 EDITION -- Do pass-4 to 2.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE PROPOSAL -- Mr. Harris distributed a written proposal which would establish for a one-year trial period a Standing Committee approach to preparing reports, proposals and recommendations for presentation to the Board of Directors and National Officers. Presently the Board operates with two Standing Committees -- one on International activities and one dealing with Finance. The new trial plan calls for seven Standing Committees -- four in the Program areas and three in Organizational areas. All Officers, Board Members, Consultants and key National FFA Staff representatives to serve in each area. (See Appendix D)

MOTION -- It was moved by Howard Morrison (Mr. Warren), seconded by Rob Hovis (Mr. Day) and carried unanimously to approve a one-year test of this Standing Committee structure without making any official change in policy.

MOTION -- It was moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Day and carried to state that FFA staff members serve without vote. This amendment to the motion was accepted by the national officers.

14. UPDATE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES -- Mr. Hawkins gave a brief summary on the update of administrative activities.

The meeting was recessed at 5:30 p.m.

Monday Morning - November 6, 1978

The meeting was reconvened at 8:15 a.m. by the Chairman.

15. FFA FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT -- Mr. G. G. Scroggins, Chairman of the FFA Finance Committee presented the committee's report, which include the following highlights: All the funds exceeding \$150,000. in the FFA's corporation savings account draws 4½% interest. Generally the FFA has been investing in Federal Land Bank Bonds, debentures, etc. Mr. Scroggins then called upon Dee Sokolosky to read the fiscal minutes of the July Board meeting.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Lawrence), seconded by Howard Morrison (Mr. Brewer) and carried to commend Mr. Campbell and Mr. Hawkins for the fine manner in which they have upgraded the status and earning power of FFA's financial resources since July, 1978.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Dr. Nielsen), seconded by Dee Sokolosky (Mr. Day) and carried that the recommendation of the Financial Committee to implement a 5.5% increase in salary across the board to the staff of the FFA be approved.

Dee Sokolosky made the following statement regarding the pay raise: "The 5.5% across the board salary increase was awarded as a cost of living increase and not because unfilled positions provide extra funds." Peg Armstrong went on record as saying: "I'd like to say that I have faith in the adult board to provide strong and positive leadership in relation to financial matters. I would also like to restate the need for the efficiency study of both staff and facilities. This would provide even more resources to make better financial decisions. I hope that we begin working toward the realization of this study."

(OVER)

16. OVERVIEW OF LEGAL MATTERS -- Missouri Court Case - Chairman Hunsicker gave a recapitulation of the Missouri Court Case in which parents of an FFA student sued the FFA for a shop class injury to their son. Case in pending. Review of Letter from California Regional Office of IRS requested that four chapters be dropped from the approved list of subordinate chapters previously exempt by IRS. The Advisor has written to the Regional Office as to the reason for its request, but has not received a reply. Employment of Legal Counsel - The FFA is currently employing legal counsel to obtain from the Secretary of State in each State and Puerto Rico the name of the department and the advisor, his address, telephone number and other necessary information for the FFA, who is legally employed by the state and designated to accept legal process of law in the administration of FFA within the state and its relationship to vocational agriculture. (The last time this was done was in 1952.)

17. POST-SECONDARY AGRICULTURE/AGRIBUSINESS STUDENT ORGANIZATION -- The Chairman gave a brief report on plans and the agenda for the Post-Secondary Agriculture/Agribusiness Student Organization Convention, April 3 - 5, 1979, in Kansas City, Missouri. Peg Armstrong and Chris Hardee gave reports on the letter survey they sent to all state supervisors in their regions. (See Appendix E)

MOTION -- It was moved by Dee Sokolosky and seconded by Peg Armstrong that no funds be expended for travel and housing to the April Post-Secondary meeting for the FFA staff, including Mr. Harris. The motion was carried 5 to 1, but was not sustained by the Board of Directors. Motion failed.

18. ARIZONA'S REQUEST FOR FUNDING ADDITIONAL PROFICIENCY AWARDS -- There will be Standing Committees on the Proficiency Awards in March, 1979. Sponsors will be contacted for their participation in 1980. Because any changes in Board policy should be carefully thought out, Mr. Rawls suggested that this matter be taken up at the January Board meeting. (See Appendix F)

19. COMMEMORATIVE MARKER -- Mr. Harsh gave a report on the Commemorative Marker being unveiled at the ceremony on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. He commended the FFA Board members for their fine job in putting the convention together. Chairman Hunsicker then commended Mr. Harsh and asked for a round of applause to salute Mr. Harsh for his leadership on the Commemorative Marker project.

MOTION -- It was moved by Rob Hovis (Mr. Brewer), seconded by all national officers (Mr. Day) and carried that the joint Boards go on record as commending Mr. Harsh and Mr. Rawls for the great effort they expended in carrying out the commemorative marker project in such a fine manner, which has made such an outstanding contribution to the memory of FFA in Kansas City and to FFA's 51st National Convention.

20. RESPONSE TO DEMANDS BY THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS ASSOCIATION -- It was suggested that the FFA Convention Committee consider recommending that the convention be held on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Chairman Hunsicker informed all present that the letters regarding the demands by the Principals Association were available for review. There was mention made of the fact that each year the teachers hold their state convention in the middle of a school week, and if they are to demand that the FFA reschedule its convention, the teachers should also have to reschedule their convention. Mr. Lawrence stated we should look at

both sides of this argument and be diplomatic about it. Mr. Brewer suggested that a committee be appointed to meet and discuss this problem with the Principals Association's Activities Committee before February. Mr. Gulinger said that he would further pursue this matter with teachers.

21. PLANS FOR THE JANUARY, 1979 MEETING -- The meeting will be held from Monday, January 29, through Friday, February 2. The Finance Committee will meet Saturday and Sunday before the meeting starts. All Standing Committees will meet all day on Monday. The Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Sponsors' Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Thursday afternoon and the Trustees meeting will be held on Friday. There being no objection, the plan was accepted.
22. MOTION - SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS -- It was moved by Mr. Day, seconded by Mr. Scroggins and carried unanimously that a committee of Board members and Consultants meet with the NASSP Executive Committee, including Mr. Hunt to see what they recommend in order to return FFA to the approved list. The report will be given at the AVA Convention in Dallas, December 2 - 6. (The Principals Association Committee will not meet in time to provide this information.)
23. UNFINISHED BUSINESS -- There was no unfinished business or announcements to be made.
24. ADJOURNMENT -- The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. by the Chairman.

H. N. Hunsicker

H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman

C. Coleman Harris

C. Coleman Harris, Secretary

A P P E N D I X

MINUTES

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AND

BOARD OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

FFA GOVERNING COMMITTEEAugust 28, 1978

The meeting of the Governing Committee of the Future Farmers of America was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman, on August 28. Others present included J.W. Warren, John Bunten (contacted by phone), Wilson Carnes. E.J. Hawkins and Coleman Harris, Secretary.

The Committee reviewed the report and recommendations of the Selection Committee for a replacement for Mr. Dan Reuwee, Director of Information for the FFA. Mr. Carnes, Chairman of the Selection Committee, reported that 34 applications were received and reviewed carefully. After further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Dunten and carried that Mr. K. Elliott Nowels, Associate Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine, be selected and employed as the Director of Information, beginning September 5.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ C. Coleman Harris, Secretary

September 15, 1978

The meeting of the Governing Committee of the FFA was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman, on Friday, September 15. Members of the committee present for the meeting included J. W. Warren and John Bunten. Coleman Harris, Secretary, was also present and reviewed the matters for discussion by the committee.

It was moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried to disapprove a request for an exception in the American Royal Queen Candidate age requirements. This request was submitted by the Maryland FFA Association who specifically requested that a candidate, age 16, be allowed to participate in the 1978 American Royal Queen Program. The Governing Committee recommended that the Maryland candidate be encouraged to apply again in 1979.

Secondaly, it was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Warren and carried to approve the recommendation of Mr. M. B. MacCallister, Regional Manager, International Harvester, Kansas City, Kansas, for the Honorary American Farmer Degree. Mr. MacCallister has served as a member of the Kansas City/FFA Advisory Council for many years and has been instrumental in FFA Convention activities, including the International Harvester Luncheon held annually on Wednesday, noon. Mr. MacCallister retired from International Harvester on August 1, 1978, and is being recognized at the International Harvester Luncheon at the 51st National FFA Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ C. Coleman Harris, Secretary

(OVER)

Governing Committee Minutes - 2

September 21, 1978

A meeting of the Governing Committee of the Future Farmers of America, Inc. was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman, on September 21. The meeting was held in Mr. John Bunten's office, U. S. Office of Education. Persons attending, other than the Chairman, included J. W. Warren and John Bunten.

The Committee discussed the report of the Selection Committee for the replacement of Mr. K. Elliott Nowels, as Associate Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine. Mr. Carnes stated that applications from 34 candidates had been reviewed and that the committee comprised of Coleman Harris, E. J. Hawkins and himself, recommended the employment of Mr. Jeffrey Tennant, of Arkansas, as the new Associate Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER. Mr. Carnes stated that the salary was in line with the Magazine's budget and in keeping with the amount paid to the Associate Editor previously. Mr. Tennant has agreed to begin work on October 2, 1978.

It was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Warren and carried to accept the recommendation of the Selection Committee regarding the employment of Mr. Jeffrey Tennant, as the new Associate Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman

September 28, 1978

A meeting of the Governing Committee of the Future Farmers of America was called to order on September 28, 1978, by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Others present were J. W. Warren, John Bunten, Harry J. Andrews and E. J. Hawkins.

The Committee reviewed the report by Mr. Harry J. Andrews, Manager, National FFA Supply Service on bids from manufacturers for supplying Official FFA Jackets, based on a three (3) year contract. Four (4) manufacturers were solicited. Companies bidding were Fab-Knit Mfg. Co., Waco, Texas, and Universal Uniform Company, Van Wert, Ohio. Modern Jacket Company, St. Louis, Missouri, was unable to bid. Alleson Company, Rochester, New York did not respond.

It was moved by Mr. Warren, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that on the basis of specifications, conditions and prices, the Universal Uniform Company, Van Wert, Ohio, be awarded a contract for the period January 1, 1979 through December 31, 1981.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ C. Coleman Harris, Secretary

APPENDIX B

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CAREER SHOW

Over 650 agribusiness firms, professional societies, state FFA associations, schools and associations were contacted concerning the expanded Career Show. A total of 91 exhibitors have committed themselves to 121 booths as of October 31, for an expected revenue of \$11,500.00. Commitments have been received from 46 states. Fifteen booths are reserved for the FFA National Organization. Twelve booths remain unsold.

The exposition hall will also contain an area 55' x 80' for a full-line cafeteria with tables and chairs, and an area 55' x 100' to showcase FFA talent 15-20 minutes per hour. A chapter, recommended by National Vice President Rob Hovis, has been contacted to set up a park-like landscape and three-tier fountain in a 20' x 30' area adjacent to the talent show area. The National Supply Service will occupy a 30' x 45' booth space in a total area of 50' x 65'.

I was officially notified of my appointment as coordinator of the Career Show after the January Board meeting. Files were transferred to me in late February, and information for a brochure was gathered. After review, the brochure was printed and mailed with a letter to prospective exhibitors in late March and early April. Ginnie Lee of American Vocational Association was contacted for consultation because of her experience in handling a large show with some commercial exhibits. She suggested that membership in the National Association of Exposition Managers would be most helpful. Membership in this organization was granted to the FFA. I attended the NAEM meeting in Detroit where eleven contracts for the Career Show were made. I gained much helpful information at this convention, and suggest that this membership and convention be budgeted next year. I felt that this trip was very helpful to me since the position of coordinator was new to me and the show was greatly expanded this year. A full day seminar for exposition managers was also held on October 27, which was attended by your Show Manager.

On June 20, a meeting was held with the FFA Advisory Council at Kansas City. The group has a high interest in the National Convention and was helpful in obtaining more exhibitors for the Career Show.

Exposure at the Washington Conferences and especially the State President's Conference, provided contacts for the Hall of States.

This year's Career Show will be the biggest and best ever. There will be more agricultural/agribusiness-related career opportunities presented under one roof than previously, and it is the only such show held on a national basis.

National Ag. Career Show Cont'd.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Increase the budget for travel for the Career Show so that the show Manager can be kept informed of convention methods and be prepared to present the best show possible.
2. Retain the present show manager. This will allow earlier preparation by the show manager and allow better coordination with his primary duties as chief accountant. Since the first year is largely a learning year, it is important that the same person serve as show manager for two or more years so that his experience can be utilized to the benefit of the FFA.
3. Request a career show committee be formed and utilized. The executive secretary should be an ex officio member of the committee and the show manager, the chairman. I would suggest the committee be comprised of two other staff members and four exhibitors.
4. Study the possibility of including publishers of agricultural and agribusiness books and teaching aids as exhibitors, to provide a resource for advisors, and report results at the January board meeting.

REPORT OF BOOTH SPACE:

	Number of <u>Booths</u>	Number of <u>Exhibitors</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Hall of States	50	46	-0-
Agribusiness Firms	41	24	\$ 5,300.00
Professional Societies	25	25	1,875.00
Federal Government	28	19	2,500.00
Educational Institutions	11	11	825.00
Breed Associations	6	6	450.00
National Organization	15	11	-0-
Non-Profit Association	10	6	600.00
Supply Service	12	1	-0-
Kansas City Police Exhibit	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-0-</u>
	201	150	\$11,550.00

(APPENDIX C)

NATIONAL OFFICER REPORTS
SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL FFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kansas City, Missouri

November, 1978

Report to the Board of Directors

November, 1978
National FFA Secretary
Howard C. Morrison

(1)

I would like to begin by thanking the Board of Directors for this chance to report to you personally and in writing concerning my opinions and suggestions about serving as a National FFA Officer.

I shall state some facts followed by activities and procedures I feel are worthwhile. Then there will be listed those I feel need improvement and complete the report with a few concerns.

My travels this year have taken me to 23 different states, but I spent most of my time in the Western Region. Planes took me over 60,000 miles during the 220 days I was away from home. My official vouchers added up close to \$8,000.00.

Much appreciation is given for the time left open after the national convention for us to complete school and personal items. This helped me adjust to my coming responsibilities. The one week orientation at the FFA Center in December was also beneficial for the adjustment.

The Experience Programs in two states were necessary for the training and the development of a feel for the demands on an officer. I greatly benefited from the training and hope other states provide the officers in the future with productive experiences.

State Conventions were by far the best part of my year. The interaction with local members and supporters helped me in setting priorities and special emphasis for decision making. Close friendships were made during these times.

The three year concept of the Emphasis '78 meetings is in my opinion an excellent way to disseminate and explain materials. The follow-up responsibilities of the state teams through the rest of the three year period is a must for the success of this approach. All states must fully participate to meet their responsibilities. These meetings are well worth the staff and officers' time as well as the materials used.

The Greenhand workshops in Missouri were good chances for us to work together for the first time. I would suggest continuing these programs and encourage other states to pick up the costs of bringing the national officers in for similar activities around the first of the year.

The current approach to the Goodwill Tour is effective. I feel the team should continue to split up in two or more teams for a portion of the Tour in order to cover all areas of the country. The same businesses should not be visited every year just because of precedence. We should design the Tour and not let businesses make decisions for us. This applies to the Tour as well as our program areas.

The relaxed atmosphere must be kept during these visits. The businesses don't like a "show". I felt they appreciated being thanked, told how their investment is being used, and then visit with us individually with questions and answers.

(OVER)

The Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman should continue to be used when possible. They added a unique dimension to our visits.

If possible, the team should visit each other's home while on visits in the area. These times were great for bringing our team together and good for preparation for future events. All the current preparation times should be kept, but increased before each of the meetings with the Board of Directors. More time is necessary for planning, orientation, and decision making before and during these meetings.

The officers' visits to Congressman and Washington agencies should be done strictly on an ambassadorship level and not in any attempt to lobby. These visits can be of great benefit in developing good relationships so other groups can move in and apply needed pressure for change.

The National Officers should be kept out in the field as much as possible with scheduled times at home for needed rests. Several times this year I had what I felt as too much time sitting at home. (i.e. two and three week periods of no activities) The officers should be used more efficiently. I had a little over 100 days at home from January through November. Possibly university visits should be reinstated if they are determined to be productive. If money is a problem, the states should be picking up more of the costs for activities in their state.

There should be an evaluation of the current process used by our Nominating Committee for the election of national officers. Not that there definitely needs to be a change, but due to problems arising in several situations, and concerns expressed from local, state, and national levels, an effort should be made to either suggest improvements or establish our current process as the most productive possible.

In my opinion, no team member should be isolated, elevated, or otherwise separated from the others by the activities in which they participate and/or the responsibilities they are given. I understand a certain degree of this is necessary by nature, but a sincere effort should be made to diminish conflicts that arise from separation. This applies primarily to the beginning of the year.

As experienced by this and former teams, the national officers need to be informed about concerns in vocational education and our situation with the U.S. Office of Education as soon as reasonable and logical. I realize a background is needed and doesn't come until a certain part of the year is gone, but if progress is going to be made in the future, this process will need to be accelerated.

The President should vote on each item brought up for a vote by the Board of National Officers whether the vote effects the outcome or not. I feel all votes by the officers and Board of Directors should be published in the minutes. (i.e. 4 to 2 in favor / 6 to 3 in favor to sustain) This would help eliminate apathy in voting which occasionally happens during Board meetings. All members of both board have the responsibility to vote or abstain with a specific reason.

I am very impressed by the current materials being used by the FFA for the program areas now known as the Resource System. I would hope in the future the same quality be kept with

the special emphasis being placed on relating to the membership. I agree as others have previously expressed during Board meetings, that more efforts should be placed on getting support groups of agricultural education to help in the funding and development of future projects. The FFA should not jump and take the leadership every time someone expresses a need or concern.

I have two major concerns to which I would appreciate your attention.

Guidelines are more and more being recognized concerning FFA's involvement in political moves, development of support, and the use of other groups in helping us improve our organization. I feel it is absolutely necessary to gather all of these support groups of agricultural education and vocational education together to help solve some of our current problems and to develop workable goals for the future. The outcome should be the accomplishment of who and how things are going to be done in which the FFA should not be taking the leadership and those things that the FFA can not do by itself. For example, a national officer should when possible join in the meetings of the National Coordinating Council for Vocational Student Organizations. My sole involvement with this group, my representation at AIC's National Institute for Cooperative Education (NICE), and the America Vocational Association's annual meeting were the only times to my knowledge all vocational student organizations were together, much less all the other groups that could be of assistance to our programs.

My greatest concern though involves another aspect we are not participating in enough...evaluation. Some complain when the government "adds more" to regulations, etc. and some ask them to evaluate what is already being done. I suggest we take this same suggestion and evaluate our total program. This involves all areas: outside evaluation of our Supply Service's efficiency, the Magazine, all FFA Center facilities, employment of staff and their time, as well as our programs and projects' quality, benefits, and costs. We may be surprised some programs need to be eliminated while others need more resources of time, efforts, and money. My concern is we won't know how we are doing with current programs until they are effectively evaluated.

Unfortunately, these types of reports have the tendency to sound too negative. Please accept this report with my sincere desire to improve Vocational Agriculture-FFA so we may continue to provide future student-members with the opportunities which have been made available and so beneficial to myself.

The following pages will be an attempt for me to provide you, the National FFA Board of Directors, with an annual National Officer Report. After facing many challenges and a demanding schedule during most of the year, I am not certain as to the manner in which I should approach this report. I sincerely hope that the words used in these pages are accurate and present a valid reflection of my true feelings.

I have chosen to follow a chronological pattern in reporting on most of the year and then offer general comments on other items. Two hundred thirty seven (237) days on the road amounting to over 46,000 traveled miles into 31 states and scheduled visits into 26 of those states have contributed to the following synopsis.

Immediately following the close of the 1977 National FFA Convention I found myself attending officer orientation. An early warning during orientation was "do not be indoctrinated"---the very thing that many folks tried to accomplish during the year. Orientation could have been more beneficial provided that more factual information had been presented rather than elementary items and philosophy. We also were assigned a number of insignificant reports to keep us busy during the holiday season.

The second phase of officer orientation was held at the FFA Center in mid-December. This was a more productive meeting allowing us to acquaint ourselves with the staff and ask some technical questions. I then journeyed back home to continue work on my reports.

After a peaceful Christmas, I traveled to Missouri with the other officers for the Missouri Greenhand Conferences sponsored by the Mid-Continent Farmers Association. The Conferences were well organized and were valuable as a training ground for us as National Officers.

I then moved from Missouri to two other states (a week in each) for my experience program. Since this is actually the only training ground for National Officers, I firmly believe the officers should be challenged and utilized as much as possible. Personally, I do not feel that my experience program was as valuable as it could have been. I recommend that officers be located in regions other than the ones they hail from, regardless of cost. This will give a taste of diversity and a wide range of experiences which is needed since an officer moves throughout the country. At the conclusion of the experience program I moved into Washington, D.C. for the January Board of Directors Meeting.

I felt somewhat uneasy going into the meeting for several reasons: (1) we were not adequately briefed beforehand; and (2) the decision process is scary business when it is of such magnitude and the outcome can affect over 500,000 young people. Uneasy would not describe my sentiments following the meeting. More appropriate words would be disgust and disbelief. It has been a long time since I have participated in a meeting as unorderedly and unorganized as that one in January. The only thing more absurd than the meeting was the manner in which we adopted the budget. I do feel, however, that there was some progressive and positive action taken.

Several beneficial visits were made in Washington, D.C. immediately following the Board Meeting. These visits were with governmental agencies, key political figures, and leaders in the agricultural world. The visits provided valuable information that was useful throughout the year and especially on the annual Goodwill Tour.

The Sub-Regional Leadership Conference for State Officers from several Eastern states began soon after the Washington Tour. Like most activities during the year, time would not allow for satisfactory planning. Although I was pleased with the conference, I would like to see it moved to a time following the State Conventions. As it is now, many of the participating State Officers have already been supplying information at State Leadership conferences that should have been presented to them at a sub-regional beforehand. This move will allow for more planning on the part of National Officers and will insure a stronger Conference as well.

The annual Goodwill Tour located us in several different cities visiting businesses and key Foundation sponsors. I was somewhat disappointed that I had assisted in preparing a notebook filled with information on sponsors and this notebook was present for only part of the Tour. It was seldom used when it was present. Part of the above resulted from the illness of a staff member. I do suggest that consideration be given to visiting more prospective sponsors rather than the perennial ones that are called upon year after year. Hopefully, the Tour was successful. It certainly was an education.

In mid-March I found myself in route to Toronto, Canada for the annual meeting of the Jr. Farmers Association of Ontario. This activity was arranged through the efforts of the International Department. While in Ontario I had the opportunity to make visitations to several farms and the local agricultural extension office of a rural county. I strongly recommend some type of international experience for all National Officers for I have never felt a greater sense of patriotism and pride for the United States than after I returned from Canada.

(OVER)

Following a brief rest near the end of March I started on the State Convention trail. I attended nine State Conventions and one Area Convention within a 3 months period. They varied in size of attendance from 150 people to 1500. They differed just as much in quality. Conventions were eye-openers and enjoyable for the most part. I am grateful that I was provided the opportunity to attend several Conventions outside of the Southern Region. Continuation of this practice is highly recommended.

The month of April had me traveling to five Emphasis '78 workshops, mostly in the Midwest. I salute the National Staff members that worked to develop this outstanding program. Participation varied from place to place. I was well pleased with the response in most places; however, I saw a bit of negativism toward National in other places.

In addition to State Conventions and Emphasis '78 meetings, spring was a time for local Chapter banquets. Although I only attended 14, Chapter banquets were more enjoyable than any other activity. Nothing can compete with the dedication of the people at the local level.

The summer months were filled with Sub-Regional Leadership Conferences for newly elected State Officers. I participated in three of these, two with another National Officer and one by myself. These conferences seem to have operated smoothly; however, I found it virtually impossible to cover all of the material that needed to be presented in the time allotted. Therefore, I recommend that the Sub-Regional Conferences be lengthened to 3 full days of conference if possible. I once again salute the National Staff for shipping all of the necessary materials. I also wish to thank the State people for being most cooperative.

Occasionally, I traveled into Washington, D.C. for the Washington Conference Program to make spot appearances--- something that I am not fond of. It would be much better if an officer could spend a full week at the conference, provided that scheduling would allow. This would be more beneficial for the participants and easier on the National Officer. I also have a few other concerns about the Washington Conference Program. The Washington Conference Staff is an impressive group as a whole. However, I firmly believe that we should stray away from the practice of hiring only Past National Officers with a few exceptions to speak of.

D.C. was also the site of the State Presidents Conference. This week in Washington was one of the most

exciting of the year. I express thanks to all those involved that made the week exceptional and successful, even though we had to deal with a bus strike.

The July Board of Directors Meeting rolled around immediately after the adjournment of the State Presidents Conference. I walked into this meeting with several real concerns. I walked away with an equal number of concerns. There was not enough time allocated for the meeting and I also sensed the need for a more structured meeting. I was pleased to see consideration given to several important items. The aggressive nature of the Board was too a welcomed site.

The last major activity before the National Convention was a September visit to Washington. This was valuable for numerous reasons. It allowed us, as National Officers, to do some much needed planning for the upcoming Convention. It was also an appropriate time to reflect back on the year with key education officials. I do not agree with the approach we used with the leaders of Congress in discussing vocational education. Nevertheless, I am extremely thankful for the planning time in addition to the planning sessions that were held in March and May.

There were a number of other state sponsored activities that I participated in also. These showed variance in both size and nature, but were meaningful in all cases.

I now wish to direct your attention to a number of general items. These items are basic observations of mine alone. I once again hope they are presented accurately and in all fairness to those concerned. They are as follows:

I sense a great need of direction and example from the National Organization. We are in need of long range planning and a total push, not to the point of National domination but sound National leadership instead. I see us creating exciting programs and then leaving these programs such as Collegiate FFA and Alumni "hanging" without direction. People in the field are begging for a pattern to follow. Our leadership must therefore be aggressive, sound, and not patterned after the inefficiency of the federal government. We are not a "miracle" organization being capable of meeting the needs of every high school student in America. I also sense and fear a power struggle in our organization. I see the Office of Education, the National FFA Foundation, and the National FFA Staff all fighting for dominance. We need a unified effort that will best serve the needs of the members rather than serve an organized "monster" which results when such struggling occurs.

In reporting on the National Staff, I find them to be a highly talented and concerned group as a whole. I do feel that the available talent is not harnessed to its fullest potential. I see inefficiency, a lack of unity, and even unhealthy competition among staff members. It seems that job security results from the creation of new programs rather than the maintenance and improvement of existing ones. This should not exist! I am optimistic about the small problems being worked out.

Probably the most trying times of the year have been during the Board Meetings. I have been disappointed to say the least. The National Board of Directors is the top ring of leadership in the FFA and should be more functional. Decisions that involve millions of dollars and the future of over half a million youth should not be taken lightly or made hastily. I am in favor of either more Board Meetings or extending the length of the present ones so that indepth discussion and careful consideration can be given to important items such as the development of postsecondary organizations or the expenditure of funds. Funding is always an important item. Folks, I assure you that there is a bottom in every barrel. I am dismayed at the lack of concern and apathy I have observed at the meetings; however, I do respect everyone's viewpoint and deeply appreciate the straightforwardness of some people---something that I have seen a lack of. I am greatly disappointed in the reporting of the Board Minutes. The minutes should be an accurate reflection of the discussion at meetings. They are not! An item that is formally presented and seconded at a meeting should receive mention in the minutes regardless of the vote. The recorded vote should reflect the number in favor and the number opposed rather than a simple pass or fail.

Finally, I wish to specifically discuss National Officer activities. First of all, more attention should be given to the scheduling of officer activities. This will result in the saving of money, keep officers healthy, and prevent repetitious visits in an area by the same officer. I feel that National Officers should be allocated at least 3 days off per month at home for rest in order to maintain health and alertness. Furthermore, I recommend that the \$200 allotted to purchase black slacks (skirts) and white shirts (blouses) be less restrictive so the money can be spent on all clothing needs.

I hope that I have not painted a negative picture for I feel much optimism about the future of the FFA. Being a conservative Southerner (something I'm indeed proud of), I have attempted to take a close look at the past year and offer some reasonable suggestions to make the best

better. Although I have been quite critical in some cases, I am pleased to report that we have a superior youth organization that exceeds all of the others that I have been affiliated with. No amount of money can buy the smiles, the love, and the dedication that I have witnessed. I appreciate those things and the people I have worked with. I am thankful for life, good health, an education, and a year of opportunity.

(OVER)

BOARD REPORT

Dee Sokolosky
National Vice-President
Western Region

Virtually every adjective and adverb in the English language would have been appropriate at some time or another during this year! I have enjoyed the experience and benefitted from it.

The following concerns and recommendations are presented in a constructive manner and I hope are received as such.

1. Finances and investments - As the student officers voted unanimously in July, I feel we need an investment committee. It is not good to have so few individuals making the decisions concerning cash accounts, time deposits, and where the money is invested. Higher returning investments such as treasury bills, commercial paper, and others should be researched. The finance committee should have tighter reins on our finances. More time should be spent with officers concerning finances. I recommend that the officer team select their own individual to serve on the finance committee rather than automatically the president.

2. Minutes - The minutes of Board meetings must reflect exactly what was transacted. The current minutes are incomplete and sometimes just plain incorrect. We should not try to cover things up by not including them in the minutes. I recommend that a microphone that feeds into the tape recorder be placed in front of every member. Also members should have the 25 days to make additions or corrections to the minutes before they are mailed to the states.

3. Deadlines and Rules - We do a very poor job of enforcing rules and time deadlines that are policy. That is not a good example for our members. We should not have rules or deadlines on the books that we do not want to enforce. Change the rule or enforce it. (i.e. American Royal Queens' FFA membership, National Officer Candidate applications, state applications for awards, Honorary American Farmer degrees, board meeting agendas, etc.)

4. Manual - Official dress should be spelled out in the Official Manual. An excellent spot would be in the center section with the Code of Ethics. The pictures should show official dress, not white pants. I feel the cover of our manual should bear the words, "Future Farmers of America."

5. American Farmer Application - The application should be shortened if at all possible. The mere bulk of it discourages some members from applying. I feel the questions, "Did you file an income tax return?" and "Did you pay property tax?" should be omitted. That does not determine whether they get the degree and it is simply none of our business.

6. American Royal Queen - I feel that we should not require queen candidates to be FFA members. I feel it would be in the best interest of the FFA to gradually phase out of the American Royal Queen contest.

7. Sponsors - We should make an effort to be consistent in recognizing sponsors without favoring one over another. Sponsors should not dictate the importance or prestige of an FFA award or program. The same applies to the National FFA Foundation.

8. Honorary American Farmer Degree - I hope the NVATA makes a recommendation to the Board concerning the Honorary American Farmer Degree for advisors of national officers and regional stars. It is their organization or members of their organization that are being honored and their recommendation should be incorporated into Board Policy.

The money used to operate the National FFA Organization is student money. They pay dues for programs and services. It is not the responsibility of those students to train their teachers (ag. education materials), train their guidance counselors (guidance counselor materials), or provide for sister organizations (post-secondary.)

The FFA is an excellent organization. There is a better way of doing everything - we must keep searching to find it!

9. Officers should not be expected to lobby for various items of legislation. Visits with Congressmen, Senators, and other government officials are encouraged but should be kept on an educational or informal note.

(OVER)

OBSERVATIONS

The FFA is in excellent condition. We who are committed to its success have much for which to be thankful. The members and advisors in local chapters in the thirty state associations that I visited are very enthused about the potential that the FFA offers through its various programs. Good use of materials and publications is being made. The effort and money that has been invested in these materials has not been in vain by any means. A healthy attitude prevails regarding competition and yet I have seen many fine examples of cooperation. In many organizations, inter-school or inter-club competition has led to general animosity and unhealthy rivalries in which the original educational goal is lost. This just is not the case with FFA chapters in general, which is good.

Members seem to be very proud of their National Organization and they are satisfied with its performance. This is evident from comments, but also from more subtle indicators, such as the extensive arrangements which are typically made by chapters who find themselves playing host to a National Officer and/or National Staff person. If the National Organization was not well respected or considered "a joke" by local members and advisors, they would not react the way they do toward a National representative. Members are eager for these people to meet local school and civic leaders and parents. The warm and elaborate receptions which officers and staff receive indicates a high degree of pride in the National Organization and its personnel. I noticed during the Emphasis 78 meetings that the National staff members were a constant center of attention for local teachers and state staff persons both during sessions and free time. Those who operate local programs were eager to discuss important issues with them, and respected their opinions, which speaks well for the entire organization.

I see other signs of strength. National Advisor H. N. Hunsicker continues to serve as chairman of an interdepartmental committee which includes persons from the departments of Labor, Agriculture, and Health, Education and Welfare. When OUR people are identified as the leaders in multi-agency committees, we have good leadership. The Commissioner of Education uttered one of the most eloquent praises of Voag/FFA that I have ever heard in two sentences at the close of the Congressional Breakfast. Congressmen Wes Watkins and Paul Finley made similar statements on more than one occasion. Key people in the U.S. Office of Education -- Dr. Richard Carlson and Mr. Thaine McCormick -- and others are also on record in our behalf. The President of the United States identified some very basic leadership skills which are vital to his office and claimed to have acquired them from his experiences in the FFA. When we find the vice president of Carnation, the vice president of Chevrolet, the vice president of Pfizer, Inc., the president of UpJohn, the general manager of AVCO/New Idea, the executive vice president of Firestone -- the list goes on -- each very willing to donate major

portions of their time and personal and corporate funds because they believe in what vocational agriculture/FFA is doing and in the future of agriculture, then we KNOW we're on the right track. The signs do not only come from the internal parts of FFA, either. Other organizations look to us for new directions in youth activity. Many times this year representatives of major youth groups have questioned me as to "how FFA does it", saying that they feel their programs and techniques simply aren't as effective as ours. Several of the FFA's "sister" organizations are patterned after our structure. And all of this is accomplished by an organization whose members pay the least amount of money in annual dues, who pay the least amount of all vocational student groups for their official uniform (jacket), who receive six issues per year of one of the top-ranked agricultural magazines in the Nation with top quality articles and pictures from across the country -- all for 75¢ per year, who benefit from the services of a full-time professional technical, and support staff of more than 100 persons housed in an attractive building on a site that has National historical significance -- being once owned by the Father of our country, who have 1500 business and individuals convinced that the program is worthy of a million dollars of incentive awards annually, who have governors, state agricultural leaders, educators, businessmen endorsing the programs and activities of FFA and attending our meetings and conventions serving as contest judges, etc. When an FFA member signs his membership card, he acquires traveling possibilities and a positive identity in twenty five countries around the world where our WEA agreements are currently in effect.

FFA members and advisors are aware of most of the things just mentioned, and consequently feel very positive about the program. We are at the peak of our development, which means that it behooves us to watch for weaknesses and slippages and inefficiencies. Therefore, I continue with the following observation.

The failure of vocational education to be strong in some states and localities is one factor which jeopardizes the continuation of a strong FFA/VoAg program and threatens to damage the effectiveness of FFA at all levels. It would be a crime to allow this to happen without our strongest objections and resistance.

Now let me make some specific observations:

1. Teachers and students are pleased with the materials provided by the National FFA Center, commenting that they are well written, well prepared, and attractively designed.
2. The FFA Alumni is rapidly developing as an effective support arm for both the student organization and vocational education in agriculture which is exactly as it should be. A few years ago I was not convinced that the alumni would succeed or that there was any real purpose for it. This past year, however, I have witnessed so many impressive examples of excellent support activities which fill a real need, that my opinion has reversed. A great many of the examples to which I refer have been at the local level where thousands of dollars in scholarships are being provided by the alumni for further education in agriculture, where teachers are being aided in many ways by helpful alumni, and where school boards and administrators are being informed and in some cases pressured by alumni who are interested in the productivity of their local program.

It also gives us an opportunity to keep a significant block of citizens knowledgeable with regard to vocational education issues through newsletters and general activities at various levels -- a "special interest group" with vocational agriculture and FFA as their special interest. We've never had that before.

3. BOAC, Food For America, WEA, the proficiency awards, National Contests,

Safety, and others are all used widely by chapters in all of the states I visited and are well received by the public. I hear occasional criticisms of the National Chapter Award program -- to the affect that we say that chapters should utilize those programs which they deem appropriate and which apply to their situation, and yet chapters are penalized on the Award form unless they participate in everything listed.

4. FFA has a very good image among the general public. In hotels, airplanes and airports and all public places, the FFA jacket is recognized by about 75 - 80 % of the general public, and most are familiar to some degree with the program. However, most are not aware of the linkage with the public education system, which is an important factor.

5. The National FFA Foundation is well respected and well understood by the business community. Business people praise the variety of options available to them when contributing. Many sponsors with whom I have met are quite knowledgeable about the details of the foundation.

6. The privileges of telephone ordering and rush ordering are appreciated by advisors, along with the speedy service. Criticisms generally concern the quality of items. I get the impression -- mainly from advisors -- that they would prefer to pay more for the items and receive high quality products, especially on award and gift items. The line of banquet supplies and FFA week materials is popular.

7. Advisors and members are pleased with the FFA's involvement in international activities mainly because of the fine and very uncommon opportunities it presents to members (spending a summer in Europe for only the cost of the round trip is a fine and very uncommon opportunity - not within the reach of too many teenagers!) and also because they feel that in being involved overseas, the FFA is doing its part for world peace, the problem of hunger, and international understanding. They feel we are being good neighbors.

8. The National FUTURE FARMER was widely praised by parents in the homes of members across the country. The special 50th Anniversary Supplement about the FFA organization and the State Presidents' White House visit has been used in classrooms to orient greenhands, and for community distribution.

9. There appears to be an erosion of state leadership in vocational education and I have noticed that it is evident in some of the states in the Eastern Region, which concerns me deeply. The problem is becoming quite serious and merits the attention of leaders in the field and in our organization. Some states have departed from their commitment to vocational education to the extent that key positions of program leadership have dwindled in number, making adequate supervision impossible. In some instances, key positions are held by people whose leadership has not been adequate, and whose dedication to their profession is questionable. In these situations, the instructional program is suffering and it will drag the FFA down with it if the situation is not soon corrected.

10. I was greatly impressed with the high quality of FFA chapter programs I saw in operation in Puerto Rico. The Residencial Agricultural School at Adjuntas, P.R. hosted a visit for myself and the state president and executive secretary which was one of the most well organized, business-like FFA meetings I have EVER attended. All officers were in official dress, along with most of the members. All official banners and paraphernalia were in place. The members displayed skills in parliamentary procedure and public speaking that would put many "state-side" members to shame. I found a similar situation in two other schools. There is a crying need for the Manual, a magazine or newsletter, and other program materials to be printed in spanish.

11. I like the way the dual system functions at the joint board meetings. I feel that it is fair, and I appreciate the manner in which the Board of Directors insists that the Board of Student Officers initiate all action, and I appreciate the sincere attention which has been given to our concerns and the factors which we mentioned as items of discussion while debating motions. We must schedule adequate time for the thorough consideration of the entire agenda for each meeting. The nature of the work of the board is so important that adequate time is a priority.

12. We have a tendency to waste some of our greatest assets in FFA by simply turning loose the Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessmen of America, and the twenty two National proficiency award winners after they have reached the pinnacle of achievement. These members are the optimum inspiration to many, many FFA members who have similar aspirations and we should utilize them. (see attached recommendations)

1. I recommend that the FFA initiate a major effort to promote vocational agriculture and FFA to state leaders. National Officers should address the National Governors' Conference. States should be encouraged to conduct annual or bi-annual legislative breakfasts/luncheon to inform legislators. States hosting National Officers should be encouraged to include state superintendents of public instruction, etc on the itineraries.
2. I recommend that the National FFA Alumni be requested to initiate similar activities.
3. I recommend that a National Tour be organized and funded which would utilize the National proficiency award winners and Star winners in teams of five or six to travel for four or five days conducting chapter visits and evening workshops for 200 to 300 FFA members at a time, "telling the story" of how they became a National winner and showing slides of their programs at various stages of development. Afterward they could answer questions in small group discussions, making contacts with hopeful members that could be furthered through correspondence, etc.
4. I recommend that a handbook be developed for use by high school and junior high school guidance counselors as they counsel students toward or away from agricultural careers and the local VoAg/ FFA program. It is my belief that many inaccurate statements are made and many misleading impressions given to eighth grade students who are uncertain as to what the program is and whether or not it is "for them". An easy-to-use book of factual information about agriculture and the various careers available would be welcomed by many counselors who have not had any agricultural training.
5. I recommend that certain board procedures be standardized or modified:
 - a. A form for proposals to the board should be developed which asks all of the information which the board considers necessary for a decision. During the past year we received proposals varying from a few sentences to complete abstracts including budgets, etc. and I think that the reason is that no one is quite sure (including me) what a proposal should include.
 - b. I feel that action taken at a joint board meeting should be summarized and distributed to the states in the form of a bulletin of highlights. I do not think the states and others need to know each parliamentary step of the meeting and who presented the various motions, etc. It is cumbersome to wade through detailed proceedings to look for policy changes, etc.
6. I recommend that the Joint Boards be more aggressive in terms of progress and expansion of the FFA program. We have an energetic staff who should be encouraged by the boards to go "full speed ahead". The boards should be cautious about flatly rejecting proposals from all directions. Instead, these should be returned to the author with comments which will guide the author in necessary revisions to make it a useful proposal. I became quite concerned at our July board meeting at the negative attitude which prevailed regarding the moving ahead of ongoing projects, the trying of new

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ideas, and so forth. A reluctance on the part of the board to show interest in new ideas and new directions is very discouraging to staff at the FFA Center and in the states.

7. I recommend that a policy be adopted which would require the National FFA Organization to change auditing firms at least every five or six years.
8. I recommend that the grounds at the National FFA Center be beautified with flowers and ornamental shrubs, etc. which could be done by area horticulture chapters and maintained by them. The Center should "look" like the home of the National youth organization of students of agriculture -- many of whom are studying horticulture, floriculture, landscaping, etc.
9. I recommend that the Boards officially commend every FFA employee who was involved with the Emphasis '78 program. It was an outstanding success, and should be continued at all costs.
10. I recommend that financial reimbursement policies be revised to increase compensation for travel for members in Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico in those areas where the Organization provides reimbursement. (i.e. State Presidents' Conference, National Convention, etc.)
11. I recommend that an FFA newsletter be developed in spanish for spanish-speaking FFA members in Puerto Rico and parts of the United States where language is a problem.
12. I recommend that the National FFA Organization continue to send a representative to meetings of the National Advancement Council on Vocational Education (NACVE).
13. I recommend that the National FFA Officers continue the legislative visits which we were involved with in September.

In conclusion, it has been a great honor and an educational experience to serve as a National Officer. I wish to salute Mr. H. N. Hunsicker and Mr. C. Coleman Harris for their positive attitude, outstanding leadership, and many fine personal attributes which have made them very successful in their respective leadership roles with the FFA, and which has enabled them to win so much respect for this organization.

KEEP GOING !

REPORT TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PEG ARMSTRONG, NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

CENTRAL REGION

I would like to begin and end this presentation by saying thank you for all of the excitement, the experiences, the challenges, and the opportunities. I have learned a lot and I hope to use all of these experiences in the future.

I came into this office very excited and open-minded. I guess some would even consider me blind to the world. Yet, I am leaving still very excited but more educated to the workings of the world. I became a little disheartened when I saw some of the in-house problems and struggles but it has all been offset by the outstanding young people and ag. teachers I have met. They are what keeps this organization going. I shudder to think of the day when we forget who counts in this organization and the phrase of "of, by, and for the students of vocational agriculture" is no longer true. The most important thing to me is to know that the membership thought I did a good job.

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WEEKEND IN KANSAS CITY AFTER ELECTION - This is an important time. I think this meeting is needed to know what is expected of them. I think we wasted time going through the "contract" line by line when there were other more important items. The pictures that are taken for publicity may be important but they are always terrible. Only make a few of those and then take new pictures later on and periodically. Have a place set up for better meals during that weekend, I believe that the officers need to get out of the hotel. The rest I would leave up to Mr. Hoyt. He did a good job for the first year of having such responsibilities.

OFFICERS ASSIGNMENTS - I really hated doing these. I am not even sure that they are helpful. I read the materials and sent the assignments in but I can't remember depending on that information much. I think time could be better utilized in organizing on our own because there are a lot of business matters to tend to at home before traveling.

ORIENTATION IN DECEMBER - This is a necessary and important week. The information that is presented is vital. The most important part was meeting with the program staff and discussing each area. This information was important on the experience program. Plus, studying the issues facing vocational-agriculture - FFA is very important. We need to travel over to the Office of Education to get to know the people there. It was a little uncomfortable though. One didn't always know what to say. Plus, I think that the schedules for the experience programs should be handed to the officers at this time so that they know what to expect. Proper planning needs to be done in this area. May I suggest that evening activities be kept to a minimum during this orientation. The officers need time to relax and get to know each other. There is no other time than in the evening. It is needed if they are to work together well. Give them a chance to contact their congressman if possible. Stress to them scheduling and taking care of their health. This may be a good time to go over their schedule with them to check on any problems.

MISSOURI GREENHAND WORKSHOP - Keep this in the first part of January. It is a great chance for all of the officers to travel together and work together. It helps them to prepare for their experience program, too. It gives them a good idea what kind of schedule they are going to be under timewise. A good program.

EXPERIENCE PROGRAM - Inform states early so that they can set up a quality program for the officer. This way they can get a schedule out to the officer a lot earlier so they know what to expect. Let the new officers go through some of the reports that the teams before have written about their experience programs. This could be very helpful. All I can say is - tell them to enjoy it and ask a lot of questions. Stress writing thank you's back after this.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING - The FFA Zoo. That is how I feel as I think back on it. I was scared, unknowledgeable, tired, and felt pretty worthless. I also felt like a spectator. We need more time before this board meeting to rest and be briefed on the agenda. It is ridiculous to send us into that meeting to make decisions when we may not even know the issues.

1. Staying where we did was very expensive. Could we not look into an alternative for housing. This is only a suggestion.
2. We need to schedule enough time to get to the items on the agenda. It seems useless to have a board meeting if we do not get the necessary business done.
3. Leave a few of the evenings of the board meeting open to rest and think about the business. It is needed.
4. It is ridiculous to ask us to approve a budget when we have very little idea what is necessary to run the organization. I think that this is done because they do not want us to ask questions.
5. The committee meetings need to be more organized. I think each person should have a handout that lists the objectives of the committee and the results it hopes to accomplish. I believe any background information should be printed up and given to members. Give officers an idea in December which committee they may be on and who will chair it. They can do some background work. Print up pertinent information relating the Board items, too.
6. Finally, make sure all board members are willing to stay until the end of the meeting.
7. MAKE SURE MINUTES ARE ACCURATE!!!!

D. C. TOUR IN JANUARY - First of all, I relied on a lot of this information all year long. I think that at times it is fully scheduled and we may need to space out some things. I didn't always feel alert when I needed to be. I wrote up a complete report and gave it to Mr. Hoyt earlier. That information is available there. Please continue this program and follow it up later.

FEBRUARY SUB-REGIONAL - This is good for the officers but I am afraid that we are the only ones who benefit. I strongly suggest that this be changed. These state officers need this training earlier in the year, not when they are half-finished with their year. Continue prayer breakfast at the Hunter Motel. Use the FFA Center facilities again.

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GOODWILL TOUR - A great experience. We gain the most current agricultural information from this. It helped to have the notebooks with the necessary information, too. We used them alot on the northern tour. I don't believe that the officers should have to write up all of this material, though, such as what we did at the center. We needed that time for planning. Mr. Hoyt had a good idea though. It also helped having Mr. McDowell and Mr. Staller brief us before we left. They gave us some valuable information plus it helped to have them on the tour. I don't believe we should have traveled by car all of the way in the north. It was hard on us. I believe that at times we stayed in some very expensive rooms. I feel uncomfortable spending FFA members money for this. It was great for me though. I don't suggest really cheap hotels as we need some of the comforts of these hotels to stay healthy and to rest. The list of addresses of sponsors visited was invaluable for writing thank you letters. The break in February was indeed necessary. You need to relax to keep the pace. Please Continue. Officers should sit down every evening and divide up thank you's and discuss the day. Have one officer in charge of each day's organization. This is very helpful for all. I am concerned that Good Will Tour is held when FFA Week is held. I don't like the fact that the officers are visiting business and industry instead of members at this time. Possibly something can be done. The tour was organized and I appreciated having someone else get the flight tickets and making the necessary arrangements. We need more TV and radio coverage and need to involve state officers more.

CONVENTIONS - These need to be looked at. First of all, I think they should be balanced out. I think each officer should have a few conventions in each region. I think this is very important especially when we end up with a situation like Dee's this year. The western region vice-president did only one convention in his region and it was his home state convention. Early contacts need to be made with these states too. The National needs to stress the state's responsibility in taking care of the officer. Sometimes not all of the states knew that. Conventions are great public relations place for all officers and the national organization. It is a good way to get feedback on how members feel. This is very important. I think it is important for officers to attend the entire convention, too. We need to check our scheduling on this. Conventions are mainly the responsibility of the officer though in the area of getting information on the responsibilities and for making arrangements of travel. Make sure the new officers can read the reports from the conventions the year before. This may be especially important in relation to the conventions they personally may be attending. Use all of the reports we write up!!

SUB-REGIONALS - As mentioned earlier, we need to change the sub-regional that is held the first weekend of February. It is idiotic to have a sub-regional when the officer's year is half over. The rest of the sub-regional are very important. I know they have been conducted pretty much the same way over the past years and they have functioned well.

I do have some suggestions on how I think they can be improved. I make these suggestions in relation to the large numbers of officers we had at the sub-regionals I attended and the lack of time to cover all points necessary.

1. Make the sub-regionals in Kansas City, Indiana, and Georgia, at least a day longer.
2. Possibly we could conduct all sub-regionals at one time. Maybe it could be done in August...I am not sure. We would then be consistent. It would be like Emphasis '78.
3. Have the officers travel in the same pairs to do several sub-regionals. They can better work together as a team. This is important because many times there is no opportunity to instruct a new partner in a sub-regional. Plus, everyone does everything different!
4. Start developing a resource area at the center with materials that can be used for sub-regionals. Possibly each team can write up their program and leave it for next year's team to use.
5. I think that we need to look at the importance of the sub-regionals and we need to be able to have all the materials that are necessary. The budget should be looked at. We could not get the manuals or students handbooks that were necessary. Maybe we need to charge a fee.
6. The state officer handbook needs to be looked at. Maybe we could set up such projects at the center as study programs for students at our universities in ag. education.
7. Materials need to reach all points. We didn't have too many problems but sometimes there were not enough materials sent.
8. I believe I sent in a report on sub-regionals to Mr. Hoyt.

OFFICER MEETINGS - These are invaluable. We met in Arizona, Texas, and at the center. I strongly suggest these be continued. The time to plan can always be used. I even suggest another in June. We needed it to plan for State President's Conference. I also suggest that these times only be used for planning and not too many activities are planned with this meeting.

STATE PRESIDENTS' CONFERENCE - It ran well from the outside, but the behind the scenes were chaotic! We needed to have more time in planning. We prepare to run a \$38,000 program in a week or so. That seems like very poor planning to me. Problems that resulted like with the tickets for The Wiz and the overcrowding on the buses going to see the President need to be avoided. I believe there were a lot of personal problems between the center staff, conference staff, and the national officers. How to

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change that, I don't know. Some of the sessions need to be evaluated and changed. I think the evaluations the state presidents' filled out would be useful here. I suggest you consult these.

JULY BOARD MEETING - I think that it is crazy to have committee meetings on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. when we finished up State Presidents' Conference on Friday night!!! We are exhausted then. That was just poor planning. Plus, with no briefing on the committees or the business - it makes voting somewhat difficult. There was no opportunity for us as officers to get our thoughts together before the board meeting. I did not like that. I became concerned about meetings on Sunday but I realize it may be necessary. There never seems to be enough time to transact all of the business at hand. I think we need to be concerned about pressuring people into making decisions whether or not it is because of time, political conflicts, or personal conflicts. Here are some suggestions on the next board meetings.

1. More briefing time. Possibly we should go through all proposals with those that will be proposing them.
2. Budget should be voted on at the November meeting so there are two board meetings to discuss it.
3. Our budget should be audited by a different firm every five years. It is only good business.
4. More time should be given to the July board meeting. There is so much to do.

Overall, I felt like we had to keep pulling teeth to get answers to questions. I also felt very pressured. I think we should have all information at our hands and that people should not take a failure or a success of a program personally. I think I was the most concerned about our organization after the July meeting. I felt I may have done my poorest job as an officer. Yet, all in all, it is still a democratic meeting and I appreciate that. There are places to improve though. About the minutes, that is another story. They are a disgrace. I hope they will improve some.

SEPTEMBER WASHINGTON VISITS - This was a wise idea. I feel it was well planned with visits and chances to work. Please continue this. I felt we made some headway in the U. S. Office of Education and with some of the folks on capitol hill.

OFFICER WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY -

VOUCHERS - The two week reporting periods is very important and a good span of time. I only hope that we can be more prompt in getting the checks out. There were times when I needed the money and it did not come.

I think we need to look at how some things have increased in cost before we debate them. I think I need to suggest the use of phones. They are necessary. I have never been denied a phone call but I feel guilty making calls at times.

REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES - This is important. Now I only hope that the new officers get to read them. They could be helpful.

SCHEDULE - I stress once again that the planning of the schedules would be better to save money and balance out the travel.

JACKETS AND TIES OR SCARVES - These come at pretty good times. I was very disappointed we did not get new jackets for State Presidents' Conference. I thought we looked very tacky. Later during my travels my jacket looked terrible. I became even more upset when I knew that jackets were made up for State Presidents Concern conference when we were told we couldn't have jackets.

CLOTHES BUDGET - \$200.00 is a sizable sum but it really did not even begin to cover the cost of the shirts, blouses, shoes, and nylons. They are quite expensive. I think there are other things more important but I chose to let you know.

VISA CARD - This is very helpful. I suggest you keep the \$2,000.00 limit on it. It is more workable than \$1,000.00.

ADVANCE - The \$1,000.00 advance helped alot. I may even suggest \$1,500.00.

COMMUNICATIONS - Communications from the center generally are good. There were a few times when communications were late or they were mixed up. They caused a few problems.

I strongly suggest that the officers keep their eyes and ears open for feedback. This is important for the staff to know what is happening out in the field. They need this information.

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NATIONAL OFFICER REPORT - Ken Johnson

I am grateful for the privilege of having served the Future Farmers of America this year. It has been a great year filled with challenge and many new experiences. It has been a year of learning; learning more about our great organization and life itself. It has been a year of realization; realization of the great task ahead of us as young people contributing to the future of America. There are many other positive things I could say about this year. However, I feel it much more important to share with you my concerns with respect to the future of the FFA. My concerns are twofold; first, stagnation of the Sub-Regional Leadership Conferences, and secondly, the lack of preparation time for National Officers.

It seems the Sub-Regional Leadership Conferences need a face-lift. There has been very little variation in the materials used at Sub-Regional over the past several years. The states have used much the same material training their District and Area Officers, who have then used it at Chapter Officer Conferences. The majority of state officers attending Sub-

Regional are well versed. If we are going to help them, we must give them new materials of greater depth than has been done in the past.

I feel that there is a definite correlation between the success of annual national activities (Sub-Regional, State Presidents, National Convention, Board Meeting, etc.) and preparation time allotted national officers. I hope that careful planning in the future insures adequate preparation time for national officers.

If the FFA is to continually progress, it must have dynamic leadership at all levels of the organization. We cannot waste time looking back; instead we should focus our attention on what should be accomplished in the days ahead. We must strive for a contemporary leadership that will go beyond what we have; to be based not on ideologies, but on people; not on useless rhetoric, but on a learning and expanding mind; not on intuition, but on sound reasoning; not on personal greed, but on sincerity and interest in others.

It has been the intent of this officer team to serve the 510,000 members of the FFA to the best of our ability.

For this reason the officer team has been vocal on issues facing the FFA. While full realization of our hopes and desires has not been met, I trust that our efforts will allow greater progress in the years ahead.

STANDING COMMITTEE STRUCTURE FOR NATIONAL FFA BOARD

SITUATION:

We presently have two standing committees, one in Finance and one in International. This approach to reviewing materials and making recommendations to the Board has worked quite well in these areas. This successful experience suggests that we should consider the approach for other major areas of program and FFA operations.

PROGRAM STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Publications, Information and Supply Service
1 State Supervisor, 1 OE Representative, 1 National Officer, 2 Board Consultants, 3 Organizational Consultants (Program, Magazine and Supply Service)
2. Contests and Awards
1 State Supervisor, 1 OE Representative, 2 National Officers, 2 Board Consultants, 2 Organizational Consultants (Program 2)
3. Leadership Development
1 State Supervisor, 1 OE Representative 2 National Officers, 2 Board Consultants 2 Organizational Consultants (Program and Alumni)
4. International Development
1 State Supervisor, 1 OE Representative, 1 National Officer, 2 Board Consultants, 2 Organizational Consultants (Program and Magazine)

ORGANIZATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Finance
2 State Supervisors, 1 OE Representative, 1 National Officer, 3 Organizational Consultants (Administration 1, National Advisor and Treasurer)
2. Policy
1 State Supervisor, 2 OE Representatives, 2 National Officers, 4 Consultants, 3 Organizational Consultants
3. Constitution and Bylaws
1 State Supervisor, 1 OE Representative, 2 National Officers, 4 Consultants, 3 Organizational Consultants

PURPOSES OF STANDING COMMITTEES

1. To provide for more indepth study.
2. To provide for more Board, Consultant, Officer and staff inneraction.
3. To provide for more specialization.
4. To streamline Board meetings by handling much of the discussion in the standing committess rather than in Board meetings.
5. To catergorize most reports requiring Board action into the seven standing committee areas.

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6. To utilize staff as consultants in preparing information and assisting with the development of final reports and recommendations to be presented to the Board by the committee chairman.
7. To provide national officers an opportunity to have greater input in the specialized subjects which they can study and prepare for during their term of office.
8. To put staff into the role of consultants and standing committee team members.
9. To put FFA Officers into the role of members working to improve the organization.
10. To put consultants into the role of working consultants.
11. To provide staff an avenue for discussion of new ideas and a vehicle to explore direction with a small representative group who have time to listen, study and react.
12. To provide a vehicle for indepth duscussion of new or revised programs or activities.
13. To place the primary responsibility of reporting to the Board in the hands of the Board.

PROCEDURES FOR OPERATING

Prior to the January and July Board meetings, one or more days would be set aside for the Program and Organizational Standing Committees to meet. The agenda for each standing committee would be developed by the committee chairman in cooperation with the staff consultant/s on the committee. The report of the standing committees with recommendations for action would be presented to the Board of Directors by the committee chairman.

Most all FFA matters of concern to the Board would fit into one of the standing committees. If the Board meeting agenda also included the agendas of the seven standing committees, everyone would be clear on the items being discussed. The standing committee structure does not preclude the fact that special subject reports, FFA Division reports and other group reports would be presented to the Board.

Since all National Officers, Board members and Consultants serve on both committee groups (standing and organizational) two blocks of time would be necessary for the meetings. For example, Program Standing Committees might meet from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Monday, January 29 and the Organizational Standing Committees that afternoon from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m.

It is recommended that the National Advisor appoint all committees and chairmen and that continuity be an important objective in these appointments.

ACTION

Approve one year test (January and July, 1979) before making any official change in policy.

To: Board of Directors, National FFA

From: Kenneth W. Olcott, Executive Secretary
Special Project for National Post-Secondary Agriculture/
Agribusiness Student Organization

Date: November 6, 1978

1. I am sorry I was unable to find any of our group who is able to attend this meeting and make this report. The best I can do is provide a written report to bring you up-to-date on happenings since your last meeting.
2. As Howard Sidney indicated in his report to you in July, I am now serving as executive secretary for this project. From January 1, to July 1, 1979, I will be on sabbatical leave from my teaching in agricultural engineering technology at the Agricultural and Technical College at Cobleskill, New York, and will be devoting most of my time to this project.
3. The Planning Committee for this project met in September, at Waseca, Minn., to plan a convention for April 2, 3 and 4, in Kansas City. The purpose of this convention is to explore organizational patterns, develop a constitution and by-laws to be adopted at the last session and to elect national officers. Each state will have two voting delegates. Hopefully, additional students will be involved by serving on the committees and by attending the convention. The Planning Committee hopes that 200-250 students, advisors, supervisors and teacher educators can attend.

The program will be:

Monday - April 2, 1979

Planning and nominating committees

Tuesday - April 3, 1979

Morning - Committees, registration

Afternoon - Speakers, organize for committee work

Dinner - Panel of successful programs

Evening - Disco Dance

Wednesday - April 4, 1979

Morning - Committees meet to plan constitution and by-laws, financing, activities, publicity

Afternoon - Tours to curriculum related points of interest

Banquet

Thursday - April 5, 1979

Morning - Business meeting

4. The Planning Committee Members are:

Kenneth Olcott, New York, (Ex. Secy.)

James Gibson, Minnesota

Millard Gundlach, Wisconsin

John Murray, Minnesota

James Parrish, Alabama

Neville Hunsicker, Wash., D.C.

William Hohenhaus, Minn. (State Supvr.)

Maynard Iverson, Alabama (Tea. Train.)

Gerald Lamers, Iowa (State Supvr.)

John Thompson, Florida (Student)

Betty Dick, Kansas (Student)

Patti Joyce, New York (Student)

Pam Matchi, Minnesota (Student)

Louis Hammer, Illinois (Student)

Coleman Harris, Va. (Ex-Officio)

Donald McDowell, WI (Ex-Officio)

Bernie Staller, WI (Ex-Officio)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kenneth W. Olcott
Executive Secretary

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA
Arizona Association
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

September 25, 1978

Mr. H. N. Hunsicker
National FFA Advisor
National FFA Center
Box 15160
Alexandria, VA 22309

Dear Neville:

Hope things are going well in D. C. and Alexandria!

Arizona was recently involved in an unfortunate situation involving a National FFA Foundation sponsor. I desired to call this to your attention and offer a possible solution.

As you know, small states receive only 14 \$100 state proficiency awards from the Foundation. It is therefore necessary that those states then secure eight additional sponsors locally to provide equal awards to all twenty-two state proficiency award recipients. The bottom line is that for eight awards there is a national sponsor (from which no money is received) and a state sponsor which provides the \$100 award. This situation resulted in an unhappy national sponsor.

Mark Bransteller, Public Relations Manager, Sperry-New Holland, while reviewing an article on FFA award winners in the July issue of Arizona Farmer-Ranchman discovered that the Valley National Bank was shown as the sponsor of the \$100 Crop Production Award. Being somewhat disturbed, he contacted Don McDowell and Bernie Staller who in turn called me and made Howard Morrison aware of the situation.

Let me assure you that here in Arizona we make every effort to provide for recognition of national sponsors. Annually, using the list of regional representatives provided by Don McDowell, we invite national sponsors as well as the sponsoring committee chairman to attend our state conference. Also, we show all national sponsors, along with state sponsors, in our printed conference program annually and send a copy of this to Don's office along with a letter informing him of national sponsor attendance at the conference.

All national sponsors are also listed in our news releases. However, due to the large number of awards and sponsors and the editorial prerogative exercised by the news media to "localize," national sponsors are sometimes omitted, particularly if they are not tied to a specific amount of dollars as is the case with the eight "unfunded" state proficiency awards. This was the situation which occurred with Sperry-New Holland and other national sponsors of the "unfunded" proficiency awards.

This issue prompted by Mr. Bransteller has alerted us more to the problem and we will increase our personal efforts to provide recognition for national

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sponsors in the local media. However, I see no change in the fact that national sponsors of the eight "unfunded" proficiency awards will continue to receive second billing to the state sponsors who provide the bucks.

The solution, of course, is to fund all 22 proficiency awards in all states regardless of size. I suggest that this be considered by the National Board of Directors/Student Officers as well as the Sponsoring Committee.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gordon G. Hall
State FFA Executive Secretary

cc: Don McDowell
Robert Seefeldt
Coleman Harris
Howard Morrison