

MINUTES

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

Kansas City, Missouri
October 8-9, 1967

October 8, 1967

The meeting of the Boards of Directors and National Officers of the Future Farmers of America was called to order at 8:30 a.m., in Room M-4 of the Hotel President, Kansas City, Missouri, by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Those present, in addition to Mr. Hunsicker, included:

Board of Directors

D. C. Aebischer, Chief, Agricultural Education, Madison, Wisconsin;
H. E. Edwards, Office of Education, Chicago, Illinois;
M. C. Gaar, Office of Education, Atlanta, Georgia;
V. B. Hairr, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Raleigh, N. Carolina;
B. F. Rawls, Office of Education, Kansas City, Missouri;
J. W. Warren, Office of Education, Charlottesville, Virginia;
W. H. Wayman, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Charleston, W. Va.;
D. E. Wilson, Chief, Agricultural Education, Sacramento, California.

Alternates:

John W. Lacey, Office of Education, Denver, Colorado;
Jesse A. Taft, Office of Education, Boston, Massachusetts.

Board of National Officers

Gary Swan, National FFA President, Jasper, New York;
Paul Tarpley, National FFA Secretary, Trout, Louisiana;
Keaton Vandemark, National FFA Vice President, Elida, Ohio;
Richard Morrison, National FFA Vice President, Gilbert, Arizona;
Monte Reese, National FFA Vice President, Mooreland, Oklahoma;
Harold Brubaker, National FFA Vice President, Mount Joy, Pennsylvania.

Others present were J. M. Campbell, National FFA Treasurer, Richmond, Virginia; Wm. Paul Gray, National FFA Executive Secretary, Washington, D.C.; James Durkee, former President, NVATA, Laramie, Wyoming; R. H. Tolbert, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Education, College of Education, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia; and H. W. Gadda, Teacher Trainer, Agricultural Education, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota.

Others attending all or a part of the sessions included: Wilson W. Carnes, Editor, The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine, Alexandria, Virginia; Lennie Gamage, Advertising Manager, The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine, Alexandria, Virginia; Harry Andrews, Assistant Manager, Future Farmers Supply Service, Alexandria, Virginia; John C. Foltz, Coordinator, FFA Foundation, Washington, D.C.; John J. Farrar, Director of Information and Public Relations, Future Farmers of America, Washington, D.C.; and Messrs. Larry Selland, J. D. Brown, Dennis Torrence, and Wallace Vog, participants in the 1967-1968 Massey-Ferguson Fellowship Program.

The Chairman opened the meeting by asking the members to observe a moment of silent meditation.

INTRODUCTIONS -- The Chairman introduced those present and extended a welcome to all non-participants who were there as observers, only. This was followed by brief remarks by the National FFA President, Gary Swan.

REPORTS FROM THE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES -- The Chairman distributed copies of the Tentative Agenda for the meeting, and called for reports from the Regional members of the Board, and from the National Officers, regarding suggestions they have received from the States for inclusion on the Agenda. They had no additional items for consideration.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES -- The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting, held in Washington, D.C., on July 27-28, 1967, as mimeographed and distributed to the States. Mr. Edwards suggested that two corrections in the Minutes were in order: (1) That the Minutes be corrected to show that Messrs. H. W. Gadda, G. W. Lange, and R. H. Tolbert, all members of the FFA Foundation Board of Trustees, were present for all or a portion of the Board meeting; and, (2) That "Appendix F" of the Minutes, "National Officers' Report on State Conventions and Activities" be corrected as follows: 1st paragraph, 2nd sentence -- "We began our activities with the Good-Will Tour which entailed contacting approximately 225 business, industrial, and national organizations in 17 cities of 12 States, most of whom are donors to the FFA Foundation."

It was moved by Harold Brubaker (Gaar)*, seconded by Richard Morrison (Aebischer) and carried, that the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved, with the above stated corrections.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF GOVERNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS -- The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Governing Committee Meetings of August 24, 1967; September 12, 1967; and October 2, 1967 (two meetings on this day).

It was moved by Paul Tarpley (Hairr), seconded by Keaton Vandemark (Wayman) and carried, that the Minutes of the four Governing Committee Meetings, referred to above, be accepted. (SEE APPENDIX 1.)

HONORARY AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE FOR VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY -- The Chairman called attention to the fact that final arrangements had been completed for the appearance of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey at the opening session of the convention. Mr. Humphrey has been most helpful to the National FFA Organization, in receiving the National Officers in his office

* For the purpose of brevity, the names of the Board of Directors members moving to sustain the action of the National Officers are included in the parentheses following the name of the respective National Officer who made and seconded the motion.

in Washington, and in lending his support to the program of Vocational Education in Agriculture. It was pointed out that he already holds the Honorary State Farmer Degree from Minnesota.

It was moved by Monte Reese (Warren), seconded by Harold Brubaker (Hairr) and carried, that the Honorary American Farmer Degree be conferred upon the Vice President of the United States, the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, at the 40th National FFA Convention.

HONORARY AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE FOR SENATOR WAYNE MORSE -- Mr. Gray recommended that similar action be taken on behalf of Senator Wayne Morse, who will address the convention on Thursday morning, October 12.

It was moved by Paul Tarpley (Aebischer), seconded by Keaton Vandemark (Hairr) and carried, that the Honorary American Farmer Degree be conferred upon the Honorable Wayne Morse, Senator from Oregon, at the 40th National FFA Convention.

DISCUSSION - RE: HONORARY AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE -- The Chairman pointed out, in response to a question on the subject, that the policy followed by the Board is that the recipient of the Honorary American Farmer Degree must be present at the convention to receive the Degree, except in case of illness, or absence from the country; or, a retiree who can not be present.

GIRLS IN NATIONAL FFA ACTIVITIES -- LEGAL COUNSEL'S OPINION -- The next item on the Agenda was the matter of accepting girls as FFA members on the National level. Members of the Board, at their meeting in July, 1967, requested that the National FFA Advisor seek a legal interpretation regarding the organization's obligation to accept girls, as FFA members, on the National level. This he did, by Memorandum, on August 7, 1967. A Memorandum, in reply, on this subject, dated October 6, 1967, was received from William H. Metzger, Chief, Adult and Vocational Education Section, of the Office of General Counsel. Both memorandums were mimeographed and copies distributed to members of the Boards. (SEE APPENDIX 2-A and 2-B.)

Considerable discussion took place on this subject. It was reported that, in spite of action taken by the delegates in 1966, some States are still pressing for admission of girls on the National level. One State is particularly insistent. The Chairman polled the Board members for their opinions, and the matter was discussed frankly and freely. It was pointed out that such a change, if and when made, would require a constitutional amendment -- and that constitutional procedures would prevent the possibility of presenting such an amendment at the 1967 convention.

It was moved by Keaton Vandemark (Hairr), seconded by Richard Morrison (Wayman) and carried, that the delegate body be informed of the Legal Opinion of the Office of Education (Re: Participation of Girl Students of Vocational Agriculture in National Level Programs) which has been received by the National FFA Advisor, and its implications; that the matter be explained on the floor of the convention; that it be referred to the National FFA Officers and FFA Board of Directors for careful discussion; and that the issue be presented at the 1968 FFA Convention, in accordance with the Constitution.

STRENGTH AND WEAKNESSES OF FOUNDATION AWARD APPLICATIONS IN 1967 --

The Chairman called upon Mr. John Foltz who gave a report on the judging of 1967 FFA Foundation Awards on the Regional and National Levels. He stated that some were good, while others were weak. The judges were critical of the quality of some of the applications. They also suggested that a concise list of objectives for these awards be established. In some instances the spelling, writing, and grammar especially needed improvement. The Regional Representatives voiced concern over the poor quality of some applications which they had reviewed. Some of their comments follow:

1. In many instances, it was apparent that the boys did not receive appropriate help with their applications.
2. State FFA Advisors failed to sign some of the application forms.
3. Some States sent in too many applications, and other States sent too few.
4. They felt greater effort was needed in promoting the value of the awards program to supplement the instruction in vocational agriculture.

The Chairman commented that this is the first year the judges (many of whom are donors to the FFA Foundation) have really criticized the applications. When spelling and grammar is poor, it is a reflection upon the school. It is a part of the educational system, and the school should take the initiative in making certain that the final application is correct, both in content and appearance. He concluded by suggesting that each member of the Board present this matter at seminars, meetings, etc., in the States. Mr. Hairr suggested that this matter be called to the attention of the various State FFA Associations.

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING FFA FOUNDATION APPLICATIONS -- It was moved by Keaton Vandemark (Hairr), seconded by Paul Tarpley (Rawls) and carried, that a set of guidelines for improving FFA Foundation Applications be sent to all the State Associations of FFA.

FOUNDATION AWARD APPLICATION FORMS FOR 1968 -- Mr. Foltz gave a report concerning FFA Foundation forms. The Foundation Board of Trustees voted, at its July meeting, to authorize the National Office to proceed with the development and printing of FFA Foundation forms for the three-year period, 1968-1970, including forms for the three new awards. He stated that some States prefer just one form, but for a three-year period. Due to shortage of time, the revisions have not been completed.

The Chairman stated that apparently it is going to be impossible to revise the present application forms and get them out in November, in time for the States to use in 1968. It was decided that, if it is impossible to revise the present forms, they will be used again in 1968 -- but that a form must be prepared for the three new awards. When new forms are printed, they will be used for a three-year period.

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 a.m. to permit members of the Boards to attend church services.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 1:30 p.m., all members of the Boards being present.

FILMS ON VO-AG AND THE FFA -- Mr. Gray gave a progress report regarding Films on Vo-Ag and the FFA. Mr. Walter J. Klein will soon be ready to start shooting scenes for the 16 mm. movie depicting the total over-all program of vocational education in agriculture, and the FFA. Tentative plans also are underway to make a movie of the 40th Anniversary Convention.

Mr. Wilson felt that in looking ahead to next year's budget, we should think about sponsoring TV short clips, and other promotional media, ourselves -- and not depend solely on commercial sponsorship.

NATIONAL OFFICER ACTIVITIES SINCE JULY -- The National FFA Officers gave very interesting and informative reports on their activities since the July Board Meeting. This included participation in Leadership Conferences, Seminars, Vocational Agriculture Teachers Conferences, Eastern States Exposition, and the International Boy Scout Jamboree.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM - 1967 -- The Chairman called upon Mr. Gray who reported on the 1967 International Exchange Program. Representatives from England, Scotland and Wales arrived in the United States on August 1 and have since been on farms in Georgia, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming and Illinois. Our FFA representatives have made very favorable reports on their visits to the above three countries. All six boys will be attending the National FFA Convention, after which two of the Young Farmers will visit New York before returning to Great Britain.

PERSONNEL AND SPACE FOR FFA OFFICE -- The Chairman next reported that to date he has not received a reply to his memorandum of February 3, 1967, to the U. S. Commissioner of Education, requesting additional office space. He has had several conferences with officials in the Division of Vocational and Technical Education and hopes to secure additional space in the near future. He reported that Mr. Coleman Harris will be joining the National FFA Staff as of October 25, so the space problem will need to be solved by that time.

Harold Brubaker inquired why Mr. Foltz could not be moved to the FFA Building. The Chairman replied that the duties of the FFA Executive Secretary and the Coordinator of the FFA Foundation, as specified by previous Boards, require that they be performed under the supervision of the National FFA Advisor. In addition, there are numerous program and public relations advantages, as well as administrative advantages, in having these major operations in close proximity.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION -- It was moved by Keaton Vandemark (Wilson), seconded by Richard Morrison (Gaar) and carried, that the Boards go into Executive Session. (2:00 p.m.)

The matters of office space and personnel were further discussed in the Executive Session.

The Board was reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL AND SPACE FOR FFA OFFICE (Continued) -- It was moved by Keaton Vandemark (Wilson), seconded by Paul Tarpley (Rawls) and carried, "That Mr. Foltz be moved to the FFA Building by December 1, 1967, unless additional space is provided in the U. S. Office of Education by that time."

THEMES FOR NATIONAL FFA WEEK -- It was moved by Harold Brubaker (Gaar), seconded by Monte Reese (Hairr) and carried, that the National Calendar Staff be authorized to present two or three specific themes for National FFA Week with suggested programs, to be presented at the January, 1968, Board Meeting.

NATIONAL DAIRY JUDGING CONTESTS FOR 1968 -- Mr. Edwards reviewed, briefly, the action taken at the July Board Meeting with reference to the National Dairy Judging Contests in 1968. Officials in Waterloo, Iowa, Kansas City, Missouri, and Columbus, Ohio, have extended invitations to hold the National Dairy Judging Contests in their cities. The State FFA Advisors are to be polled, prior to the January Board Meeting, regarding their preferences of locations for these contests. He proposed that a critique summary of all proposals be incorporated in the questionnaire, or opinionnaire, proposed at the July meeting.

It was moved by Monte Reese (Hairr), seconded by Keaton Vandemark (Wilson) and carried, that a summary of the information contained in all three proposals -- both the advantages and disadvantages -- be incorporated in the opinionnaire to be sent to the State Associations, as authorized at the July meeting.

Messrs. Rawls, Lacey, Edwards, Foltz, Brubaker and Vandemark were in Waterloo to conduct the Dairy Contests this year. The contests went very smoothly and the officials in Waterloo have extended an invitation to continue to hold the contests there. The Special Study Committee on Contests (composed of four State Supervisors and four Teacher Educators) are meeting in Kansas City this week. Their function is to amend or make recommendations as to changing the rules of all judging contests. This Committee will report its findings to the Board members in January.

INCREASING FFA MEMBERSHIP -- The Chairman brought to the attention of the Board members, a problem of major importance, with which he dealt in his memorandum of October 4, 1967, to all State FFA Advisors and Executive Secretaries. In this memorandum he pointed out that there is a wide gap

between the number of students enrolled in vocational agriculture, and the number who are affiliated with the FFA. For example:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Vo-Ag Enrollment</u>	<u>FFA Membership</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1966	510,279	445,386	87.3
1967	519,000 *	438,429	84.5

* Estimated Enrollment

This means that in 1967, approximately 80,000 high school students in agricultural courses are not members of the FFA. A recent check also showed that of the 448 American Farmer Degree candidates for 1967, 89 have not paid their dues. The question is: What can be done to encourage increased FFA membership? Considerable discussion followed. Mr. Hairr thought perhaps those in supervisory positions may possibly be responsible for this situation. We say, "Membership in the FFA is voluntary" -- Then, we say, "The FFA Organization is an integral part of vocational agriculture." It was agreed that the State staffs should encourage greater participation in the FFA.

PROPOSED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN 1968 -- Mr. Gray distributed copies of a proposed plan for a National Leadership Conference to be held in 1968, to coincide with our 40th Anniversary date. Pertinent information on the proposed conference follows:

Date: July 16-19, 1968

Place: Willard Hotel - Washington, D.C.

Financing: \$25,000.00 to be paid to the States by the National FFA Organization, on a zone basis for travel -- Balance to be paid by the State FFA Associations

Mr. Wilson preferred another date -- possibly following the summer Board Meetings. The pros and cons of such a conference were discussed. Some expressed the opinion that if a conference is held, it should be a real, working conference.

It was moved by Monte Reese, and seconded by Harold Brubaker that Mr. Gray's report be referred to the Leadership Committee.

It was moved by Paul Tarpley (Gaar), seconded by Harold Brubaker (Wilson) and carried, to lay the previous motion on the table. (See Page 10)

The meeting was recessed at 5:30 p.m. Due to the extended Executive Session, the Chairman announced that it would be necessary to hold a night meeting.

October 8, 1967 (Continued)

The meeting was reconvened at 7:00 p.m. All members of the Board were present.

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE IN NATURAL BEAUTY AND CONSERVATION --

A brief report was given on progress being made in the States on Beautification and Conservation programs following the National Conference in 1966. The Executive Secretary reported that a movie has been made and many States are cooperating in Natural Beautification and Conservation Programs as a result of the National Conference. The final meeting for this conference is scheduled for November, 1967.

CONSTITUTIONAL ITEMS FOR SPECIAL STUDY BY THE BOARDS IN JANUARY --

At the July Board Meeting, action was taken to extend the time of regular meetings sufficiently to permit a study of needed modifications in the Constitution, Bylaws, Ceremonies and Operating Policies. The following priority items were suggested for discussion at the January meeting of the FFA Board of Directors and National Officers:

1. Girls in the FFA
2. Ornamental Horticulture Clubs, Forestry Clubs, etc., as affiliates of the FFA
3. Minnesota's recommendation to the Boards on raising the percentage of those eligible for State Farmer Degree (from 2% to 3%)
4. Labor Income Requirements for Degrees
5. Policies Regarding Staff Membership on National FFA Board of Directors
6. Policy in Regard to Make-up of Nominating Committee - and Number of Nominations
7. Names of Degrees -

Chapter Degree
State Degree
Etc.

State Associations are encouraged to provide the National FFA Office with other suggestions.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL WORK -- The Executive Secretary stated that several countries have requested assistance in establishing or strengthening present Future Farmer organizations -- among them, Brazil, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras and Colombia. He stated that we are committed in Mexico. The publication "What It Is -- What It Does" has been translated in Portugese and sent to Brazil. It also has been translated in Spanish and made available to several countries. Arrangements have been

made with Mr. Wards, Executive Secretary in New Zealand, to send one young farmer to the United States, from April until Convention time. In turn, New Zealand desires to have an FFA member visit there.

Lennie Gamage reported briefly on his recent trip to Europe, during which time he made arrangements for a conducted 24-day tour to Europe in 1968. It is planned, specifically, for FFA members and vocational agriculture personnel. The cost of the tour will be approximately \$700.00 and will include travel in England, Holland, Germany, Denmark and Sweden. Tour members would be meeting with young farmer groups in each of these countries. It was suggested that the delegates be apprised of this proposed tour.

In further discussion on International Activities, it was the consensus of opinion that if assistance is given by the FFA, it should be to the developing countries.

REPORT ON FAO WORLD SEMINAR -- Keaton Vandemark gave a very interesting report on his participation in the FAO World Seminar, which was held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, September 11-15, 1967. He emphasized that youth organizations, and especially the FFA, will have an active role in improving agriculture in the developing countries. Keaton served as National Chairman of the Youth Organizations associated with FAO.

UNESCO PROPOSAL -- Keaton Vandemark reported on a recent meeting in the U. S. Office of Education in which he participated. This meeting dealt with the World Food Program, and was attended by Dr. A. W. Tenney, Miss Hazel F. Gabbard, and Mr. Wm. Paul Gray, all of the Office of Education. The FFA Organization was invited to participate in a program that would have as its major purpose the development of an International Federation of Youth Organizations in Agricultural Education, which would be sponsored by UNESCO, should the proposal be approved. Some members of the Board felt that the FFA does not have the money or staff to become involved in such a program, therefore, asked that Dr. Tenney take the initiative in writing the proposal.

After considerable discussion, it was moved by Richard Morrison (Hairr), seconded by Harold Brubaker (Aebischer) and carried, that, due the shortage of FFA staff, Dr. A. W. Tenney be requested to draw up a proposal, and that this proposal be checked and approved by the FFA staff before submitting it to UNESCO.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL FFA CONSTITUTION -- The Board of Directors recommended that the following Amendment to the National FFA Constitution be referred to the delegates for their favorable consideration:

ARTICLE XI, Section B: To be amended to read as follows:

Each State Association is entitled to send two delegates from its active membership to the National Convention, for the first 10,000 members, and one other delegate for each additional 10,000 members, or major fraction thereof - such delegates to be selected as provided in the State Constitution or Bylaws. Fifty-one percent of the delegate body from at least 26 States shall constitute a quorum.

PROPOSED NATIONAL CENTER -- Copies of a new brochure on the proposed National FFA Center were distributed to the Board members. It was announced that Mr. Thomas A. Kamstra, Architect, of Falls Church, Virginia, will make a presentation of proposed sketches for the Center, at the Officer-Delegate Luncheon on Tuesday. It was decided that the matter of the proposed National Center should be explained to the delegates, as informational material, only. Mr. Durkee stated that he feels the vo-ag teachers are still uninformed concerning the Center, and he would welcome a presentation of the proposed Center at the National NVATA Convention, December 2 and 3. The Chairman expressed appreciation for this invitation and stated that he thought it could be arranged.

INTRODUCTION -- The Chairman introduced Mr. Thaine McCormick, Director, Adult, Vocational and Technical Education, U. S. Office of Education, Kansas City, Missouri. He extended an invitation to Mr. McCormick and his staff to attend as many sessions of the convention as their time will permit.

The meeting was recessed at 8:30 p.m.

October 9

The meeting was reconvened at 8:30 a.m., on Monday, October 9. All members of the Board were present.

FURTHER DISCUSSION ON NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN 1968 -- Members of the Board renewed discussion on the subject of a National Leadership Conference for all State Officers, in 1968. Since Regional Leadership Conferences will be held next summer, some members of the Board felt that it would be inadvisable to make plans for a leadership conference on the National level this Fiscal Year, especially in view of the fact that no funds have been included in the budget for such a conference.

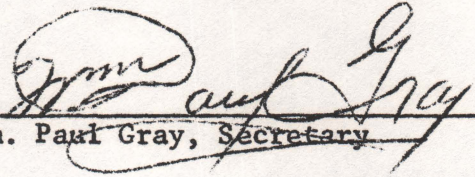
ACTION RESCINDED ON NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN 1968 -- After considerable discussion, it was moved by Monte Reese (Wayman), seconded by Paul Tarpley (Aebischer) and carried, that in view of the increased popularity and effectiveness of Sub-Regional Leadership Conferences, the Board rescind the action taken at the January Board Meeting, to hold a National Leadership Conference for all State Officers in 1968.

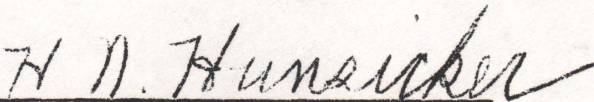
REVIEW OF CONVENTION RESPONSIBILITIES -- The remainder of the time was spent in reviewing National Convention plans, and the specific duties and responsibilities of individual members of the Boards.

CHAIRMAN EXPRESSES APPRECIATION TO BOARD MEMBERS -- The Chairman expressed appreciation to the National Officers and members of the Board of Directors for the outstanding job they have done throughout the year. He especially complimented Dr. Tolbert and Mr. Paul J. Foster, retiring

members of the FFA Foundation Board of Trustees, for their services to the organization. Gary Swan made similar remarks and presented Dr. Tolbert with an official FFA desk set, as a memento of his membership on the Foundation Board of Trustees. Gary stated that a similar memento would be presented, later, to Mr. Foster who was unable to be present for the Board sessions.

There being no further business to come before the two Boards, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.


Wm. Paul Gray, Secretary


H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman

A P P E N D I X

M I N U T E S

F F A

B O A R D O F D I R E C T O R S A N D
P O A R D O F N A T I O N A L O F F I C E R S

Kansas City, Mo.
Oct. 8-9, 1967

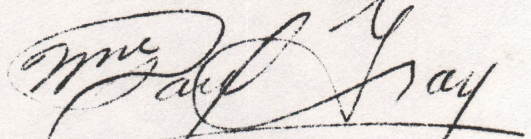
MINUTES
GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA
August 24, 1967
Washington, D.C.

The meeting was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Others present included Wm. Paul Gray and M. C. Gaar. It was brought out that several persons were overlooked at the Board of National Officers and Board of Directors meeting for national awards. It was moved by Mr. Gray, seconded by Dr. Gaar and carried that the following individuals be recognized at the 1967 national convention:

O. G. Voss, Executive Vice President, International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois (Honorary American Farmer Degree) - Mr. Voss who is retiring, but for many years has been most active in supporting FFA activities, especially judging the Star Farmer of America and National Foundation Awards, as well as making arrangements for the national officers' visit at IHC for the Annual Good-Will Tour. International Harvester Company has been a donor to the FFA Foundation since 1945.

Mylo S. Downey, Director, 4-H and Youth Development, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. (Honorary American Farmer Degree) - Mr. Downey was a teacher of vocational agriculture for several years, but will retire this fall from his present position. He has given outstanding cooperation to the FFA in many activities on the national level, and has been of special help in arranging the leadership conferences the past six years in Washington, D.C.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Paul Gray", written over a horizontal line.

Wm Paul Gray, Secretary

MINUTES

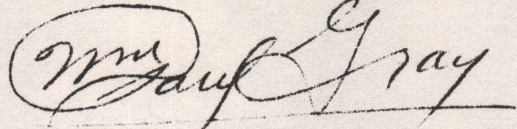
GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

September 12, 1967
Washington, D.C.

The meeting was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Others present included Wm. Paul Gray and M. C. Gaar (members of the committee.)

It was moved by Mr. Gray, seconded by Dr. Gaar and carried that Coleman Harris, Executive Secretary of the Indiana Association, be employed as an FFA Program Specialist, effective October 30. Also that he be employed at Grade 12, Step 5, under FFA employment policies including temporary life insurance equal to his salary until such time as he is eligible to transfer to the regular FFA retirement program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. Paul Gray", written over a horizontal line.

Wm. Paul Gray, Secretary

MINUTES
GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

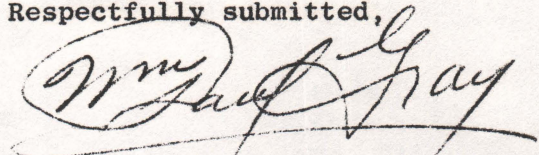
Washington, D.C.

October 2, 1967

The meeting was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. An explanation was made by the National Advisor of a recent check on payment of National FFA Membership Dues, by American Farmer Degree candidates. The check revealed that 89 of the 448 candidates for 1967 had not paid their current year's dues. Since this check was not made until after the July, 1967, meeting of the National Officers and Board of Directors, it was thought it would be unwise to disqualify the candidates after they had been approved by the Boards.

It was moved by Dr. Gaar, seconded by Mr. Gray and carried that the 89 candidates be granted the degree, and that States be informed that special dispensation not be extended to any candidates for degrees or award winners in future years.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wm Paul Gray". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

Wm. Paul Gray, Secretary

MINUTES
GOVERNING COMMITTEE OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

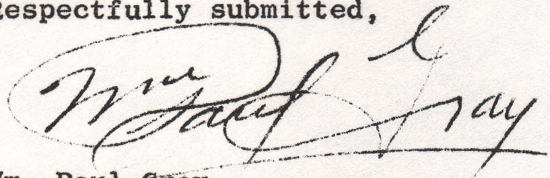
Washington, D.C.

October 2, 1967

The meeting was called to order by H. N. Hunsicker, Chairman. Others present included M. C. Gaar and Wm. Paul Gray (members of the committee.)

It was moved by Dr. Gaar, seconded by Mr. Gray and carried that the expenses of the Regional Program Officers, BAVL, U. S. Office of Education, to attend and participate in the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, be paid by the FFA in the event they are unable to obtain approval by the U. S. Office of Education.

Respectfully submitted,



Wm. Paul Gray

APPENDIX 2-A

OOE-BAVLP-DVTE

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Grant Venn
Associate Commissioner for Adult & Vocational
Through: Dr. E. L. Rumpf
Mr. S. D. McMillen

From: H. N. Hunsicker
National Advisor
Future Farmers of America

Subject: Request for Legal Opinion

August 7, 1967

When the Future Farmers of America was organized in 1928 the membership was composed of male students of vocational agriculture. The organization has always been referred to as "an organization, of, by, and for farm boys". From the beginning the National Constitution of the FFA has limited its membership to males under "Membership" (Section B, Article IV, of the National FFA Constitution).

At the 1934 National FFA Convention the delegates relented somewhat and specified that girl membership in FFA should be limited to a local and State basis. There has been an increasing number of girl students of vocational agriculture in recent years. This has resulted in an increased number of girls desiring nationally recognized FFA membership which would allow participation in activities above the State FFA Association level. On several occasions, State associations have proposed amendments to the National FFA Constitution to allow all students of vocational agriculture (regardless of sex) to be eligible for membership. On each occasion the proposed amendment was defeated by a majority of the delegates of all 50 States at the National FFA Convention. The Board of National Officers and the Board of Directors for the FFA has sustained action of the delegates each time and ruled that girl participation, as FFA members, be limited to local and State association levels.

Your attention is called to Public Law 740, Section 3, Item (7), and Section 4, Item (4), and also to a Memorandum to Dr. A. W. Tenney, dated October 16, 1964, Subject: "Future Farmers of America - Admission of Girls," copies attached.

After several State Attorney Generals have ruled that the FFA State Association must admit girls, the question is raised whether the current practice of prohibiting membership and participation by girls on the National level is consistent with recent legislation of equal opportunities.

At the July 27, 1967, joint meeting of the Board of National Officers and the Board of Directors for the FFA, the above subject was discussed. The Boards asked this office to request legal interpretation as to whether or not the FFA may continue to restrict girl participation in

activities on the National level. It is most important to have this review in light of the FFA being an integral part of vocational education, administered by State Departments of Education on the State level, and sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education on the National level.

We will appreciate a legal opinion as early as feasible prior to our scheduled National FFA Convention in early October. Should the law be interpreted to legally require the FFA to admit female students of vocational agriculture as members and to participate in the FFA on both State and National levels, we will be able to take proper action at the October 1967 Annual National Convention.

Attachments

WFGay:lc
Dr. Rumpf
Mr. McMillen

APPENSIX 2-B

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL
Education Division

Dr. John R. Ludington
Deputy Associate Commissioner
for Adult, Vocational and Library Programs

October 6, 1967

William H. Metzger, Chief
Adult and Vocational Education Section

Future Farmers of America--Participation of Girl Students of Vocational
Agriculture in National Level Programs--(Your memorandum of 8/11/67)

As indicated in the memorandum from Mr. Hunsicker, National Advisor of FFA, to Dr. Venn, transmitted for our consideration by the above-described memorandum, the FFA Board has requested the National Advisor of FFA "to request a legal interpretation as to whether or not the FFA may continue to restrict girl participation in activities on the national level",--i.e., exclude them from participation at the national level while permitting their inclusion at the State and local levels of FFA.

As noted by Mr. Hunsicker, in our memorandum of October 16, 1964, we advised that the FFA was not legally precluded from permitting female students of Vocational Agriculture to participate at the national as well as at the State and local levels of FFA. In so advising, we indicated that the reference to "farm boys and young men" in paragraph (7) of the statement of purposes in section 3 of the Federal Charter of FFA (P.L. 81-740, approved August 30, 1950) could more properly be considered as merely descriptive of a previously existing general situation rather than as a direction by the Congress that girls be excluded.^{1/}

Mr. Hunsicker invites our attention to the fact that in several States, State laws have been interpreted by State legal authorities as prohibiting the exclusion of girls from FFA at the State and local levels solely on the basis of their sex. It also appears from Mr. Hunsicker's memorandum that to date the FFA "has relented" only to the extent of permitting girls to become members of local chapters and State Associations of FFA. However, efforts to permit their participation at the national level have been defeated by a majority of the delegates at national conventions of FFA, and in each instance the action of the convention was sustained by the National Board of FFA which has authority in its own right to effect changes in the constitution and bylaws.

^{1/} The other six paragraphs in section 3 state the purposes of the organization in terms that would be equally applicable to girls as well as boys enrolled in Federally-assisted programs of Vocational Agriculture.

Mr. Hunsicker's memorandum also states:

"There has been an increasing number of girl students of Vocational Agriculture in recent years. This has resulted in an increased number of girls desiring nationally recognized FFA membership which would allow participation in activities above the State FFA Association level."

The increase in female enrollment in Vocational Agriculture and the resulting pressure for membership at the Federal level may be attributable in no small measure to the expansion of the scope of Federally-aided programs of Vocational Agriculture (largely as a result of the Vocational Education Act of 1963) into types of activities more likely to be undertaken by girls.^{2/}

Also noteworthy in this connection is the fact that Office of Education figures show that close to 90 percent of enrollees in Vocational Agriculture are also members of FFA (445,386 out of 507,043). These figures are not surprising in view of the fact that the primary purposes for which the FFA was chartered by the Congress is to provide to students of Vocational Agriculture an opportunity to participate in activities considered to be a vital and integral part of Federally-aided Vocational Agricultural programs at the secondary level.^{3/}

It is in the light of the foregoing considerations and developments that legal guidance is requested as to whether the FFA may continue to exclude girls from participation at the national level. We understand from discussion with Mr. Hunsicker that this question is being raised particularly by State Association components of FFA which have girls as members of local chapters and State Associations because such members are being barred from participation in national FFA functions solely because of their sex.

For such exclusion of members of local chapters and of State Associations we are unable to perceive a sound legal basis. For the reasons indicated in our previous memorandum the reference to "farm boys and young men" in paragraph (7) of the Congressionally-enacted Charter of FFA is descriptive of a previously existing general situation rather than reflective of any intention on the part of the Congress to preclude the admission of girls at any level of FFA functions and activities. This conclusion is also confirmed by the fact that, as stated in Mr. Hunsicker's memorandum, the FFA "has relented somewhat" by permitting girls enrolled in Vocational Agriculture to become members of local chapters and

^{2/} In addition to authorizing additional allotments for vocational education programs (not limited to the specific occupational categories of sections 2 to 8 of the Vocational Education Act of 1946) section 10(b) of the 1963 Act has expanded the occupational objectives of Smith-Hughes and George-Barden allotments for vocational agriculture from "work of the farm" to work in any occupation "involving knowledge and skills in agricultural subjects", such as horticulturists, florists, veterinary nurses and technicians, and crops and soil analysts and technicians.

^{3/} Paragraph 1 of section 3 of P.L. 81-740, supra; an introductory statement by Dr. A. W. Tenney on page 3 of "Official Manual for Future Farmers of America", 1954 edition. See also section 3(1) of the Federal Charter discussed above; and section 3(a) (2) of the George-Barden Act authorizing the use of Federal allotments for Vocational Agriculture for supervision of FFA activities by teachers of Vocational Agriculture.

to participate at the State and local levels of FFA. Their exclusion, however, from participation at the national level would seem to be discrimination which we do not think we could justify legally. It is inconsistent with the overall objectives of the FFA and the Vocational Agriculture program of which it is a part as well as the laws of a number of States which, as interpreted by State legal authorities, preclude the exclusion of girls from the FFA part of the public school program in Vocational Agriculture.^{4/}

You may also wish to invite the attention of the National Board to the fact that it has apparently been a basic policy of the FFA to accord to members of local chapters the full privileges at the national level. As you will recall, even before the full desegregation of the FFA, there were Negroes in local chapters in schools which were not segregated by race, and they were not excluded from participation at the national level of FFA.

^{4/} Such is apparently the case in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Ohio, and Rhode Island. This office has a copy of a legal opinion to this effect from the Ohio State Department of Education; and rulings to this effect in other States are being sent to us at Mr. Hunsicker's request. Also worth noting in this connection is the provision in FFA's Charter that its "bylaws and regulations" must not be inconsistent with pertinent State law (P.L. 81-740, sec. 4(4)). If State law does not permit a State or local unit affiliated with the public school system to exclude girls, it is likely that exclusion of girls from some of the activities that normally follow State and local membership (participation in affairs of the national organization) would be equally unlawful.

HJChernock:hh:10/6/67

CC: Mr. Hunsicker