

THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Va

Application for Charter

Va - #1

To Henry C. Groseclose,
Blacksburg, Va.

We, Sam Hardwick, President; Gibson Waddell, Secretary;
and Henry C. Groseclose, Adviser, officers of the State organization
known as Future Farmers of Virginia, a State organization for students of vocational
agriculture, having at present 80 chapters and 1350 members, and being empowered to act
for this organization, do hereby make application to be chartered as a branch of the
"Future Farmers of America."

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

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

President:	Samuel Hardwick, Dublin, Va. -	Virginia Planter
Vice-Pres.:	Clay Wright, Weyer's Cave, Va. -	Virginia Planter
Secretary:	Gibson Waddell, Marshall, Va. -	Virginia Planter
Treasurer:	Thomas Taylor, Lincoln, Va.	Virginia Planter
Reporter:	William Claggett, Berryville, Va. -	Virginia Planter
(Executive-	Joseph Turner, Chase City, Va. -	Virginia Planter
(Committee-	Edwin Givens, Newport, Va. -	Virginia Planter
(- Clarence Daughtrey, Holland, Va. -	Virginia Planter
Adviser:	Henry C. Groseclose, Blacksburg, Va.	Virginia Planter

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

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

Signed Sam Hardwick State Pres.
Gibson Waddell State Secty
Henry C. Groseclose State Adv.

FUTURE FARMERS OF VIRGINIA

A State Organization of Students Taking Vocational Agriculture in Virginia

I. Foreword

The agricultural instructors of Virginia at their annual conference at Blacksburg in July, 1926, voted to sponsor a state organization for students of vocational agriculture. It is only natural that boys studying vocational agriculture in Virginia should band together and perfect some sort of organization in order that they may exchange experiences, make social contacts, "talk shop" that would mean very little to non-vocational students, market their products and further the interests of the group. Students in various high schools in Virginia and other states have already formed organizations. The idea has become very popular in some sections--and why not? High school students who have rather definitely chosen agriculture as their vocation, who are regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture, who spend one-half of each school day together in class or shop and who are carrying out a program of supervised practice at home--boys such as these have a sufficient common ground of interest to effect a good, permanent organization.

A state organization of students in vocational agriculture tends to keep the local organizations alive, give them an opportunity to swap experiences, pool suggestions and develop leadership. It affords an opportunity for cooperation, shows the benefits of organization and gives the officers and delegates to the state meetings training in public speaking and leadership. It furnishes inspiration to be carried back to the local chapter. The annual spring meeting of the state organization acts as a sort of spring tonic for local chapters.

For these and many other reasons a state organization of students in vocational agriculture is desirable. Perhaps the most desirable feature is the fostering of an appreciative attitude toward a cooperative organization, through participation in its activities.

The constitution and by-laws as adopted at the 1926 conference are set forth on the following pages.

II. Constitution and By-Laws

Article I. Name and Purposes of the Organization.

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the "Future Farmers of Virginia". Members and local chapters are hereinafter referred to as the F.F.V's.*

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

- (1) To promote vocational agriculture in the high schools of Virginia.
- (2) To create more interest in intelligent agricultural pursuits in the various counties of the state.
- (3) To create and nurture a love of country life.
- (4) To provide recreation and educational entertainment for students in vocational agriculture through state agricultural and athletic contests, vacation tours, father and son banquets, and the like.
- (5) To promote thrift.
- (6) To afford a medium for cooperative marketing and buying.
- (7) To establish the confidence of the farm boy in himself and his work.
- (8) To promote scholarship and rural leadership.

*NOTE:- F.F.V. has meant First Families of Virginia to people all over this country. Men and women who did things and made substantial contributions to the progress of the state and country were so classified. They were the aristocracy. For example, Jefferson was a member of this class. He is best known, perhaps, as the author of the Declaration of Independence and the Statute for Religious Freedom. But he accomplished other things as well. He was the first American architect and his knowledge of architecture is shown today in Monticello, in the University of Virginia, and in the capitol building at Richmond. Jefferson invented the steel plow. He terraced the stony hillsides of Monticello mountain and made them productive. He knew the value of agriculture and used his mighty brain to help in its advancement.

Washington was a farmer and belonged to the F.F.V's. His life is so well known to all and so many have seen the results of his work at Mt. Vernon that nothing more need be said. The point is this: Virginia's greatest sons have been rooted in the soil. They have loved country life and held the opinion that intelligence and scientific knowledge are necessary to proper living in the country.

The Future Farmers of Virginia should follow the example of these great sons of early Virginia by using scientific knowledge, intelligence and enthusiasm to the end that agriculture may again be known as the profession of the real aristocracy.

Article II. Organization.

- Section A. F.F.V. is a state organization with local chapters in schools having organized instruction in vocational agriculture.
- Section B. F.F.V. chapters shall not be organized in schools where organized instruction in vocational agriculture is not given.
- Section C. Students shall meet, organize, adopt the state constitution as their own, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the State Secretary for membership in the state organization. The chapters and the members may then be known as F.F.V.'s.
- Section D. Each chapter shall consider itself a unit in the state organization. It shall use the state constitution as its own constitution and have a like number of officers and committees performing the same duties for the chapter that the state officers and committees perform for the state organization.*

Article III. Membership.

- Section A. Membership in this society shall be active and honorary.
- Section B. Any student of, or former student in, vocational agriculture who has been regularly enrolled in a part-time, day-unit, or all-day class is entitled to active membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting.
- Section C. Instructors, school principals, superintendents, business men, farmers, and others who are helping to promote vocational agriculture may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting. Honorary members shall not vote, nor shall they hold any office except that of "adviser". Honorary members rank as Virginia Farmers unless they are made Virginia Planters at a state meeting.
- Section D. There shall be three grades of active membership based upon achievement. These grades are (a) Green Hand, (b) Virginia Farmer, and (c) Virginia Planter. The requirements for promotion from one grade of membership to another are set forth in detail in Article IX and are a part of this constitution.
- Section E. Only members who have attained the grade of Virginia Planter are eligible to hold state offices after 1928, but officers in the local chapters are not limited to any grade.

*NOTE:- Other committees may be created by chapters to meet the needs of their varying activities; i.e. committee on marketing, banquet committee, program committee, and the like.

Article IV. Officers.

Section A. The officers of this society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Adviser, Reporter and an Executive Committee. The officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

Section B. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the society and three (3) active members elected by the society. This committee shall perform the usual duties of an executive committee, review and approve receipts and disbursements, act as a nominating committee and be responsible for the welfare of the organization.

Section C. (1) The officers of the state organization shall be elected at the regular spring meetings at Blacksburg at the time of the state agricultural and athletic contests and each department of vocational agriculture in the state shall be represented by two delegates who shall represent the local chapter in balloting for officers and members who are nominated to be advanced to the grade of Virginia Planter. Officers in the state organization shall hold office for one year.

(2) Officers of the local chapters shall be elected at regular meetings of the locals held in December of each year and shall hold office for one year.

Article V. Meetings.

Section A. A meeting of the state organization shall be held annually at the time of the agricultural and athletic contests.

Section B. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly, or oftener, and at such time and place as may be decided by the executive committee of the local.

Article VI. Dues.

Section A. There shall be no dues connected with the state meetings or organization.

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

Article VII. -- Amendments.

Section A. Amendments to the state constitution shall be submitted in writing at the regular spring meeting. The amendments may be adopted or rejected at once by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

Section B. By-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of any local chapter providing they do not conflict with the state constitution, which is also the constitution for each chapter. The constitution is the same for all chapters but a certain amount of flexibility is necessary to the proper functioning of chapters because of their varying activities. This flexibility may be attained through by-laws for each chapter.

Article VIII. Pins.

Section A. The pin of the society shall be the same as that for a similar organization in Denmark--an owl perched on the handle of a spade, and underneath these symbols the words "Wisdom" and "Labor".

Section B. All active and honorary members shall be entitled to wear the pin. The regular pin shall be of bronze but members who shall have attained the grade of Virginia Farmer may wear a silver pin and Virginia Planters shall be entitled to wear a gold pin.

Article IX. The Three Classes or Grades of Active Membership:

Section A. Green Hand:

To be elected to membership in the F.F.V's a student must qualify as follows:

- (a) Fourteen years of age or the mental equivalent.
- (b) Regularly enrolled in a class in vocational agriculture.
- (c) Possess facilities for carrying out a satisfactory program of supervised practice and have a definite agreement with the parent and instructor as to scope, labor and profits.
- (d) Receive a majority of the votes of the members present at a regular meeting of a local society of F.F.V's.

Article IX. (cont'd)

Section B. Virginia Farmer:

The qualifications necessary to election to the grade of Virginia Farmer are as follows:

- (a) At least one years instruction in vocational agriculture and completion of a satisfactory program of supervised practice.
- (b) At least twenty-five dollars earned and on deposit in bank or otherwise productively invested.
- (c) Regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture with an amplified supervised practice program mapped out.
- (d) Recite from memory "The Country Boy's Creed".
- (e) Lead the class in a discussion for ten minutes whenever called upon to do so.
- (f) Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular local meeting of F.F.V's.

Section C. Virginia Planter:

The qualifications are as follows:

- (a) At least two years of organized instruction in vocational agriculture with outstanding supervised practice work.
- (b) Outstanding qualities of leadership as shown by ability in class, school organizations, public speaking, and general activities of the society.
- (c) Planters are elected at the state meetings only, and written records of achievement shall be submitted to the State Supervisor by the local executive committee prior to February 1st. The Supervisor will then look into the matter and submit his findings to the state executive committee. This committee will nominate the candidate at the regular state meeting if he is found worthy to receive the honor. The records shall be read by a member of the executive committee when the students are nominated and the delegates shall then proceed to elect those who are deemed most worthy to be Virginia Planters.* (see note)
- (d) Pass a regulation test in subject matter supplied by the State staff.

Section C. (cont'd)

- (e) Earn and deposit in a bank, or productively invest, at least \$200.00. This may include the twenty-five dollars saved while advancing to the grade of Farmer.
- (f) Be familiar with parliamentary procedure by having held office in a local society.
- (g) Be able to lead a group successfully for forty minutes.
- (h) Make the high school judging team, debating team, or some athletic team representing the high school.
- (i) Show marked attainment in scholarship in all high school branches (grade 85 or above) and be an outstanding leader in school activities--be an "all-round man".
- (j) Receive a majority vote of the delegates present in a state meeting and respond, upon election, with a speech of appreciation. (two minutes)

NOTE:- Ex-students of vocational agriculture, members of the state staff, teacher trainers at V.P.I., instructors, superintendents, farmers, bankers and others are eligible to election as honorary planters provided they have done outstanding work in promoting vocational agriculture and this organization. As honorary members, they shall be entitled to wear the gold pin. Honorary membership, however, shall not exceed twenty percent of regular membership in the grade of Virginia Planter. Honorary Planters do not vote or hold office, except the office of Adviser.

It can be readily seen that the grade of Virginia Planter is the cap-stone of the F.F.V's. To be elected a Virginia Planter at a state meeting is indeed an honor and corresponds to collegiate Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. In fact, it is more exclusive. Not more than fifteen planters shall be elected in the spring of 1927 and not more than twenty per year thereafter. These do not include honorary Planters, who may be elected as stated above, but not to exceed twenty percent of the active Planters. Considering the number of students of vocational agriculture in Virginia, a boy who attains the grade of Virginia Planter is an outstanding individual and a F.F.V. indeed.

F.F.V. Activities

In order for an organization to live the members must have something to do. A few activities that local F.F.V. chapters may engage in are suggested below:

- Maintain bulletin board for farmers
- Market eggs, or other farm products, cooperatively
- Father and Son Banquet
- Vacation tour
- School grounds improvement
- Cooperative buying
- Stage plays and pageants
- Hold public debates on agricultural topics
- Community service
- Organize and maintain a thrift bank
- Boost the Department of Vocational Agriculture
- Put on Demonstrations and Exhibits at Fairs, Patrons Day, etc.
- Community slogans
- Charts showing community standing and activities (Farm Survey)

Conditions vary so widely in different communities that it would not be wise to have uniform programs for all locals in the state. It is true, however, that every local should market something, should stage a Father and Son Banquet, should practice thrift, boost the department of vocational agriculture, and put on some sort of interesting exhibit at a fair. Other activities will suggest themselves or be suggested by local conditions and needs.

Detailed suggestions as to these activities may be obtained from the State Supervisor of Vocational Education.

CHAPTERSNUMBER OF MEMBERS

Amherst	30
Apple Grove	17
Appomattox	38
Axton	25
East Stone Gao	7
Blacksburg	9
Bridgewater	27
Broadway	31
Buchanan	25
Burkeville	15
Charlotte C. H.	11
Chase City	10
Cleveland	20
Wallace	10
Clintwood	17
Courtland	20
Criglersville	23
Cumberland	10
Dan River	30
Spring Garden	22
Dinwiddie	22
Dublin	37
Elk Creek	24
Ewing	18
Fincastle	16
Front Royal	21
Liberty Hall	18
Gloucester	26
Grassy Creek	17
Great Bridge	31
Darvills	17
Hamilton	17
Upperville	6
McKenney	6
Hillsville	52
Hardin Reynolds	24
Ivor	16
Ivy Depot	17
Lebanon	18
Lincoln	22
Marshall	18
Maywood	15
Middletown	20
Stephens City	20
Mt. Jackson	23
New Market	15
New Hope	14
New London	20
Newport	14
Pennington Gap	16
Poquoson	29
Rural Retreat	31
Rich Valley	32
South Hill	25

CHAPTERSNUMBER OF MEMBERS

Spencer-Penn	10
Strasburg	24
Woodstock	13
Stanardsville	25
Sunnyside	13
Syringa	9
Temperanceville	27
Toano	12
Turbeville	23
Weyer's Cave	36
Whaleyville	18
Wicomico	17
Whitmell	13
Willis	20
Winchester	24
Woodlawn	19
Wytheville	10
Max Meadows	15

Note: This membership represents only those who have paid their annual membership dues. Paid up membership should reach 2000 during the year.