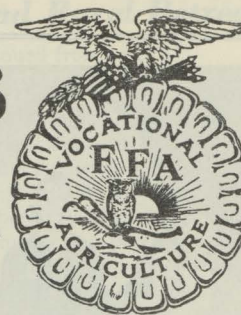




Chapter Chats

Published Bi-Monthly by

The Virginia Association, Future Farmers of America
The State Organization of Boys Studying Vocational Agriculture
In the High Schools of Virginia



T. M. REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

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NUMBER 5

Eight Virginians Are Approved As American Farmers

Eight Future Farmers of America members from Virginia will be recommended to receive the organization's highest degree, that of American Farmer, at the 30th Annual National Convention of FFA in Kansas City, Missouri, October 14-17.

R. E. Bass of Richmond, State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, reported today he has received information from FFA headquarters in Washington, D. C., stating that the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors of the national organization have reviewed the Virginia applications and will recommend to the delegates at the convention that the eight boys receive the coveted degree. Approval by these boards usually is tantamount to election by the delegates.

The eight Virginians named are Joseph Bishop, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bishop, Route 1, Disputanta, member of the Prince George FFA chapter; Melvin Chambers, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Chambers, Midland, Nelson Edwards, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Edwards, Smithfield, member of the Smithfield FFA chapter; Preston Hamlet, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Purcell Hamlet, Phenix; Vernon Lee, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Lee, Catawba, member of the Andrew Lewis FFA chapter; Gordon Reynolds, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Reynolds, Red House, member of the Randolph-Henry FFA Chapter; Howard Scott, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Scott, Rocky Mount, member of the Franklin County FFA chapter; and Bobby Edward Spiers, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Spiers, Stony Creek, member of the Stony Creek FFA chapter.

Nationally, the FFA Board of Directors voted to recommend that 363 Future Farmers receive the American Farmer Degree. Presentation of the degrees will take place in the Municipal Auditorium at Kansas City during the convention session on the afternoon of October 15. Each degree winner will receive a certificate and gold key from the FFA Organization, plus a cash travel allowance from

(Continued on page 9)

Louisa and Rural Retreat Win Efficient Dairy Production and Farm Safety Awards

FFA Chapters at Louisa High School in Louisa County and Rural Retreat High School in Wythe County, received top awards for outstanding work in farm safety and efficient dairy production, respectively, during the first session of the 31st annual convention of the Virginia Association of the Virginia Future Farmers of America. Second to Rural Retreat in the efficient dairy production contest was the Nokesville High School Chapter of Prince William County, followed by the Franklin County FFA Chapter of Rocky Mount. Funds for this contest were provided by the National Dairy Products Corporation in co-operation with Southern Dairies, Inc., and the Chestnut Farm Dairy.

Provided by the Future Farmers of America Foundation, a check for \$100 for the best farm safety program conducted by an FFA chapter in Virginia during the past school year went to the 88-member FFA Chapter of Louisa County. The high school principal is William C. Pace. E. M. Pennington and George B. Lancaster are teachers of vocational agriculture in the Louisa High School and serves as FFA chapter advisors. Other chapter winners in the State FFA Farm Safety program were Prince George of Prince George County, Buckingham of Buckingham County, George Wythe of Wythe County, James Wood of Frederick County, and Andrew Lewis of Roanoke County.

Efficient Dairy Production

The Rural Retreat FFA Chapter of 62 members received a plaque and \$75 for their outstanding accomplishments in the field of Dairy Production. The members of the Rural Retreat chapter own 82 animals, with milk production for the past year of 684,221 lbs., which gives an average production per cow of 8344.1 lbs. One hundred percent of the chapter members are carrying dairy enterprises with 30 purebred animals which are registered in chapter member's names. They are members of the Wythe County Artificial Breeding Association. Five are members of the Virginia Jersey Cattle Club.

(Continued on page 3)

Sixty-five From Va. To Attend National FFA Convention

Approximately 65 Virginians will attend the 30th National Convention of Future Farmers of America in Kansas City, Missouri, October 14-17, it is announced by R. E. Bass, State Supervisor of vocational agriculture.

The Virginia party will include two official delegates, eight American Farmer degree candidates, two National FFA band members, four National FFA chorus members, advisors and high school principal, forestry winners, Foundation award winners, out-of-state poultry, livestock and crops judging teams, federation and chapter representatives, special guests and supervisors.

The Norfolk and Western Railway Company through its industrial and agricultural development will again sponsor the delegates to the 1957 National Convention. The Virginia Party will board a special chartered, air-conditioned, reclining seat car on the "Pocahontas" on Saturday, October 12, and will return to Virginia on Sunday, October 20. Included in the Virginia delegation, although the list is not complete as we go to press, are:

Delegates—Bill Lawson, Elkton, State FFA President and Danny Bird, Jr., Bland, Past President.

American Farmer Degree Candidates—Joseph E. Bishop, III, Prince George; Melvin S. Chambers, Cedar Lee; Nelson D. Edwards, Smithfield; Preston T. Hamlet, Randolph Henry; Vernon E. Lee, Andrew Lewis; Gordon F. Reynolds, Randolph Henry; Howard Curtis Scott, Franklin County; Bobby E. Spiers, Stony Creek.

National Band Members—Danny Hook, Montevideo; Pat Runions, Narrows.

National Chorus Members—John Hendrick, Brookville; Solon Parsons, Jr., Stony Creek; Thomas Rose, Jr., Stony Creek; Curtiss Tweedy, McKenney.

Forestry Winners—Lee Fisher, Northumberland, winner of Seaboard Railroad Forestry Award and L. M. Jewell, his instructor of vocational agriculture.

(Continued on page 15)



STATE AND AREA STAR FARMERS—Pictured above are State and area Star Farmer award winners with their parents and FFA advisors at the State FFA Convention in Blacksburg. Beginning with the top photos (1. to r.) they are: (1) Mr. and Mrs. Krantz, Richard Krantz and H. B. Pack, FFA advisor at Appomattox; (2) Charles Edwards of Smithfield and his advisor, A. T. Adams; (3) Mr. Russell Andrews, Ray Wood, his mother and H. D. Seal, FFA advisor at Ashland; (4) Mr. and Mrs. Givens and their son Carroll Givens and G. C. Boone, FFA advisor at Blacksburg; (5) J. M. Kline, advisor at Montevideo, Russell Wayne Andrews and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Andrews; (6) Bruce Robertson, FFA advisor at Rocky Gap, Mrs. Fred Pennington, Russell Pennington and his father.

Richard Krantz of Appomattox Named Virginia Star Farmer At State FFA Convention

Father-son teams usually win. William Richard Krantz, junior member of such a team, was named FFA Star Farmer of Virginia for 1956-1967. Presentation of the award to the 20-year-old Appomattox Future Farmer was the highlight of "Star Farmer Night" at the State FFA Convention.

Richard received a certificate from the Future Farmers of America Foundation and a cash award of \$100. For young Krantz, it was his third major honor since enrolling in vocational agriculture in 1953. In 1956 he was awarded a silo valued at \$800 for outstanding effort to become established in dairy farming. Tuesday afternoon of this week, he received the state FFA \$100 award for dairy farming.

Krantz, a June graduate of the Appomattox High School, has been a full partner with his father since his freshman year in high school. The father-son operation now includes 58 head of cows and young stock. The current farming program of the Krantz's also include 45 acres of corn for grain, 15 acres of silage corn, 25 acres of small grain, and 65 acres of hay.

He is a member of the Appomattox-Campbell Milk Producers Association, the Piedmont Artificial Breeding Association, the Farmers Union, and the Appomattox Young Farmers Association.

William C. Pace is principal of the Appomattox High School; Henry Pack, R. N. Ashworth, and W. L. Motley are the vo-ag teachers and FFA chapter advisors.

The following "District STAR Farmers" were recognized and presented cash awards during the "Star Farmer" ceremony:

Central District — Ray Wood, Jr., Ashland, Hanover County

Eastern District — Charles Edwards, Smithfield, Isle of Wight County

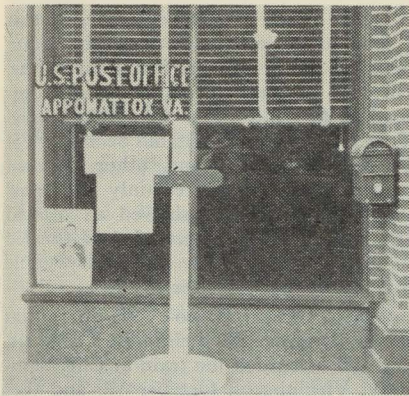
Northern District — Russell Wayne Andrews, Montevideo, Rockbridge County

Appalachian District — Russell Pennington, Rocky Gap, Bland County

Blue Ridge District — Carroll T. Givens, Blacksburg, Montgomery County.

A GOOD DEED

The William Byrd High School FFA Chapter met for their last time in June. They were notified by the school authorities that the chapter would be discontinued due to low enrollment. There was \$55.00 in the treasury. The group voted to give the William Byrd FHA \$30.00 and the Botetourt-Roanoke-Bedford Federation \$25.00 and their FFA Emblem.



MAILBOX EXHIBIT—"The FFA in Cooperation with the National Association of Rural Mail Carriers Sponsors Rural Mailbox Improvement Week" reads the poster attached to a model mailbox stand and post exhibited by the Robert E. Lee Chapter of Appomattox. The chapter also placed a mail box improvement exhibit at the Pamplin post office.

Ashland Future Farmers 1st, Brookville 2nd and George Wythe 3rd in Chapter Contest

The Ashland High School FFA Chapter of Hanover County, for the second time in as many years, was awarded top honors at the closing session of the 31st Annual Convention of the Virginia Future Farmers.

The accomplishments of the Ashland Chapter in all fields of Future Farmers Work was judged the best in the state. There are 187 FFA chapters in Virginia with a membership of 7,944 high school farm boys. Ray Wood, President of the Ashland Chapter, was presented a plaque and a check for \$50. H. D. Seal is the chapter advisor. The accomplishments of the Ashland Chapter will be judged for national honors in competition with FFA chapters from other states. W. N. Taylor is principal of the Ashland High School.

During the present fiscal year, Ashland has 35 active members and 10 honorary members. The active members produced 6 enterprises per boy, with a total investment of \$19,0880.00. In addition to their farming activities, the members participated in practically every activity sponsored by the school. They sponsored purebred livestock programs, improved crops, farm safety, wildlife, and forestry conservation, fair exhibits and community service.

Second place in the State FFA Chapter Contest and an award of \$40 went to the Brookville High School Chapter of Campbell County. This chapter will represent Virginia, along with Ashland at the National FFA Convention. V. B. Cauley, vo-ag teacher in the Brookville High School, is the chapter advisor.

Third place in the chapter contest went to the George Wythe Chapter, of Wythe County, followed by the Bland and Andrew Lewis Chapters.

State FFA Reporter Attends West Virginia Convention

By Danny Shenk

As reporter for the Virginia Association of FFA represented Virginia at the twenty-ninth annual West Virginia leadership conference and state convention on July 19-21. The convention was held at Jackson's Mill, West Virginia, which was the boyhood home of Stonewall Jackson. In 1921 Jackson's Mill was developed into the first state 4-H camp in America and has been used by rural and social groups of West Virginia since that time as a meeting place.

Being able to represent the Virginia Association at this convention was one of the most pleasant tasks that I have had during my four years of FFA work. Traveling around and meeting Future Farmers and advisors from other states makes one realize the great things that the FFA is doing for American youth. Our realm reaches far and wide teaching young men the great importance of fellowship, cooperation and leadership. These traits that we Future Farmers of America are learning will prepare us to be better American citizens.

Besides myself, there were five other guests at the West Virginia convention with whom I became well acquainted and each one was an outstanding leader of the FFA. The guests were: James Quincey, national vice president of the FFA from Florida; Pete Knutson, national vice president from Montana; Dudley Sisk, Kentucky state reporter; Kennon Taulbee, Kentucky state secretary. Then there was the honor guest from England, David Gemmill who is here in America under the vocational agriculture exchange program. David's speech on Friday night was one of the highlights of the convention. From it we learned many things about the farming conditions in England. David and his family operate a 560 acre farm about 40 miles from London.

On Saturday the third session was held and Calvin McCutcheon, president of the West Virginia Association presided. This was the time when each of us guests, James Quincey representing the national organization, Dudley Sisk representing the Kentucky Association and I representing the Virginia Association, gave our greeting speeches to the West Virginia Association. James Quincey made a very interesting talk by using the FFA motto as his basis.

The convention program also included group singing, selections by the West Virginia state FFA band, a parliamentary procedure contest, a string band contest and many other interesting and educational selections. At the camp where the convention was held the recreational facilities were wonderful with a swimming pool and ball diamond. The housing was modern and convenient and the food was the kind that always sends future farmers back for more.

I shall never forget the wonderful fel-

Louisa and Rural Retreat

(Continued from page 1)

Members of the chapter exhibited animals in 1956 at the Galax Fair, Rural Retreat Fair, Burley Tobacco Festival, Abingdon, and the Atlantic Rural Exposition, winning \$810.00 in cash prizes. Twenty members purchased registered dairy heifers during the past year. They are working with the local veterinarian in testing and calf hood vaccination for control of Brucellosis. Chapter members are culling on the basis of records of production on their animals. They have worked with the Southwest Virginia Jersey Breeders Cattle Club in arranging for a heifer sale for juniors.

William J. Reardon, Jr., is principal of Rural Retreat High School and C. M. Vaughan and Robert Copenhaver are the local teachers of vocational agriculture, and chapter advisors.

Chapter Farm Safety Winner

Louisa Future Farmers studied and put into practice safety measures to prevent accidents at home, on the highway, and on the home farms of the boys. One hundred per cent of the chapter members participated. In the school shop proper precautions were taken to prevent accidents including such measures as proper dress, wearing shields while grinding and welding, care in operating power equipment, and following recognized rules of safety. Precautions were taken on the home farms to properly store chemicals, keeping gas in safe tanks, and destroying junk materials.

Fire laws were observed and "Keep Virginia Green" crews organized to serve the community in controlling forest fires. Inspection tours were taken to find danger spots and then chapter members were responsible for cleaning up premises where hazards existed.

The 91 active FFA chapter members reached over 19,000 people through safety work during the year. The number of safety projects practiced averaged about 86 per chapter member. The chapter members used 38 or more ways and carried out more than 8,000 safety projects and practices to promote safety in their work.

Safety displays were used on 19 occasions with more than 130 days showing, including a safety exhibit at the National FFA Convention and Southern Safety Association meeting. Chapter members presented a safety play to six different groups, completed the fourth year in taking farm accident surveys, distributed Scotch-Lite tape and other materials throughout the community.

lows that I met at this convention. I learned many things which I hope to use to the betterment of our convention. I thank the Virginia Association for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

CHAPTER CHATS

Published Bi-Monthly by
**THE VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF
 THE FUTURE FARMERS
 OF AMERICA**

Address all communications to the Virginia Association of the Future Farmers of America, care of State Department of Education, Richmond 16, Va.

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**President's Annual Report
 To The 1957 State FFA
 Convention**

By Danny Bird, Jr.

Fellow Future Farmers of America, I come before you today with a great feeling of humbleness. It was right here in this building almost a year ago today that you bestowed upon me the greatest honor of a lifetime, being elected your State president of our Virginia Association of Future Farmers of America. Never shall I forget those first few thrilling moments when R. G. Akers, Jr., past State president, handed me the gavel with all its honors and responsibilities. Since that time, I have strived continuously in the past year to represent you in the best way I know how.

After realizing that I was not floating on clouds and the dream was actually true, I returned home to continue my farming operations with my father in the weeks that remained of the summer. My first duty as your president was to speak to several civic clubs around my home community and let them know of the work our great farm-boy organization is carrying out. Numerous other opportunities came my way and it was not long before I packed my suitcase and started

traveling in assuming the many duties of a State President.

Before I get into my travels as your State president, let me say something about the marvelous, as well as educational trip I enjoyed out in Sioux City, Iowa, at the Young Outdoor Americans Conference. The conference was held on April 18-20, 1956, with representatives from the FFA, Boy Scouts, and 4-H Clubs throughout the United States participating. I represented our Virginia Association of FFA and was accompanied on the trip by my father I certainly feel that the friends I made out there will be my friends for life. Without a doubt, national conventions and conferences like this one strengthen the relations between various sections of our country and make for a brighter tomorrow.

To get back to my travels after I was elected to office, the air was filled with tremendous expectation on the day of August 12 when Mr. Maurice O. Marshall, Woodlawn FFA Chapter Advisor, and Johnny Messersmith, our State Secretary, picked me up at Bland, Virginia, and we started our journey to Camp Miniwanca in Michigan. After traveling through the states of West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, we arrived at camp on Monday afternoon, August 13. That day was the beginning of the two most fruitful weeks of my life. Camp Miniwanca, often called "The Camp of Golden Splendor" is a Christian Leadership Training Camp on Lake Michigan where Christian principles of living are taught to youth in all walks of life. Her shining sands, silver seas, and singing birds in all their majestic beauty have left an awakening and heart-warming impression within me that I shall always retain. On the last day of camp as our car slowly rolled away from the camp grounds, I kept repeating to myself, "Truly this is a Camp of God." I sincerely wish that it were possible for every boy in the nation to share the experience of Camp Miniwanca, for I am sure we would then have a more peaceful and better world in which to live.

My deepest appreciations go to the Ralston-Purina Company and our Virginia FFA Association for providing me with those two glorious weeks and to M. O. Marshall for driving us in his car in addition to being such wonderful company for Johnny and myself, both to and back from camp. I only hope that some day I can prove that I was worthy of the Miniwanca experience.

On September 17, I enrolled in college here at VPI as a freshman in the dairy science curriculum. Being in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets and having to settle down to the regular college schedule, I was forced to forget about our FFA activities for awhile. However, it was not long before I again learned that I would have the opportunity of representing our State Association at the National Dairy Cattle Congress held at Waterloo, Iowa.

It was on the date of September 31 that I flew to Waterloo and met with other National Dairy winners and John Farrar, Director of Public Relations and Information for the FFA. Mr. Farrar and Terrell Benton, National Secretary of FFA at the time, and other national organization officials certainly welcomed us to Waterloo and showed us around the dairy cattle congress. I was thrilled by seeing some of the best dairy cattle our nation has to offer.

When I returned to VPI, there was not much time left before R. G. Akers, Jr., and I boarded the train at Christiansburg, Virginia, on October 13, and thus started our long trip to Kansas City, Missouri, with the rest of the Virginia delegation for our 29th National Convention. It was again good to see state and national officials of our organization and to meet with fellow "Future Farmers" from all over the country. The convention this past year was another very successful one and the members of our Virginia delegation returned home boasting of the outstanding job that our own Lennie Gamage, National Vice-President from Cartersville, Virginia, did in helping conduct the convention. When I think of the convention, I have to think of the enthusiasm and good behavior that was exhibited among the members of our Virginia delegation. They were certainly a great representative group. I attribute J. M. Campbell, Executive Secretary, with the success of the trip because of the wonderful way in which he organized it.

After returning to VPI from the convention, I hit the books hard and was forced to turn down several banquet invitations. However, Christmas vacation finally arrived and it was time for the annual executive committee meeting in Richmond, Virginia. Seeing all my fellow officers again and discussing the affairs of our State Association with them served as an inspiration for me to work harder on behalf of the organization. We had lunch with state officials of vocational agriculture and then met with Mr. Campbell and R. E. Bass, our State Advisor, that afternoon. Our business meeting was pin-pointed to find ways of improving the convention. Many changes were brought up with a few being approved.

On February 2, I traveled to Richmond again to serve as the official host with Mr. Bass and Mr. Campbell in welcoming the national officers to Virginia on behalf of our Virginia FFA Association. They were all great boys and "Future Farmers" like the rest of us. It was very inspiring to meet them and to tour the companies in Richmond that are donors to our national organization.

February 25 found Dicky Crowder, John Messersmith, and myself traveling to Richmond with Professor Harry Sanders of VPI, one of the founders of the FFA, to attend the funeral of Dr. Dowell J.

(Continued on page 8)

135 Head of Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Exhibited by FFA Boys At Galax Farm Festival

A total of 135 beef and dairy animals were exhibited by members of the Future Farmers of America at the Southwest Virginia Farm Festival in Galax August 8-10. In the beef divisions the FFA boys exhibited 41 head of cattle. They showed 94 dairy animals.

Below are the results of the beef cattle division judged by W. J. Davis, manager of the Archwood Farms, The Plains, Va.

Hereford Senior Bulls

First—Albert Bowles, Jr., George Wythe; Second—Dallas Hubbard, Willis; Third—Robert Estes, Flatwoods; Fourth—Bob Shupe, Rural Retreat.

Hereford Junior Bulls

First—David Sumner, Floyd; Second—Carroll Givens, Blacksburg.

David Sumner's "Prince Larry 32" was judged "Grand Champion" of the Hereford bulls, with Bowles' "E. O. Colorado 32" the "Reserve Champion."

Junior Yearling Hereford Heifers

(First and Second places given "Grand" and "Reserve" in remaining classes.)

First—Joseph Caldwell, Willis; Second—Paul Coleman, George Wythe; Third—John E. Martin, Rich Valley; Fourth—Albert Bowles, Jr., George Wythe; Fifth—Buford Coleman, Fries; Sixth—Woodrow Dillow, Bland.

Junior Yearling Shorthorn Bulls

First—Ned Umberger, George Wythe; Second—Burton Eller, Marion.

Junior Yearling Shorthorn Heifers

First—Harry C. Sowers, Jr., Willis; Second—Rodney Vaughan, Willis; Third—Burton Eller, Marion; Fourth—Harry C. Sowers, Jr., Willis; Fifth—Bob Lee Huddle, George Wythe; Sixth—Bobby Lee Huddle, George Wythe.

Junior Yearling Angus Heifers

First—Richard Marshall, Willis; Second—Donnie Chafin, Auburn; Third—Jack Martin, Auburn; Fourth—Frank Bobbitt, Auburn.

SHEEP DIVISION

Pen of Three Lambs

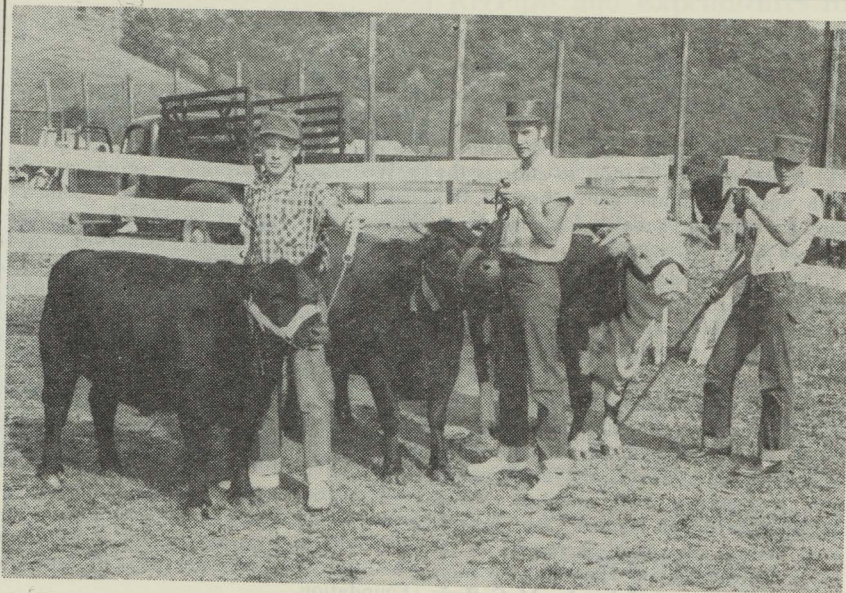
First—Lloyd Halsey, Virginia-Carolina; Second—Billy Joe Young, Virginia-Carolina.

Individual Lambs

Lloyd Halsey of Virginia-Carolina won first, third and fifth places; Billy Joe Young of Virginia-Carolina won second, fourth and sixth places.

SWINE—Jerry Austin of Woodlawn given first place.

The Beef Cattle Judge also observed the handling of the animals by the FFA members and selected the two boys rated "tops" in showmanship—First, Paul Coleman and Second, Albert Bowles. Both boys are from George Wythe. Mr. Davis announced that Archwood Farms would present Top Showman Paul Coleman with a registered Shorthorn heifer. Jim Copenhaver is Vocational Agriculture In-



THREE GRAND CHAMPIONS—Pictured above are three top beef heifers shown at the southwest Virginia Farm Festival in Galax recently. The three Willis FFA Chapter boys are: (l. to r.) Richard Marshall, Champion Angus Heifer; Granville Bishop, holding the Grand Champion Shorthorn Heifer owned by Harry Sowers, Jr.; and Joseph Cardwell with his Grand Champion Hereford.

structor and FFA Chapter advisor at George Wythe.

Results in the Dairy Heifer Show:

Guernsey Heifers

Grand Champion—Ronald Blevins, Galax.

Reserve Champion—Leon Cassell, George Wythe.

Guernsey Bred Heifers

First—Ronald Blevins, Galax; Second—Glen Ray Conklin, Virginia-Carolina; Third—Bobby Lee Huddle, George Wythe; Fourth—Sandy Barbour, Jackson Memorial; Fifth—Bobby Lee Huddle, George Wythe; Sixth—Granville Lee Bishop, Willis.

Guernsey Senior Heifers

First—Leon Cassell, George Wythe; Second—Jimmy Davis, Woodlawn; Third—Bobby Lee Waddell, Virginia-Carolina; Fourth—Alvin Cassell, George Wythe; Fifth—Peyton Hale, Virginia-Carolina; Sixth—Julian Fisher, Rural Retreat.

Guernsey Junior Heifers

Sandy Barbour, Jackson Memorial; Second—Albert Bowles, Jr., George Wythe; Third—Daniel Bishop, Auburn; Fourth—Thomas Gibson, Rural Retreat; Fifth—Joe Dan Johnsey, Virginia-Carolina; Sixth—Bill Jones, Galax.

Holstein Heifers

Grand Champion—Morris Taylor, Jackson Memorial.

Reserve Champion—Ronnie Flinchum, Dublin.

Holstein Bred Heifers

First—Morris Taylor, Jackson Memorial; Second—Bob Lee Huddle, George Wythe; Third—Charles Porter, Rural Retreat; Fourth—Albert Thompson, Jr., Rural Retreat; Fifth—Joe Dan Johnsey, Virginia-Carolina; Sixth—David Cox, Independence.

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Truman To Be Guest Speaker At Annual FFA Convention In Kansas City in October

Former President Harry S. Truman has accepted an invitation to address the 30th annual national convention of Future Farmers of America October 15 in Kansas City, Missouri.

The convention, which runs from October 14 through the 17th, is expected to draw 10,000 Future Farmers and their advisors from throughout the nation.

Other headline speakers scheduled for the 4-day session include U. S. Senator Edward J. Thye of Minnesota; Ambassador Erik Boheman of Sweden; Governor Cecil Underwood of West Virginia, who is a former FFA member; Mayor H. Roe Bartle of Kansas City; Edward Foss Wilson, Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and John L. McCaffrey, Chairman of the Board of International Harvester Company, who is serving this year as Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee for the Future Farmers of America Foundation.

Business of the convention is conducted by the six national FFA officers and the "official delegates". There are 100 delegates, two from each State, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Delegates serve on various committees, take part in floor discussions, and vote on business matters.

John Haid, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, will wield the gavel as national FFA president. The other national officers who will wield the gavel as national FFA presliotho, Missouri, student secretary; and the four vice presidents, Jerry Ringo, Rothwell, Kentucky; Victor Cappucci, Jr., Mehoopany, Pennsylvania; Rogerick (Pete) Knutson, Livingston, Montana, and James Quincey, Trenton, Florida.

Most of the convention's first day will be spent in registration and tours of the Kansas City area. Finals in the national FFA Public Speaking Contest will be held that evening, along with performances by the national FFA band and the national chorus.

Tuesday, October 15, is the convention's "big day". Seating of official delegates starts the business session, followed by Mayor Bartle's welcoming address. Mr. Truman will speak at about 11:00 a.m.

Senator Thye's address will follow in the early afternoon. Other features of that session will include presentation of the American Farmer Degree to 363 outstanding FFA members, honorary degrees to about 50 adults who have given unusual service to the organization, and awards to top local FFA chapters.

The Tuesday evening program features presentation of the Star American Farmer awards. The Star Farmer of America will receive an award of \$1,000, and three regional Star Farmers will be awarded \$500 each. The awards are given for

outstanding achievement in farming and leadership.

Following the Star Farmer pageantry, there will be a variety show of entertainment provided by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company.

Wednesday morning's program will have an international flavor. About 50 foreign visitors will be introduced. The president of the Future Farmers of Japan will speak. There will be an interview of participants in the FFA-British Young Farmers exchange program, and Ambassador Boheman will deliver his address. Following a short business session, then, Governor Underwood will speak.

While official delegates are working in committee sessions Wednesday afternoon, most of the FFA members will board special busses for tours of the Kansas City area. They return to the Municipal Auditorium in the evening for a program featuring the Future Farmers of America Foundation.

Mr. McCaffrey and Mr. Wilson will extend brief greetings during the program. Representatives of donors to the Foundation will be introduced and seated on the stage while regional and national awards are presented to boys for outstanding achievement in Soil and Water Management, Farm Mechanics, Farm Electrification, and Farm Safety. A concert by the Women's Air Force Band will conclude the evening.

The last day's program, Thursday, is largely devoted to business by the official delegates. It is climaxed by the election of new national FFA officers in the early afternoon.

30th FFA Convention Program Highlights

October 14:

- 8:30 a.m.—Registration Begins
- 12:00 noon—Officer-Delegate Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m.—Kansas City Tours
- 1:30 p.m.—Meeting of State Advisors
- 8:00 p.m.—National Public Speaking Contest
- Music: FFA Band and Chorus

October 15:

- 9:00 a.m.—Seating of Delegates
- Address: H. Roe Bartle, Mayor of Kansas City
- Treasurer's Report
- Address: The Honorable Harry S. Truman
- 2:00 p.m.—Honorary American Farmer Degrees
- Address: Edward J. Thye, U. S. Senator from Minnesota
- American Farmer Degrees
- National Chapter Awards
- 7:30 p.m.—Star American Farmer Awards
- Entertainment

October 16:

- 9:00 a.m.—Introduction of Foreign Visitors

Interview: FFA-British Young Farmers

Address: Erik Boheman, Ambassador from Sweden

Business Session

Address: Cecil H. Underwood, Governor of West Virginia

1:00 p.m.—Tours of Kansas City

2:00 p.m.—Committee Sessions

8:00 p.m.—Introduction of Donors to FFA Foundation

Greetings: John L. McCaffrey, Chairman of the Board, International Harvester Company

Presentation of Awards (Farm Mechanics, Farm Electrification, Soil and Water Management, and Farm Safety)

Greetings: Edward Foss Wilson, Assistant Secretary, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Entertainment: Women's Air Force Band

October 17:

9:00 a.m.—Unfinished Business

Addresses of Retiring Officers

Committee Reports

1:30 p.m.—Business Session Continues

Election of Officers

Adjournment

(Note: In addition to the highlights listed above, entertainment will be provided on various occasions by the National FFA Band and Chorus, by selected FFA string bands, and by individual entertainers.)

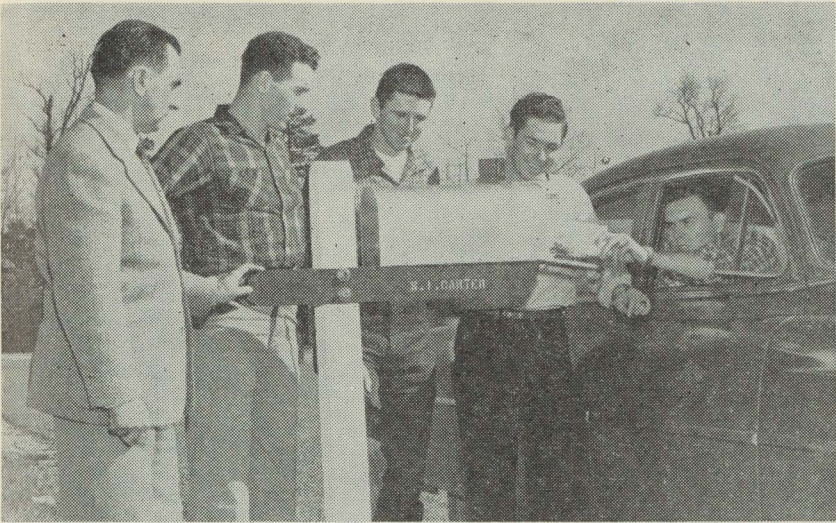


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100TH POST—Instructor T. C. Lacks (left) and Halifax County FFA members, Roger Buchanan, Randall Carter, Tommy Reaves, and Marshall Crews admire the 100th FFA mailbox stand and post constructed by chapter members this year. "The smiles indicate that the boys consider our accomplishments a record," says Jordon Hudson, chapter reporter.

Mailbox Improvement Project Conducted by Halifax Co. Future Farmer Chapter

By Wayne McBride

In Virginia we have always recognized the great influence that the Future Farmers of America can exert in developing a sense of pride in rural America.

To accomplish this, they work with their family, the people of their community, and other interested in farming to improve their home, their farm, and their community individual initiative, cooperative effort, one's leadership abilities are developed through such undertakings.

The Halifax County FFA Chapter is undertaking a project to improve the rural mail box stands in the county. As we all know, a need exists in Halifax County for better rural mailbox stands. The boys of the Halifax County FFA Chapter have recognized this need and are trying to do something about it. In farm shop classes at Halifax County High School, we have started a project to make better mail box stands.

The mail box stands can be made out of wood, steel, or concrete. We are making concrete mail box stands, because they are more permanent, look better, and are cheaper to build. We are building them out of concrete, due to the high cost of lumber. It is very important that we learn how to mix, work, and finish concrete in our school shop.

There are two types of mail box stands being made in the farm shop. One type consists of a long straight upright bar with one end planted into the ground. It has an arm running out from the top on which the mail box is fastened.

The other type has the same upright bar and arm but sets on a concrete base which is four inches thick and two feet in

diameter. This type you set on top of the ground.

In making either type of mail box stand, first you have to mix the concrete and get it ready for the mold.

This attractive mail box stand will not only be a credit to a boy's home farm, but also will be a credit to the highway and the community in which he lives.

DAN RIVER STARTS PIG CHAIN

The Dan River Future Farmers of America Chapter voted to start a registered Yorkshire pig chain at its July meeting. A committee, composed of Aubrey Dodson, Ronald Thompson and George Wiles, was appointed to work up a constitution and by-laws for the new pig chain. More than six months has gone into the study of swine breeds by the FFA boys to determine the most desirable quality hogs for Dan River community. Because of the excellent feeding qualities, good breeders, and highly desirable lean meat the Yorkshire was selected for the project.

A report on the annual FFA Rally was given by George Wiles. He stated that three of the twelve County State FFA Farmers were from Dan River. The Dairy and Shop judging teams rated among the top in Virginia, Ray Jones played on the State winning softball team from Southside and the Chapter received a Superior rating.

The new 1957-58 officers were installed at the meeting as follows: George Wiles, president; Bobby Wilkerson, vice-president; Aubrey Dodson, secretary, Ray Jones, treasurer; Roy Bennett, reporter; John Bowman, parliamentarian; Roland Thompson, chaplain and P. J. Myers, advisor.

Budget Committee Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures for State Association is \$25,750

Upon recommendation of the Budget Committee at the 1957 Virginia FFA State Convention, the following receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year 1957-58 for the Virginia Association, FFA by the official delegates.

RECEIPTS

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Dues (\$2.00 each) | \$16,000.00 |
| Record Books | 600.00 |
| Advertisements | 500.00 |
| Royalties | 200.00 |
| Seaboard Forestry Award | 350.00 |
| Registration Fees | 5,200.00 |
| FFA Foundation Awards | 2,200.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 700.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$25,750.00 |

EXPENDITURES

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| FFA Pins and Manuals | \$ 3,750.00 |
| State Officer Expenses | 300.00 |
| Record Books | 1,900.00 |
| State Convention | 8,000.00 |
| National Convention: | |
| National Band | 220.00 |
| National Chorus | 220.00 |
| Delegates | 250.00 |
| American Farmer | 200.00 |
| Judging Teams—Waterloo | 750.00 |
| Judging Teams—Kansas City | 1,400.00 |
| Contests: | |
| Public Speaking | 310.00 |
| Chapter Contest | 210.00 |
| Chapter Chats | 2,900.00 |
| Miscellaneous: | |
| Camp Miniwanca | 152.00 |
| National Dues | 800.00 |
| FFA-FHA Camp | 2,000.00 |
| Auditing Books | 30.00 |
| State Officer Jackets | 75.00 |
| FFA Foundation Awards | 1,800.00 |
| Others | 483.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$25,750.00 |

This report does not include the Smith-Douglass Scholarship nor the livestock program.

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Annual Report

(Continued from page 4)

Howard. Doctor Howard, superintendent of public instruction in Virginia, also has made an outstanding contribution to our FFA organization and served as National Treasurer of the FFA. His death was a great shock to all of us and a tremendous loss to our state and nation.

On the date of March 25, I brought greetings from our state association to the Virginia Convention of the Distributive Education Clubs of America in Richmond. I also spoke to the State Convention of the Future Business Leaders of America in Richmond on April 27. I enjoyed immensely learning about other youth organizations such as these that are carrying on equally outstanding programs of work. All of our youth organizations have the same common objective, the development of youth into the leaders of tomorrow.

My banquet cycle began on March 22 when I spoke to the Independence Chapter Banquet. I was accompanied on the trip by Ralph R. Reynolds, my high school agriculture instructor and FFA advisor. Roger Poole, Independence Chapter president, presided over a most interesting and well-planned banquet program.

On March 29, I attended a joint FFA-FHA father-son and mother-daughter Banquet of the Montevideo Chapters. Wayne Andrews, FFA Chapter President, conducted a very smooth banquet program.

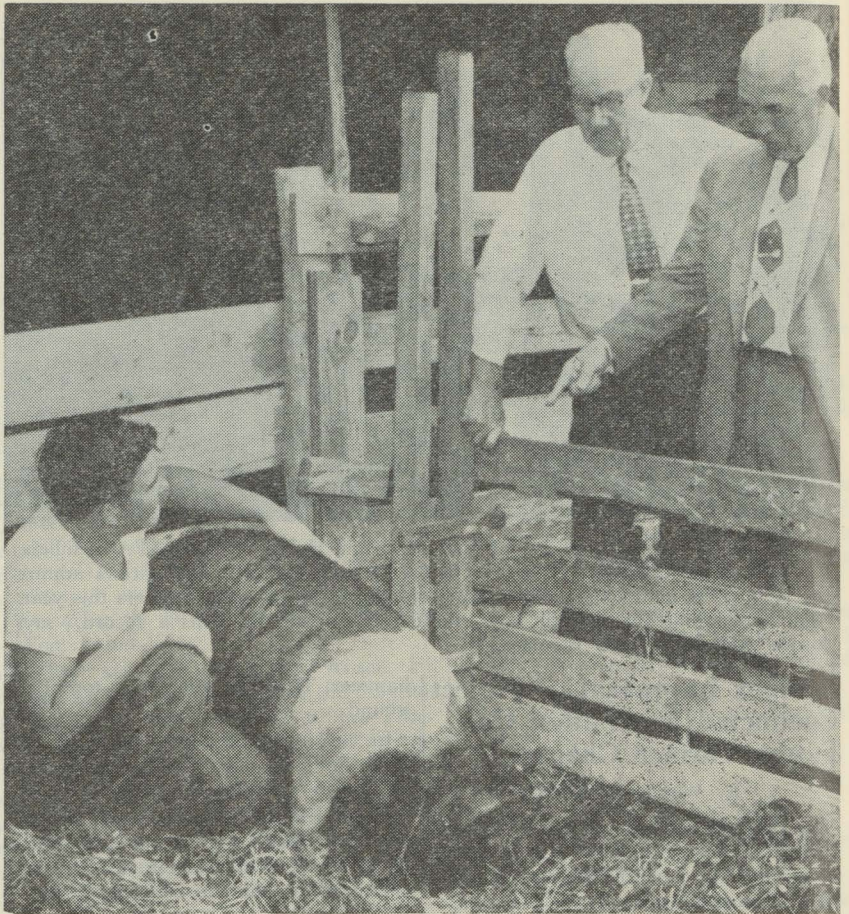
On April 26, I attended my home chapter's banquet, also a Father-Son and Mother-Daughter affair held jointly with the FHA, and D. B. Waddle, Bland Chapter president was master of ceremonies over a highly successful program. Jack King, a past president of the Bland Chapter, traveled with me on this trip.

The night of May 3 found me speaking to the Andrew Lewis Chapter Father-Son Banquet in Salem, Virginia. Their capable president, Danny Wertz, and other chapter officers presented a most outstanding program.

It was indeed an honor to travel with Lennie Gamage to the Ceres Chapter Banquet on May 4. The chapter officers with Johnny Crabtree, president, presented another very interesting program immediately following the banquet.

I enjoyed with Johnny Messersmith the Father-Son Banquet of the George Wythe Chapter on May 30 at Carter's Memorial Park just outside of Wytheville. Don Otey, Chapter President, presided over the program before a large turn out and enthusiastic one of sons and fathers. Needless to say, the food at all of these banquets was marvelous and it only goes to show you that a good Future Farmer always is capable of obtaining an excellent cook.

On June 11-12, I attended the twelfth annual convention of the Virginia Association of Future Homemakers of Amer-



KIWANIANS ASSIST FFA'ERS—George Yopp, Jr., examines one of the new Hampshire boards donated to Andrew Lewis FFA Chapter by local Kiwanis Clubs. Looking on are: Verne Bliss (center) of the Salem Kiwanis Club and Arthur Neuhooff (right) of the Roanoke Valley Kiwanis Club.

ica held at Radford, Virginia, this year. I brought greetings from all of you Future Farmers to the more than 700 girls assembled at the convention. Fellows, that was an opportunity of a lifetime and never shall I forget that experience! Their State President, Euna Lee Bowman, and other officers conducted a very fine business session before the most attractive group of girls I believe I have ever seen.

After the FHA convention, I returned home for three days before I came to VPI to assume my final responsibilities as your State President for the year, 1956-57. May I briefly state my mileage and expenses to the Virginia Association during the past year. I have traveled a total of 15,160 miles and my expenses amounted to approximately \$893.39. I spent a total of 76 days in the interest of the FFA. From the bottom of my heart, I can truly say I have enjoyed every minute of FFA work in the past five years.

Fellows, I can remember the first day I stepped in a vocational agriculture classroom, and from that time until right now, a period of five years, I have realized goals that I had never even dreamed of accomplishing. The fundamental factor in my attaining of these goals was the influence my wonderful

parents had upon me to progress in good, clean, and Christian living from day to day. Never shall I forget the heart's desire of my father for me to become a practical, efficient, and successful farmer. Nor shall I forget my mother's love and continuous encouragement. Truly, no boy could wish or even dream of having more wonderful parents. I only hope to repay them in some small way in the future.

The encouragement and many tokens of aid I have received from my sisters, Janet and Judy, and brother, George, will also never be forgotten.

The person that has given me the most incentive in these past years is Mr. Ralph R. Reynolds, my vocational agriculture instructor, whose untiring efforts in my behalf have led to where I am today. No goal could have been achieved without him. It is out of deep pride and respect for him that I have continually strived to work hard and to do my FFA work to the best of my ability. Every FFA boy will boast of his instructor being the very best. I certainly go along with this because I think none can compare with Mr. Reynolds. I also want to extend thanks to his wife for the inspiration she has given me throughout my FFA years.

(Continued on page 9)

Annual Report

(Continued from page 9)

To Mr. Bass and Mr. Campbell I also want to express my heart-felt thanks, for their continued hard work and co-operation in making this convention a success and helping me and my fellow state officers during the year. Our State Association would not prosper were it not for the work of these two outstanding gentlemen. I also want to thank their staff, as well as the vocational agriculture department here at VPI, for making this another successful FFA year. One cannot realize the work that these staffs do in a year's time.

The biggest inspirational force that was continually behind me was that of striving to live up to the expectations of my fellow members in the local Bland Chapter. The degree to which I achieved this determines whether or not I met the qualifications of being your State President. It is my heart's desire that each and everyone of the past and present members of the chapter who are responsible for me realizing this goal could be here at the convention this year to share the many thrills with me.

Last but by no means least, my heart goes out to my fellow State Officers this year. Words cannot express what it has meant working and being with them at various times during the year. As we said last June, fellows, we have been true brothers working together to accomplish God's work. May we all continue to do so in the future and may the very best in life be yours. Thanks go to each of you, Ed, ward, Dicky, Verlain, David, Dwight, Wayne, Billy T., Billy Clem, and Johnny for keeping me on the base this year.

To our past State officers and Jerry Ringo, national vice-president from Kentucky, it has been wonderful working with you at this, our thirty-first annual convention.

To Mr. Dudley, I also want to extend my deepest appreciation for his wonderful help.

To you Green Hands and Chapter Farmers I urge you to begin work now and to set your goals high. It has been truthfully said that we will receive no more from our organization than what we put into it. The success of the FFA and our nation's agriculture lies in your hands. May you strive with a sturdy ambition to attain high goals in our FFA organization as you develop in worthy progress.

To you State Farmers I challenge you to look to your future development and not be satisfied by your past accomplishments. The degree of American Farmer awaits you who take advantage of your numerous opportunities. The scientific field of agriculture is waiting for capable men like yourself who have had sound training in their youth. May each of you lead a happy and profitable life.

As the first line of our creed goes,

"I believe in the future of farming." It is estimated that a total of almost 130,000 new farmers are needed each year to replace inefficient farmers who are going out of business. In our great nation these new farmers must possess training and experience, as well as being intelligent and practical in their farming methods. Certainly, the key to America's future lies in the hands of her farmers whose faith is in the soil. People are realizing this more every day because a nation's strength lies in its agriculture, the basic industry in every country. Let me remind you that the world must consistently provide sufficient food for its ever-increasing population. To accomplish this, it is essential that we have stronger co-operation between farmers throughout the world.

I have continually used this slogan, "The successful farmer of tomorrow is the good Future Farmer of today." I want to impress upon you the value of being proud of your organization. It is a great thrill to be a Future Farmer, even more so to be from the State where the FFA was originally founded. Let us always remember that nowhere can we receive the opportunities our FFA organization provides.

As we say in our FFA ritual, "Let us be led out of the Darkness of selfishness into the glorious daylight of brotherhood and co-operation." Meet the future proudly with determination and faith. May each and everyone of you prosper in this growing world of ours.

It has been a wonderful experience serving you as State President this year. May God bless you all!

DANNY W. BIRD
State President 1956-57
Virginia FFA Association

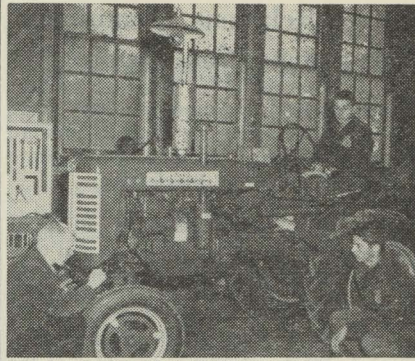
Eight Virginians

(Continued from page 1)

the Future Farmers of America Foundation, Inc.

Attainment of the American Farmer Degree is based on the Future Farmer's record in farming, leadership, and scholarship. The degree is limited to FFA members who have been out of high school at least one year and who are showing evidence of becoming successfully established in farming. State Associations of FFA are limited to one American Farmer Degree candidate for each 1,000 members or major fraction thereof. Virginia, with FFA membership of 7,940, submitted the names of eight candidates, all of whom were approved.

Announcement of Star Farmer awards will be made during the evening session of the convention on October 15. One Future Farmer who is most outstanding of the degree winners will be named Star Farmer of America and will receive a \$1,000.00 cash award. Three others will receive Regional Star Farmer awards of \$500.00 each.



GETS TRACTOR — The Brookville Chapter has acquired a new tractor through the loan of a local dealer. Checking it over are (left to right): Merlyn Proehl, reporter; John McConville, president; and Eddie Morey, secretary. The tractor will be used by students, young farmers, and adult farmer in systematic instruction in Vocational Agriculture. It will also be used for demonstration work in good agricultural practices.

Chapter Chats Committee Make Recommendations for Year

The committee wishes to commend Julian Campbell, Editor, and others who have been responsible for the fine work done in improving *Chapter Chats* this year. We, the *Chapter Chats* Committee, wish to make the following recommendations to the Thirty-First Annual State Rally of the Virginia Association of the Future Farmers of America for the convention's approval.

1. Each chapter reporter, secretary, or other officers submit articles and pictures of outstanding activities of the local chapter to the editor of *Chapter Chats*. We would like to emphasize that you send more pictures of the FFA members and their enterprises or projects.
2. Each federation reporter and advisor submit articles on all Federation activities.
3. *Chapter Chats* be distributed to every member and class time be used to discuss each issue.
4. Each state officer should submit at least one news article.
5. A definite time limit be set to send in recent news articles before each edition.
6. Highlights of FFA-FHA camp be submitted to *Chapter Chats*.
7. A point system be set up and a certificate be presented to the chapter received the most points for articles published in the *Chapter Chats* at next year's state convention.

Public Relations Committee Recommendations Approved

The following recommendations made by the Public Relations Committee were approved by the delegates at the State FFA Convention in Blacksburg.

1. Each chapter strive to put on at least two radio programs and television programs when and where possible.
2. Invite principals and local faculty, key farmers, members of the board of supervisors, state and county representatives and businessmen to attend special functions of the chapter.
3. Each chapter put on one or more programs before out-of-school groups such as Ruritan, P-TA, Grange and other farm and civic organizations.
4. Encourage all members to exhibit in local shows and fairs and provide proper identification.
5. Strive to have 100 per cent membership subscribe to **National Future Farmer Magazine** and present complimentary copy to persons such as school principal, superintendent, school board members, school library, honorary members, etc.
6. All members assist the reporter in preparing future articles for publication which should be sent to all newspapers in the area.
7. Encourage education exhibits by chapters, including floats at parades and bulletin board both in agriculture department and school.
8. Each chapter keep a scrapbook of FFA activities.
9. Each chapter participate in the distribution of the official FFA calendar published by the **National FFA Magazine** in the 1958 calendar.
10. All chapters participate in National FFA week by planning special events including radio and television programs and increase publicity in papers, etc.
11. Each chapter send pictures along with articles of outstanding activities of boys of the chapters to the **Chapter Chats** and the **National FFA Magazine**.
12. Invite parents and the public to the school on special occasions, such as open house, parent and son banquet and shop displays.
13. Each chapter strive to have all members conduct themselves in

accordance with the FFA code of ethics.

14. Chapters cooperate with other high school organizations and extra curricular activities of the school.
15. Cooperate with local soil conservation districts in the Virginia Forest Service in promoting conservation throughout the state.
16. Encourage as many Future Farmers as possible to exhibit FFA livestock and crop exhibits at the Virginia State Fair as possible.
17. Cooperate with all farm youth groups for the betterment of American agriculture.

The Four Faiths

By Bill Lawson, President
Virginia Association FFA

There are four essential faiths a Future Farmer should possess. First comes faith in God. This is the faith that can bring inner peace and true happiness. It enables the FFA member, who is associated with nature as part of his chosen occupation, to feel that he is in partnership with God. We observe the miracle of life with every newborn animal we care for and every seed that we see grow to maturity to provide humanity with food and fiber. Without God life is not possible. Let's never forget the first faith of the good Future Farmer: Faith in God.

(Continued on page 16)



CHICKEN BARBECUE—The Andrew Lewis FFA Chapter gave their parents and many friends a chicken barbecue recently. Six boys on pit serving, and general arrangements committees along with help from six mothers really made the affair go over. The meal was served to the 175 people from 5:30 to 7 o'clock. The menu: one-half chicken, tomatoes, baked potato, rolls, butter, ice cream, cake and drink.

Effinger FFA Chapter Gets Top State Awards in Forestry and Wildlife

The Effinger High School FFA Chapter of Rockbridge took two of the top State awards made at the FFA State Convention. They won top honors in the Chapter Forestry Contest and were awarded a plaque and a check for \$50. This contest is sponsored each year by Virginia Forests, Inc. of Richmond, an organization of woodland owners interested in forestry conservation and development.

The Effinger Future Farmers also won first place in the FFA Chapter Wildlife Contest, and a check for \$40. This program is sponsored by the Virginia Future Farmers Association with funds provided by the National Future Farmers Foundation.

The Stony Creek FFA Chapter of Sussex County placed second in the Chapter Forestry Contest, followed by the Amelia FFA Chapter in third place, Louisa Chapter in fourth place, and Andrew-Lewis Chapter of Roanoke County, in fifth. Cash awards of \$40, \$30, \$20, and \$10 were presented these chapters.

The Andrew Lewis FFA Chapter placed second in the Chapter Wildlife Contest, followed by the Bland FFA Chapter in third place and the Ashland FFA Chapter of Hanover County in fourth place. Cash awards of \$30, \$20, and \$10 were presented the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th place state winners.

Chapter Forestry

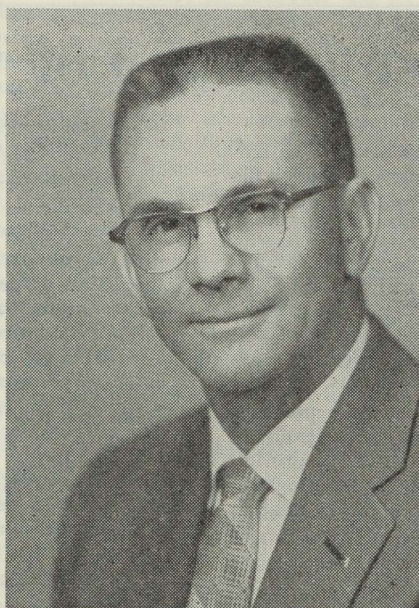
All 32 members of the Effinger Chapter carried forestry projects on their home farms, devoting 1,516 self hours to their forestry project work, which included such activities as the following:

1. Set out 10,000 pine seedlings
2. Cut and sold 190 cords of pulpwood.
3. Cut 148 cords of fuel wood for home use.
4. Constructed 7,200 ft of fire lanes.
5. Cut 18,340 bd. ft. saw logs for home use and sale.
6. Cut 418 fence posts, and 1,049 poles and stakes.

In addition to the forestry projects carried by the Effinger Future Farmers on their home farms, the Effinger Chapter carried on such activities as the following for the purpose of promoting forestry conservation and development in their community:

1. 32 tree identification exhibits entered at annual school fair.
2. Four forestry exhibits entered at Lynchburg Farm Show.
3. Maintained membership in three forestry associations, including Virginia Forests, Inc., of Richmond.
4. Set out tree seedlings on school grounds.
5. Helped with various forestry edu-

(Continued on page 14)



WILLIAM PAUL GRAY

Gray Named New National Executive Secretary for FFA To Succeed Tenney

William Paul Gray of Colorado has been appointed national executive secretary of the Future Farmers of America, according to an announcement issued by the U. S. Office of Education in Washington, D. C. Mr. Gray has been assistant professor of agricultural education at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, since 1953. Previously, he had served as executive secretary of the Colorado State FFA Association.

He succeeds Dr. A. W. Tenney who has been national executive secretary of the FFA since 1941. Dr. Tenney has been carrying a dual assignment in the Office of Education for the past seven years. He will continue his work as program specialist in agricultural education for the Central Region, and as a member of the National FFA Board of Directors.

Mr. Gray was born August 26, 1911, on a farm near Marston, Missouri. The family moved to Colorado in 1918. He was graduated from Colorado State University in 1936 with a major in animal husbandry and minor in agricultural education. He also has a Master's degree from Colorado State, and has done work there and at Michigan State University toward his doctorate.

The new FFA executive secretary taught vocational agriculture in the high school at Hillysdale, Wyoming, during the 1936-37 school term, then at Saguache, Colorado, from 1937 to 1941, and at Eaton, Colorado, in 1941-42. During the war he worked two years as flight instructor for young airplane pilots, and two years as instructor in marine engineering for the U.S. Army Transportation Corps.

In 1946 he returned to Eaton and re-

"Nickels for Farm Youth" Contest is Sponsored by Southern States Cooperative

Farm youth in the six-state operating territory of Southern States Co-operative, will have the opportunity to win up to \$68,000 in the "Nickels for Farm Youth" Contest to be held by the cooperative during August, September and October.

Southern States Cooperative currently serves over 360,000 farmer-members in the states of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky and Tennessee.

Here's how the "Nickels for Farm Youth" Contest will work:

During the three-month period of the contest, farm youth under 21-years of age can collect used Cooperative Mills formula feed tags bearing a star and redeem them for cash at their local Southern States Cooperative Service Agency. The tags will be worth five cents each and must have at least three of the five points of the star showing to qualify. Tags must be turned in at the same local Agency throughout the contest to insure participants accurate total scores.

Farm youth whose parents are employees of Southern States Cooperative or its Cooperative Service Agencies are not eligible to participate in the contest.

The special tags will appear on all Cooperative Mills feeds except broiler and turkey feeds and scratch grains.

The individual boy or girl in each of the six-states who collects and turns in the greatest number of used tags will also receive a cash award of \$100. The youth with the second greatest number will receive \$50 and the third place winner will get \$25. To be eligible to win one of these state awards a youth must turn in at least 250 tags.

Farm youth may also use the contest to earn money for their FFA Chapters, 4-H Clubs, FHA Chapters and other youth organizations.

Further details on the contest may be obtained from local Southern States Co-operative Service Agencies.

sumed his vocational agriculture teaching duties. While there, his FFA chapter was one of the outstanding chapters of the nation, winning Silver Emblem once, and Gold Emblem twice, in the National Chapter Contest. He taught at Eaton until 1952, then moved to Denver where he worked nearly two years as assistant state supervisor of agricultural education and executive secretary of the state FFA. He has been teaching at Colorado State University since the fall of 1953.

Mr. Gray and his wife, the former Miss Edna May Glover of Center, Colorado, were married in 1941. They will make their home in the Washington, D. C., area.

RECOMMENDED PROGRAM OF WORK-1957-58

I. SUPERVISED FARMING:

1. Encourage each member to plan a long-time balanced supervised farming program suitable to the home farm plan, by first making a home farm survey.
2. Encourage chapter to contact and co-operate with available government agencies in securing maps and farm plans for the boys' home farm.
3. Continue to stress the procuring and use of certified seeds, adapted hybrids, and pure-bred poultry and livestock in the boy's projects.
4. Each boy endeavor to carry out some practices for the conservation of our national resources, conduct a forestry project and stress pasture improvement as part of supervised farming program.
5. Encourage members to join 100 bushel corn club, Pasture Contests and County Forestry Clubs and participate in agricultural fairs.
6. Encourage the use of artificial insemination when practical.
7. Encourage the adjustment of crop and livestock production to meet the changing conditions.
8. Stress the use of good managerial and financial practices in supervised farming program.
9. Encourage members entering in any award contest to keep up-to-date records of all achievements.

II. COOPERATION:

1. Encourage all chapters to engage in cooperative buying and selling, with added emphasis on the selling.
2. Encourage chapters to invite State officers to visit them.
3. Encourage cooperation with the Future Homemakers of America.
4. Increase State membership whenever possible by more ex-agriculture students continuing as active members. (State dues for out-of-school members \$1.00 per year.)
5. Each chapter exhibit FFA products at fairs when possible and give special emphasis to exhibits and judging contests at the Atlantic Rural Exposition at Richmond, Virginia.
6. Every boy in agriculture to be a member of local chapter with 100 per cent of dues paid by October first or two weeks after school opens.
7. Encourage chapters to enter Standard, Superior, State and National Chapter Award programs.
8. Each chapter secretary see that a complete record of the chapter activities be sent to his area supervisor by May 1.
9. Encourage seniors in vocational agriculture to become affiliated with the Young Farmers Club.
10. Encourage chapters to be cooperative with local clubs.
11. Encourage all chapters to conduct demonstrations, agricultural practices.
12. Encourage members of all chapters to subscribe to the *National Future Farmer Magazine*, the goal being 100 per cent of the State membership.

III. COMMUNITY SERVICE:

1. Assist local community organizations to reach their objectives.

2. Assist in beautifying the home, school and church grounds or other centers of the community.
3. Assist local school organizations in achieving their goals.
4. Every chapter aid its community by:
 - (a) Cooperating with local game wardens and wildlife commission for the protection of game and fish; and seed, feed and cover practices.
 - (b) Cooperating with the local fire wardens in preventing forest fires and by encouraging members to join the KVG Crew.
 - (c) Cooperating with the Soil Conservation Service.
 - (d) Buying seedlings cooperatively and assisting farmers in planting them.
 - (e) Assisting farmers in water conservation practices.
 - (f) Conducting a farm fire prevention program.
5. Each chapter cooperate with local county organizations in giving assistance to needy in the county.
6. Conserve farm machinery by encouraging chapters to repair it in their schools shops and encourage chapters to hold tractor maintenance schools.
7. Encourage the chapter to assist the community in the production, conservation, and processing of food.
8. Each chapter put much greater emphasis on safety on the farm, and in the home and in the community.

IV. LEADERSHIP:

1. Each chapter to hold the annual election of officers prior to the Rally in order to send an officer that he may render greater service to the chapter in following years.
2. Chapters encourage membership, participation in public speaking contests; not only FFA but other contests open to members.
3. Each chapter emphasize instruction in parliamentary procedure in early part of the school year.
4. Have national officers visit annual Rally if possible.
5. Continue the annual Rally, the place to be selected by the FFA executive committee. Also, continue, public speaking contests and any other contest that the supervisory staff and FFA Advisory Council deem possible.
6. Continue field trips at the Rally.
7. Have a minimum of twenty-five candidates qualify for the American Farmer degree, in order to have the full State quota for the degree elected.
8. Encourage each member to use the FFA manual—a copy available for each boy.
9. The Executive Committee to provide for and finance the trips of State officers and delegates, and continue the practice of paying mileage for State officers to visit local chapters.
10. Encourage all chapters to present radio and television broadcasts during the year and continue broadcasts at the Rally.
11. Each chapter send at least five news articles during the year to *Chapter Chats* placing em-

Camp Miniwanca Activities

By Buddy Hiter, Vice President
Virginia Association FFA

There was one phase of the program at Camp Miniwanca of which I was very much impressed and that was the religious activities. Each morning after we had made our beds and straightened our cabins fifteen minutes were devoted to the reading of our morning devotion sheets which were distributed among everyone. Grace was given before every meal and each afternoon about sunset all of the boys gathered on one of the sandoons and listened to one of the instructors render the vesper services. Each night after all of the boys were in bed and the lights were turned out the choir would sing a hymn which could be heard all over the camp and this was the way in which our day ended.

I would like to leave with you this one little story. A professor of mine used

to say: "You can accomplish anything you set your heart to, provided you do not care who gets the credit." People acting in this fashion belong to the wonderful *Association of Goodness Anonymous*. They are in the midst of their fellowmen as "those who serve", always ready to wash their brothers' feet. When they have done their very best they remember and appreciate the words of Jesus: "When you have done all that is commanded you, say, We are unworthy servants; we have only done what is our duty." By this Jesus meant that we can never do enough to deserve thanks from men or reward from God. Whatever we do should never be done "to be seen of men", or to be praised by men, but out of pure love for God and men. That is all. Jesus used to send away those he had helped, urging them to give thanks to God, while He himself walked through the crowds unnoticed. This is true humility; this brings victory over pride. I Dare You to be this type of person.



phasis on articles which will be of interest to all FFA members as a whole, rather than of local interest only.

12. The advisor devote as many class periods as needed the first part of each year to teaching the fundamentals of news writing.
13. Encourage chapters to build good chapter libraries.
14. Each chapter set up objectives by October 1, adopting a satisfactory system of keeping an accurate and complete record of accomplishments.
15. Have all chapters participate in the degree team contest and area winners to be sent to the State Rally for the State Contest.
16. Encourage members to compete for FFA Foundation awards.

V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS:

1. All chapters conduct one or two or more activities that encourage thrift among members and stimulate investments.
2. Continue buying government bonds.
3. Each chapter raise money to finance chapter activities.
4. Have a budget committee plan financial activities and set up a well-balanced budget that is to be carried out during the year.

VI. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:

1. Schedule at least 12 chapter meetings throughout the year.
2. Officers of each chapter to know opening and closing ceremonies as found in FFA manual. Goal by first meeting after election.
3. Each chapter should use official FFA Secretary's and Treasurer's book.
4. Each chapter to use official FFA paraphernalia and jackets as far as possible.
5. Each chapter member appear on chapter program at least once a year.

6. Use accepted parliamentary procedure in conducting meetings.
7. Chapter distribute membership cards for the payment of dues.
8. Encourage the election of junior chapter officers for the development of leadership and parliamentary procedure.

VII. SCHOLARSHIP:

1. Each chapter raise scholastic attainments by:
 - (a) Maintaining honor roll
 - (b) Devoting one meeting to scholarship
 - (c) Encouraging the writing of essays
 - (d) Encouraging chapters to hold public speaking contest with 100 per cent of members participating
2. Encourage each chapter to appoint "Big Brothers" for new members.

VIII. RECREATION:

1. Each chapter hold a banquet.
2. State Department of Education continue the practice of sending films of FFA activities to chapters deserving them.
3. Each FFA chapter follow recommendations of camp committee making contributions to the upkeep and expansion of State FFA-FHA Camp.
4. Each federation consider the possibility of holding a get together of some kind.

IX. PUBLIC RELATIONS:

1. Chapters make use of the following media in acquainting the public with the FFA organization: newspapers, magazines, school paper, radio, TV, public programs, high school assembly, roadside markers, chapter publications, *Chapter Chats*, exhibits, and official FFA calendar.
2. Each chapter hold a parent and son get-together of some kind.

Resolutions Committee Report at State FFA Convention

Be it resolved that we the committee on Resolutions of 1957 on behalf of the Virginia Association of the Future Farmers of America, extend our most sincere thanks and appreciation to the following persons and organizations who participated in or contributed to the success of the FFA in Virginia.

1. The Administration and faculty of VPI for the unlimited use of facilities and services extended by them which has made possible the holding of the convention on the campus, especially the greeting given by Dr. L. A. Pardue, Vice-President of VPI.

2. R. E. Bass, State Supervisor, and his staff for their untiring efforts to make this one of the most successful conventions.

3. The conference clerical staff for their sweet co-operation.

4. State officers for their splendid performance at the convention.

5. FFA Foundation donors, other industries, and individuals for livestock improvement, contests, and other activities, which contribute to the continued progress of the FFA.

6. FFA Band, FFA Chorus, Miss Marie Reynolds, Tom Dobyns, Joe Gutheries, and Mrs. Cecile Bidwell for helping with our music program throughout the Convention.

7. Pop Henderson and his staff for their splendid meals at the college dining hall.

8. Paul N. Deering for YMCA facilities for office headquarters during meetings.

9. Jerry Ringo, national vice-president, for the inspiration of his presence and address at the Rally.

10. Radio, TV, newspapers in the state for splendid FFA publicity.

11. Bruce Robinson for his efficient coverage in photography for the convention.

12. To other speakers and entertainers who have contributed to our programs.

13. Co-operation and fine attitude of all members attending the convention.

14. Co-operation of members in respective home chapters for making it possible for each individual to be in attendance at this convention.

15. Vocational agriculture instructors for helping conduct judging contests.

Let it be resolved that this convention congratulate R. E. Bass upon being elected President of the American Vocational Association; and J. T. W. Mitchell upon being elected President of the Virginia Agriculture Teachers Association.

We express our deep regrets upon the resignation of teachers who find it necessary to leave the teaching of agriculture.

Our best wishes go to Dr. Harry Moore, head of the poultry department,

Effinger FFA Chapter

(Continued from page 11)

cational programs in community, showing films, giving talks, preparing exhibits, and preparing forestry posters.

6. Sponsored two K.V.G. crews in school of 27 members, and nine members spent 30 hours fighting fires.
7. Distributing 500 "Plant More Trees" calendars, 300 forestry book covers, 25 brush burning bumper strips, and other educational material.
8. Financed and conducted FFA Forestry Federation Judging Contest.

Chapter Wildlife

All members of the Effinger FFA Chapter carried wildlife projects on their home farms, which included the planting of 15 wildlife feed patches. The Effinger Future Farmers put in 116 self hours on their wildlife home projects. They maintained a 200 acre school forest as a wildlife refuge. All members followed the best recommended practices on their home farms in preventing forest fires, providing food during winter for wildlife, and the observing of all hunting laws, including safety. Other phases of their program included such activities as the following:

1. All members wrote Wildlife Essays and entered them in the contest sponsored by the Game and Inland Fisheries Commission.
2. Distributed 49 bags of seed for wildlife feed patches.
3. Maintained wildlife bulletin boards in school.
4. Promoted wildlife conservation at various meetings such as Ruritan, P-TA school assembly and thru the media of press, radio and television.

Clinton Anderson is President of the Effinger FFA Chapter. He was recently awarded an American Tree Farmer citation by the American Forestry Institute of Washington, D. C. Clinton also won second place in the Seaboard FFA Forestry Contest this year. One of his forestry projects was setting out 11,000 pine seedlings on his home farm. The chapter advisors are D. L. Glick, Vo-Ag Teacher, and Graham Goodman, Effinger High School Principal.

VPI, in his new venture in Indo China.

Whereas God in his infinite love has taken another great friend of the FFA, Dr. Dowell J. Howard, let it be resolved that we in convention assembled express our regrets and loss. Dr. Howard spent his entire life in the field of education, the major part in vocational agriculture. Dr. Howard has served at State FFA Advisor and National Treasurer. The Future Farmers of America has been blessed by his life. We recommend that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family.

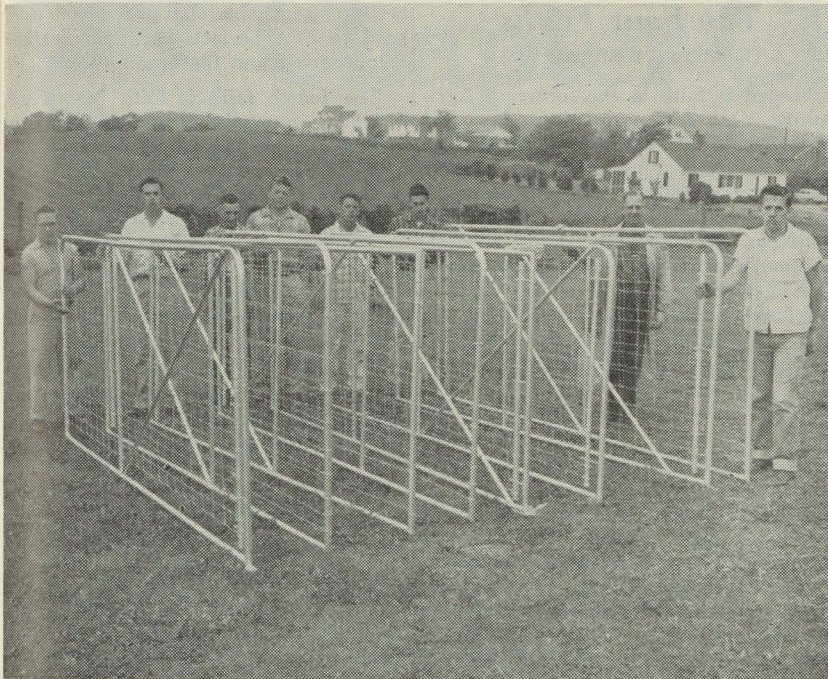
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MAKE GATES—Juniors from Luray Chapter constructed farm gates as one of their shop projects during the school year. Pictured above are: Luray FFA Chapter members (l. to r.): Charles Foltz, Robert Mims, Jack Comer, Kenneth Hulse, Clifford Broyles, Hylus Shenk, R. A. Wall, instructor and Jack Printz.

National FFA Convention

(Continued from page 1)

Others—L. L. Beazley, E. B. Craun, H. B. Pack and E. M. Pennington, Jr. All instructors of vocational agriculture who have been recommended to receive the Honorary American Farmer degree. E. F. Wilson, instructor of vocational agriculture, George Wythe High School and M. C. Sutphin, principal at George Wythe High School.

Out-of-State Judging Teams

Poultry—John Showalter, Billy Bangher, Bobby Wagner, N. C. Guynn, vocational agriculture instructor, all from Wilson Memorial in Augusta County.

Livestock—Robert Cather, Danny Shenk, Stephen Linenweaver, G. L. Givens, vocational agriculture instructor, all for James Wood in Frederick County.

Crops—Gordon Yeager, Oscar Beck, Wilmer Carpenter, R. E. Taylor, vocational agriculture instructor, all from Orange.

The Out-of-State Dairy judging team from Floyd will represent Virginia in national competition at Waterloo, Iowa, September 30 through October 1. Team members are Wendell Light, Russell Hatcher, Carl Poff, H. P. Jennings, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.

J. M. Campbell, assistant supervisor of vocational agriculture and executive secretary of Virginia FFA will direct and supervise the trip.

Traffic Safety — Children Returning to School

Richmond, Va. . . . With nearly a million children starting back to school this fall, Dr. Davis Y. Paschall, Superintendent of Public Instruction and member of the Governor's Highway Safety Committee, asked for motorist cooperation in protecting their lives.

"Watch for them," he said, "at times they will be going to and from school and at recess. Returning to classes and seeing their schoolmates again is a big event and one than can crowd safety from their minds. Please, also, keep a lookout for them on the highway at times they are waiting to be picked up by buses. In spite of all we can do, they are prone to skylark by the roadside."

At the same time, Dr. Paschall strongly called attention to Virginia law which makes failure to come to a full stop when meeting or overtaking a halted school bus reckless driving in itself. Dr. Paschall noted further than drivers are required to remain stopped until the bus is again in motion and the road clear of children. Virginia law, he continued, makes no exception in the case of a four-lane highway, whether it is divided or not.

Commenting on this phase of school safety, Raymond I. Wimbish, Supervisor of Pupil Transportation, noted that during the last school session 4,013 buses transported 375,000 children daily to total a distance of more than 53 million miles with no fatalities.

In pledging continuance of the policy

FFA Band & Chorus Perform At Annual State Convention

An FFA Band and FFA Chorus, selected from Chapter members throughout the state provided special entertainment at the various sessions of the FFA State Convention at Blacksburg. The boys selected to play in the band were trained by Tom Dobyns, band director at Virginia Tech, and the boys selected to sing in the chorus were trained by Miss Marie Reynolds, director of music at Radford High School.

Future Farmers from the following High Schools were selected for the State FFA band:

- Kenneth Newbrough.....James Wood
- James Price Flowers, Jr.....James Wood
- James William Place.....James Wood
- Danny Hooke.....Montevideo
- John French.....Dublin
- Nathaniel Kelly.....Dublin
- Ted Miller.....Rural Retreat
- Dan Wright.....Rural Retreat
- Freddie Daniel.....Brunswick
- William W. Lee.....Buckingham
- Sammy Hester.....Louisa
- Joseph Wayne Smith.....Scottsville
- Johnny Roberts.....Nelson County
- Fred Ross Shank, II.....Turner Ashby
- William Kagey.....Turner Ashby
- Ronald Jamison.....Callaway
- Paul O'Meara.....Osborn
- William L. Brown.....Loudoun
- Joe C. Cabiness.....Andrew Lewis
- Wayne Webb Layman.....Andrew Lewis
- Henry Crabtree.....George Wythe
- Pat Runions.....Narrows
- Buddy Barrack.....Lancaster
- Alonzo Wood, Jr.....Nokesville
- Robert F. White.....Amherst
- Charles Sheets.....North River
- Franklin Evers.....North River
- Larry Johnston.....Pearisburg
- Bill Jones.....Galax
- Frank Davis.....Galax
- Emmett Cibula.....Prince George
- Burton Eller.....Marion

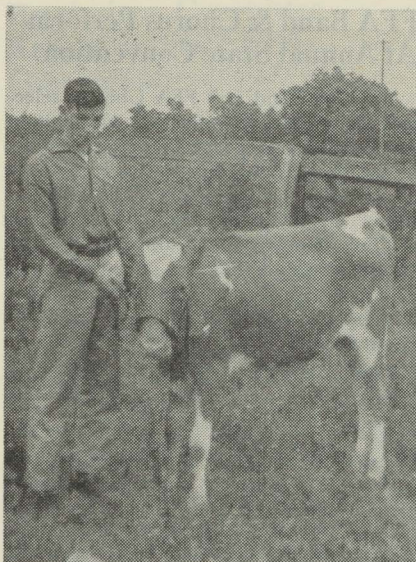
Future Farmers from the following

of the State Police of making uniformed troopers available for safety talks and other similar school activities, Colonel C. W. Woodson, Jr., stated that he felt education to be the hope of the future in traffic safety. "Only through educating a new generation of drivers can we hope to mold the attitudes and skills which appear to be lacking among those of the present-day," he said.

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PRIZE HEIFER—David Bryant, son of Mr. and Mrs. James P. Bryant, Rt. 1, Lynchburg, has been named winner of the first annual Laurel-Cliff Farm Dairy Award. David is a member of the Brookville Chapter and will be a sophomore in the Brookville High School this fall. Young Bryant was presented an outstanding registered Guernsey heifer, Laurel Cliff F. Martha, by Frank S. Loyd, owner of Laurel Cliff Farm.

FFA Band and Chorus

(Continued from page 15)

High Schools were invited to sing in the FFA Chorus:

- Thomas H. Rose, Jr.....Stony Creek
- Millard Russ Mager.....Stony Creek
- Solon Wallace Parsons.....Stony Creek
- Dallas Granville Magee.....Stony Creek
- William B. Poole.....Stony Creek
- Walter Currin.....McKenney
- Curtiss Tweedy.....McKenney
- Wayne Schwartz.....Henry Clay
- Wayne Harris.....Henry Clay
- Wayne Smith.....Culpeper
- John E. Hendrick.....Brookville
- Charles A. Murry.....Independence
- William Baird.....Andrew Lewis
- Edwin Crisp.....C. T. Smith
- Jimmy Montigy.....C. T. Smith
- John Michael Irwin.....Nokesville
- John Olive.....King George
- Buddy Hudson.....Dublin
- David L. Holley.....Whitmell
- Frederic Gamage.....Cumberland
- Lamar Owens.....Stuart
- Wellons A. Stowe.....Whitmell
- Jimmy Grubb.....Rural Retreat
- Jimmy Melvin.....Bland
- James Murray Higgins.....Amherst
- Donald Reed Jennings.....Amherst
- Edwin C. Falls, Jr.....Amherst
- Lanny Saville.....Eagle Rock
- Tommie Starkey.....Halifax
- James Watt.....James Wood
- Jack Shilley
- Charles Bauserman
- Russell Magee
- Pete McCaffity

The Four Faiths

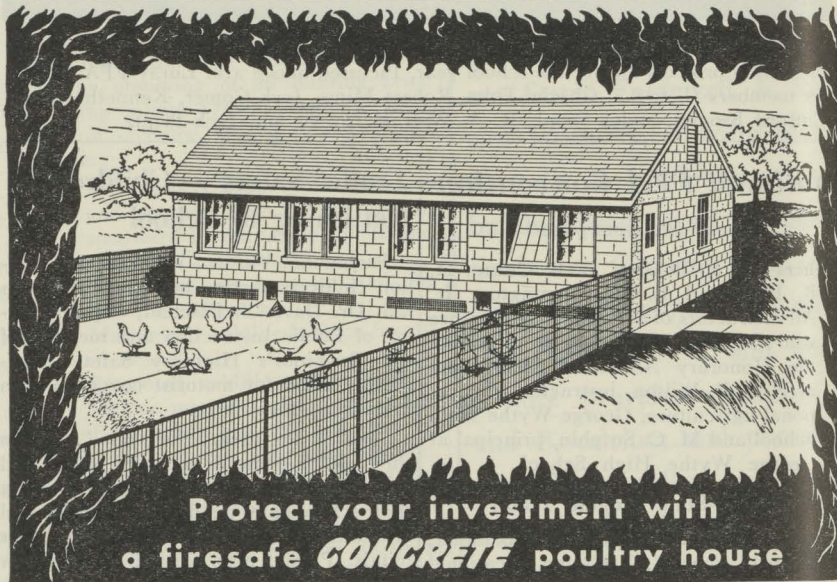
(Continued from page 10)

Second is faith in the future of Agriculture. Our chosen task is to feed and clothe mankind. We have accepted the responsibility of using wisely our greatest blessing, the soil. Let us remember the variety of occupations in agriculture that await us. We may not all be farmers. However, great opportunities are available in these agricultural fields: Research, Marketing, Education, Journalism, etc. Regardless of your choice of a vocation in agriculture, do your job well with faith in the future for you are "the promise of better days through better ways".

The third faith is faith in our organization, the Future Farmers of America. We belong to the finest youth organization in existence today. Limitless opportunities await you in the FFA. I urge you to take advantage of these opportunities. Only through active participation can you obtain the full benefits of your mem-

bership. Remember that when you work hard on FFA projects and activities you help yourself and the organization.

The fourth faith is faith in yourself. "I believe in my ability to work efficiently and think clearly with such knowledge and skill as I can secure." So reads a line from the Future Farmer Creed. Only if you work to develop your abilities can you accomplish anything. It is even better to fail than to not attempt anything. If you believe in yourself, work hard and keep your four faiths: Faith in God, Faith in the Future of Agriculture, Faith in the FFA, and Faith in Yourself, then success and happiness will be yours. I wish for each of you an active and successful year. Feel free to call on any of the State officers for any help you may need. We are here to serve you and all of us are anxious to merit your approval. Only with your cooperation can we have a successful year. May God be with you until we are able to meet.



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