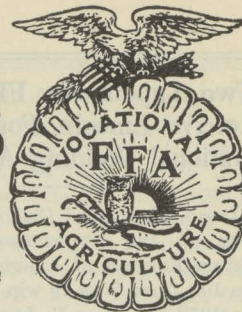




Chapter Chats

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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VOLUME XXVI

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, SEPTEMBER, 1953

NUMBER 5

Eight Boys Approved As American Farmers

Eight Future Farmers of America from Virginia have been recommended to receive the organizations highest degree, that of American Farmer at the 25th Anniversary National Convention of FFA in Kansas City, Missouri, October 12-15.

The Virginia applicants for the coveted degree have been recommended and approved by the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors of the National organization. The candidates must be elected by the delegates at the national convention before receiving the degree.

The eight Virginians named are Robert Stafford Bane, Bland, member of the Bland FFA Chapter; James D. Bennett, Red House, member of the Randolph-Henry FFA Chapter; Crawley J. Chandler, Jr., Church Road, member of the Midway FFA Chapter; Walter Marvin Dickens, Prince George, member of the Disputanta FFA Chapter. Richard E. Duncan, Nathalie, member of the Volens FFA Chapter; Hunter Preston Mabry, Waynesboro, member of the Wilson Memorial FFA Chapter; William B. Mathews, Jr., Claudville, member of the Blue Ridge FFA Chapter; William M. Park, Shipwith, member of the Legume FFA Chapter at Chase City.

Nationally, the FFA Board voted to recommend that 336 Future Farmers receive the American Farmer Degree, the largest number that has been recommended in the 25-year history of the organization. Presentation of the degrees will take place in the Municipal Auditorium at Kansas City during the convention session on the afternoon of October 13. Each degree winner will receive a certificate and gold key from the

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Eisenhower To Speak At FFA Convention

Among the list of distinguished speakers expected to participate in the 25th Anniversary of the national convention of



PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower heads the list of distinguished speakers expected to participate in the 25th Anniversary National FFA Convention in Kansas City October 12-15. The President will address the final convention session on Thursday night, October 15.

Future Farmers of America at Kansas City, will be President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who will address the convention at its final session to be held on Thursday night, October 15.

Registration for the convention is expected to total 10,000 or more Future Farmers from all sections of continental

(Continued on page 5)

Fifty-Five To Attend National Convention

Approximately 55 Virginians will attend the 25th Anniversary National Convention of Future Farmers of America in Kansas City, Missouri, October 12-15 it is announced by R. E. Bass, State Supervisor of vocational agriculture.

The Virginia party will include official delegates, American Farmer degree candidates, national FFA band members, advisors and high school principals of the two top chapters in the State, federation and chapter representatives, forestry winners, out-of-state poultry, livestock and crops judging teams, perhaps one or two FFA Foundation award winners, special guests, and supervisors.

The Norfolk and Western Railway Company through its industrial and agricultural department will sponsor Virginia's delegates to the 1953 National Convention. The Virginia party will board a special chartered air condition, reclining seat car of the "Pocahontas" on Saturday, October 10, and will return to the State on Sunday, October 18. Included in the Virginia delegation, although the list is not complete as we go to press, are:

Delegates: Lennie Gamage, Cumberland, State FFA president and Bruce Ayers, Hardin-Reynolds, past president.

American Farmer degree candidates: Robert Bane, Bland; James Bennett, Randolph-Henry; Crawley Chandler, Jr., Midway; Walter Dickens, Disputanta; Richard Duncan, Volens; Hunter Mabry, Wilson Memorial; William Mathews, Jr., Blue Ridge and William Park, Chase City.

Winning Chapter representatives: Beverly Roller, vocational agriculture instructor and F. P. Cline, principal of North River High School; Bruce Robert-

(Continued on page 8)

Two Appomattox FFA Members Receive Lincoln Foundation National Welding Awards

Lewis Moore and Claude Moore, members of the Appomattox Chapter of Future Farmers of America, were among the 100 farm boys to win cash awards in the 1952-53 James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation annual arc welding program. The Foundation's 1952-53 awards were made to high school farm boys in 27 different states throughout the country for their descriptions of how arc welding is or could be used in farming.

Lewis, one of 30 fifth place winners, received \$50.00 for his description of an auger for a post hole digger. Claude received one of the sixth place awards and \$25.00 in cash. He described how he made and uses a road scraper and ditcher and post hole digger on his farm.

Dr. E. E. Dreese, Chairman of the Foundation says that the Foundation conducts this national award program annually in order to stimulate interest and study in how arc welding can contribute to self-sufficiency on the farm. According to Dr. Dreese, who was also chairman of the Jury of Award, the projects described this year indicated an increasing use of welding on the farm to save vital time by making quick on-the-spot repairs rather than taking parts into town for repairs. The large number of mechanical devices described, also showed welding being used to acquire needed machinery when help is scarce and machinery prices are high.

The Foundation is sponsoring a similar award program for the 1953-54 school year. It is open to all high school students living on farms or ranches. A Rule booklet telling how to enter and showing pictures of previous award projects is available from The Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation, Cleveland 17, Ohio.

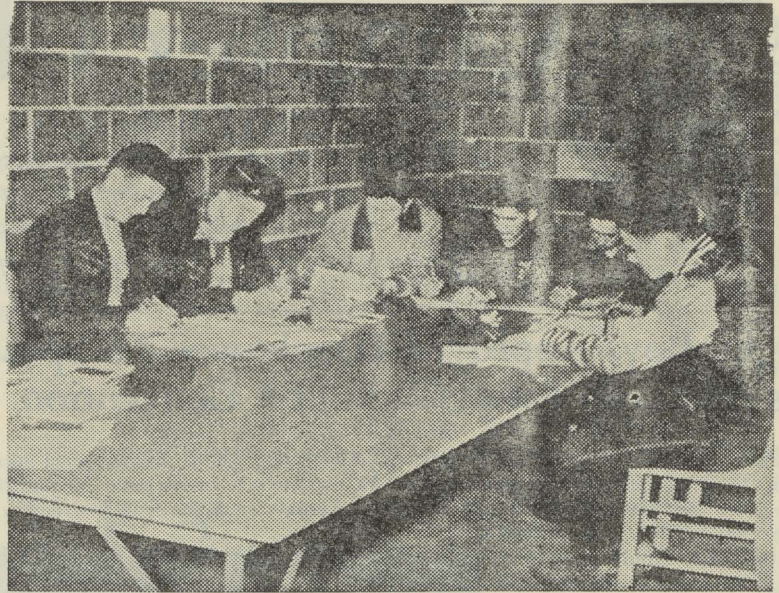
Two explorers, camped in the heart of an African jungle, were discussing their expedition.

"I came here," said one, "because the urge to travel was in my blood, the dullness of city life bored me, and the odor of gasoline on the highways made me sick. I wanted to see the sun rise over new horizons and hear the flutter of birds that never had been scared by man. I wanted to leave my footprints on sand unmarked before I came. In short, I wanted to see nature in the raw. Why did you come?"

The second explorer replied, "My son was taking saxophone lessons."

—The Montrealer.

It's okay to tell a gal she has pretty ankles . . . but don't compliment her too highly.



IT PAYS TO PLAN—The executive committee of the Bland FFA Chapter is shown hard at work planning in detail some of the many activities that the chapter participates in. Reading left to right are David Miller, Mack Kitts, Jack King, Ronald Kidd, Elmer Lundy, John Lundy, and Lee Tate.

South Carolina Boy Wins First; McCubbins, Whitmell Second In Tri-State Public Speaking

Dean Poucher, representing South Carolina, won the Tri-State Future Farmers of America public speaking contest at the Virginia FFA-FHA Camp at Smithfield August 6.

Wayne McCubbins, member of the Whitmell FFA Chapter was named

Phillip S. Anderson, Jr., of Marked Tree, Arkansas, won the Southern regional public speaking contest of Future Farmers of America held at Prattville, Alabama, September 18. Dean Poucher, of Columbia, South Carolina, who won the North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia Tri-State contest, was the second place winner. Anderson will compete in the National Oratorical contest at Kansas City during the National FFA Convention.

second place winner at the Tri-State meet. Roger Cobb, representing North Carolina placed third.

To qualify for participation in the Tri-State contest Wayne had previously won in the chapter, federation, district and State contests.

Other winners in the State public speaking contest held at Blacksburg in June were Donald Lowery, Haysi, second; Wendell Springston, Midway, third; Eddie Pence, Weyers Cave, fourth; and Dabney Overton, Warsaw, fifth.

Scottsburg FFA Chapter Bull To be Shown at Southeastern Fair, at Atlanta, Georgia

The Scottsburg FFA Chapter Hereford bull, C. H. Silver Domino 5, will be shown at the Southeastern Fair in Atlanta, Georgia October 1-11. The Scottsburg bull will represent Virginia in competition with other hereford bulls exhibited by FFA chapters representing the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee.

The exhibiting chapters were judged to have done the most outstanding work in livestock improvement breeding program, sponsored by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation in their respective states, beginning October, 1951 and ending September, 1952. Each of the winning chapters were awarded a bull by their State Hereford Association and the Sears-Roebuck Foundation. These bulls will compete in a special show at the Southeastern Fair.

The Scottsburg bull, awarded by the Virginia Hereford Association and the Sears-Roebuck Foundation, will also be exhibited at the Atlantic Rural Exposition in Richmond, September 25 through October 3.

Judges of the Tri-State Contest were H. D. Seal, vocational agriculture instructor, Henry Clay High School; C. G. Johnson, principal, Holand High School; and A. E. S. Stephens, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia.

An Unforgettable Experience

By Marion Wampler, Secretary
State FFA

It is a rare privilege for a person to attend Camp Miniwanca. It is a much rarer privilege for the State secretary to attend. However, since our president, Lennie Gammage, could not find time to go, I was sent in his place. Vice-President Henry Marks and E. B. Craun were also privileged to attend.

The trip, which started on August 15, took us to Niagara Falls and then on through Canada to Michigan. We arrived at Minniwanca early Monday evening, and then began two of the most inspiring, worthwhile and unforgettable weeks of my life.

Tuesday morning, I was aroused from my dreams of Virginia by a loud bell. Then into my bathing trunks over to the flag-raising ceremony, down to the beach for a few minutes of warm-up exercises and into Lake Michigan. That was where I really awoke.

This routine was followed each day except Sundays. It was really cold on Thursday morning, but when the heat wave started down South it was just about right.

Morning dip was followed by a period for cleaning up tents and beds in preparation for a rigid inspection. Then a fifteen-minute period for personal devotions and meditation.

Breakfast followed at 7:30. The fellowship with your tent mates at meals in the dining hall was to me one of the most unforgettable experiences of camp.

The morning was devoted to classes, with a one hour break for a spiritual assembly. These classes were designed to develop Christian leadership; to help us develop ourselves in four fields—physical, mental, social and religious. The teachers had been carefully chosen, and you can bet we didn't miss any of those classes.

After lunch and a short rest period, one more class was held, in which we could learn any of a number of different skills. Tribal games followed at 3:00. These were either volley ball or softball. Also, each fellow was entered into a tournament of tennis, ping pong, horse shoes, badminton or shuffleboard. These were played off during the free time or during the 4 to 5 o'clock swimming hour. Swimming in Lake Michigan was great fun when the wind was whipping up good breakers.

The fellows at camp were divided into six Indian tribes. Nearly everything we did (tribal games, tournaments, aquatic and track meets, and tent inspections) was added to the tribes' records. The winning tribe was presented with the coveted tribal shield on the last day in camp.

Following supper, which twice was cooked on the beach with our tent mates,

a very inspiring vesper service was held on "Vesper Dune" overlooking the lake. There was always the setting sun slipping beneath the waters to add to the thrill.

Then followed the "night's doings," which varied from Indian councils, rodeos and barn dances, to serious class meetings and bull sessions with other fellows of similar interests. One evening the FFA officers from a great number of states met together. They are really a swell bunch of fellows. A fellowship singing was held in the eating lodge on Sunday night which I really enjoyed.

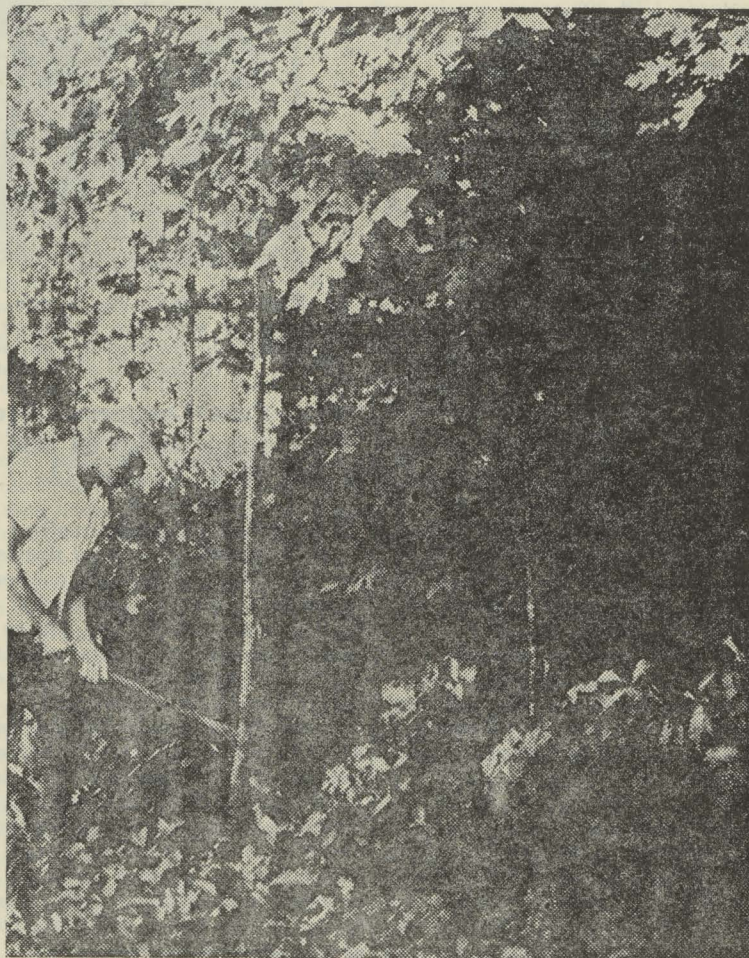
These things alone would make a great camp, but at Miniwanca there is something much deeper. There is the close fellowship of the campers who are doing their best to live a four-fold life, to be at their best physically, mentally, socially and religiously. These fellows are a select group from all over the nation coming to Miniwanca to be trained as Christian leaders.

And there is the close fellowship of each camper with his God, whether Prot-

estant, Catholic or Jew. Each day there was the quiet meditation period; in the evening the vesper service. On Sunday there was an inspiring service in the "Church of the Dunes." And finally, one night as the camp was drawing to a close, we were allowed to go alone to any spot on the 300-acre camp grounds to be alone with God. I am sure each fellow came away from camp a much better man. As we drove out of camp on Sunday morning, we saw the camp motto written on the back of the entrance sign. There, for all of us to take home with us, were the words which I think sum it all up, "My own self, at my very best, all the time."

This is to express my deep appreciation to the Virginia Association for sending me to Camp Miniwanca. I want to urge anyone else who has a chance to go, not to pass it up. Go to Miniwanca, and you will never forget it.

Too many parents are not on spanking terms with their children.—Ind. Telephone News.



FORESTRY PLOT—Dayton Ramsey, a senior at Bland High School and a member of Bland FFA Chapter, is shown working on his forestry plot which is one of his projects in his vocational agriculture work. Dayton is practicing selective cutting and pruning of desirable species of trees.

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.

Julian M. Campbell Editor

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Helping Ourselves and the FFA

By LENNIE GAMMAGE, President
Virginia Association FFA.

I sometimes wonder how many of us have asked ourselves this question, "What am I getting out of the FFA?" I have, and it always brings to my mind that old saying, "You can get no more out of a thing than you put into it."

It is this way with the FFA. If we allow ourselves to be satisfied with only an average effort and an "I'll get by" attitude, we cannot hope to accomplish much. Our best efforts—our whole-hearted efforts—must be put forth constantly for the improvement of ourselves and the FFA.

This presents a challenge to us as Future Farmers—a challenge to do everything we can toward the accomplishment of our primary aim, the development of agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship.

There are many ways in which this can be accomplished. I urge every member to participate in the activities of the school, church, and community, as well as in chapter activities. Participation in degree teams and public speaking contests will do much for Future Farmers in the development of leadership. Increased knowledge of farm crops and livestock can be gained from participation in judging contests. Athletic

contests will provide recreation, and help to develop character and sportsmanship.

Participation alone in the activities of the chapter is not enough. We must strive always to do our very best. Only then can we hope to succeed.

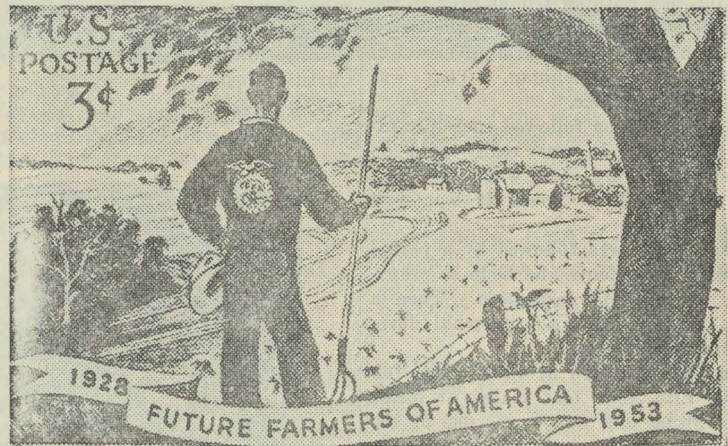
I would like to offer a personal challenge to every boy in the FFA, but especially to those boys in their freshman year. A challenge to make good grades in school; a challenge to plan and produce a good supervised farming program; and a challenge to enter into all school and extra-curricular activities with a determination to succeed.

It is probably unnecessary for me to say that there are awards, honors, and degrees to be earned in our organization. They are not given away. Long hard hours are required to earn these awards, but they are waiting for those

boys who can prove their ability and integrity. They are well worth your effort.

To the boys that have been elected to a chapter office, I would like to make a suggestion. Become familiar with your duties, responsibilities, and the manual as soon as possible, so that you may be adequately prepared to direct and promote the work of the chapter in an efficient manner. It will be your responsibility to see that the chapter progresses during the year. Whether the chapter makes a good or bad showing depends, to an extent, upon the abilities and efficiency of its officers.

On behalf of the state officers I would like to extend our wishes to each of you for a successful year in the FFA. If, at any time during the year we can be of any help to you, do not hesitate to call upon us.



NEW STAMP—The design of the Commemorative FFA three-cent stamp to be issued in Kansas City, October 13, is shown above. The stamp will be available at postoffices outside Kansas City beginning October 14, where postmasters have requested a supply.

Three-Cent Commemorative FFA Postage Stamp on Sale Nation Wide, October 14

Design work has been completed on a three-cent stamp to be issued this fall in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Future Farmers of America. The FFA commemorative stamp will be first on sale at Kansas City, Missouri, October 13, during the first full day of the annual national FFA convention.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield has announced that 110 million of the stamp will be printed. The design of the stamp depicts a typical farm scene with rolling hills in the background. Featured in the central foreground is a Future Farmer, standing beneath a tree, viewing the scene before him. Wording on the flowing ribbon across the bottom of the stamp will be blue.

Local chapters of the FFA are expected to work with their local postmasters to assure a plentiful supply of the commemorative stamp in all com-

munities where FFA is active. Many chapters are planning special programs and other observances to call the public's attention to the stamp. Most of these programs are scheduled for October 14, since that is the first day that the stamp will be available in post offices outside Kansas City.

WINNERS IN SHOP JUDGING

Eugene Lathan, Cleveland FFA Chapter member, was high scoring individual in the shop judging contest held during the State Rally at Blacksburg in June.

The ten high scoring individuals in the contest are:

Eugene Lathan, Cleveland	488.0
Lacy Richardson, King George ..	470.7
Harold Brown, Caroline	466.7
Ralph Lineweaver, Bridgewater ..	457.0
Ben Middleton, Herndon	446.6
Paul Sutton, Montevideo	445.2
Eldred Slaughter, Woolwine	435.3
Jimmy Robenett, Ervington	431.7
Kenneth Monger, Elkton	429.0
Lowell Coffelt, Edinburg	427.6



TOP CHAPTER IN STATE—Members of the North River FFA Chapter with O. B. Roller and E. B. Crann their instructors of vocational agriculture. The North River Chapter was designated first place winner among 209 FFA chapters in Virginia during 1952-53. By virtue of their having won first, second and third place in State FFA competition, North River, Rocky Gap and Dayton became Virginia's entries in the National Chapter Contest. National Awards will be announced at the forthcoming National Convention in Kansas City.

EISENHOWER TO SPEAK AT FFA CONVENTION

(Continued from page 1)

United States, as well as Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Business sessions, a "silver anniversary pageant," special entertainment programs, the national FFA public speaking contest, and presentation of awards to hundreds of Future Farmers whose achievements have been outstanding, will round out a full three days' program for the FFA delegates.

Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, or one of his top assistants, will participate in the program during the morning of October 13 when the first presentation will be made of a special three-cent postage stamp commemorating the FFA's 25th Anniversary.

Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson, has accepted an invitation to speak during the morning session of October 15. A third cabinet member, Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, will address the convention during that afternoon.

Boys who arrive in Kansas City early will register during the morning of October 12, and embark on specially conducted tours to points of interest in the city during the afternoon. The first convention program will open that night when five Future Farmers will vie for honors in the national finals of the FFA public speaking contest.

Features Tuesday, October 12, in addition to the commemorative stamp presentation, will include presentation of awards in the national chapter contest and conferring of American Farmer Degrees. The evening session will feature the presentation of Star Farmer awards, followed by special entertainment.

The gigantic silver anniversary pageant will be featured Wednesday morning, and during that afternoon most of the boys will go on tours of the city while the official delegates work in committee sessions. Regional and national winners of Future Farmers of America Foundation awards in Farm Mechanics, Farm Electrification, Soil and Water Management, Farm Safety, and Dairy Farming will be presented Wednesday night, followed by another top-notch entertainment program.

Thursday's program, in addition to the addresses by President Eisenhower, Secretary Benson and Secretary Hobby, will include, during the morning, a Buffalo Grass Dance staged by Indian members of the Browning, Montana, FFA chapter. Business matters to be covered during the final day include the election of new national officers.

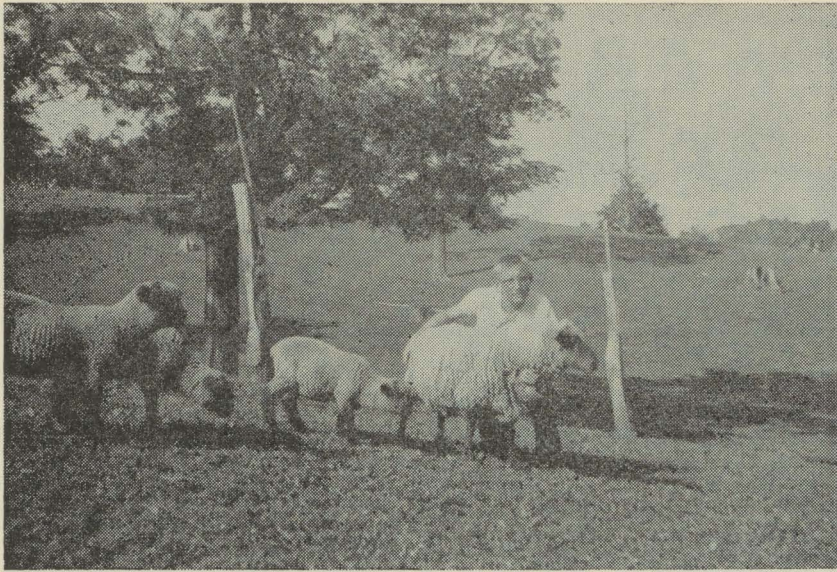
Two popular features of recent FFA conventions, the national band and national chorus, will be active throughout the week. About 100 boys are expected to participate in each of the musical units. The band members, as usual, will remain in Kansas City to participate in the American Royal parade on October 17.

The 1953 convention marks the 26th national FFA meeting in Kansas City. The first one, held in November, 1928, was the FFA's "constitutional" meeting when a few vocational agriculture students and their advisors met in the old Baltimore Hotel to approve a constitution and elect officers for a national Future Farmers of America organization.

The Future Farmer movement had started several years earlier when students of vocational agriculture in rural high schools throughout the nation started forming local "ag clubs," and similar organizations with a wide variety of names. Teachers soon found that in addition to their recreational and social value, the boys' organization could be used to stimulate the interest of the students in their studies and work, help them develop leadership, and promote citizenship.

Many State associations of vocational agriculture student organizations had been formed by 1928. The national meeting was simply the logical development of the movement that had begun many years earlier.

By 1937 FFA conventions had become so large that no hotel had facilities for handling the meetings. The conventions were moved to Kansas City's big Municipal Auditorium, and they've been held there since that time. Six to seven thousand of the organization's 262,369 members attend the convention annually. A crowd of 10,000 is expected this year because of the Anniversary.



PROFITABLE EWE—Cleveland Harris, Jr., member of the Willis FFA Chapter, is shown above with his ewe and triplet lambs. The eight year old ewe has produced 19 lambs in seven years, including one set of quadruplets, three sets of triplets and three sets of twins.

Governor John S. Battle Discusses Program, Natural Resources Conservation Week

It seems appropriate that Virginians of all walks of life should pause annually to take stock of the natural resources that have contributed so much to make ours a great State. In order that we may alert ourselves to the importance of protecting and using wisely these natural resources, I urge all Virginians to join with the Virginia Association of Soil Conservation Districts in the third observance of Natural Resources Conservation Week, October 11-17.

Since the passage of the Virginia Soil Conservation Districts Act by the 1938 session of the General Assembly, landowners of 95 of the 98 agricultural counties of the State have organized 27 Soil Conservation Districts to combat erosion and promote a program of wise use of our farmlands and forests.

This action of the part of Virginia landowners clearly indicates the purpose of this group to unite their efforts to protect the soil and water, forest and wildlife resources on which the present future welfare of all of us depends. This organized action has accounted for the development of complete soil and water conservation plans for more than 30,000 of the 150,000 farms of Virginia. In addition, thousands of farms have adopted one or more conservation practices as the result of the influence of Soil Conservation Districts.

Not only has much progress been made in applying conservation, but perhaps of equal significance has been the rap-

idly growing recognition by Virginians of the importance of these resources to the welfare of all the people. This recognition is not only borne out by the assistance provided Soil Conservation Districts by the trained personnel of agriculture agencies, but by the scores of other organizations and thousands of individuals who have so willingly given their time to the conservation movement.

We should take pride in the accomplishments to date, for these are accomplishments most worthy of recognition. But in so doing, let us not be complacent or loose sight of the importance of the tremendous conservation job that lies ahead.

I appeal to the citizens of the Commonwealth to pause during Natural Resources Conservation Week (October 11-17) and take stock of where we are with the conservation job. Then with added determination and zeal for doing the job, I urge you to re-double your efforts in conserving and protecting the soil and water, forest, and wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

FFA CHAPTERS PLAN EXHIBITS AT ROANOKE FAIR

The Botetourt-Roanoke-Bedford Federation of the Future Farmers of America will be represented at the Roanoke Fair.

Six of the seven federation chapters are expected to enter educational exhibits during the week's fair

Andrew Lewis, William Byrd, Fin-castle, Buchanan, Troutville and Eagle Rock will be represented. Montvale will not participate.

What FFA Means to Me

By Willie Gilman, State Treasurer
Virginia Association FFA

In the beginning of my first year in vocational agriculture I did not realize what FFA really meant. As I progressed further into the work, however, I began to realize that the FFA was a good farm-boy organization with a number of goals for which each and every agricultural student should strive during the coming years.

One of these goals is to make farming profitable as well as enjoyable and to assist the farm boy in learning the better methods of farming and how to cooperate with his fellow man.

I have benefitted in many ways from FFA. As vocational agriculture students, we must understand that the opportunities we have are due to the never tiring efforts of men who had been brought to know the true meaning of farming in fellowship.

Success in FFA activities should come easily to the member who makes a genuine effort to become established in farming and become a leader in his community.

Many boys do not seem to realize the importance of taking part in the program of work of the chapter. Some fail to realize that this is one of the most important opportunities a farm boy will have to learn to take his place in the community activities later in life. The training in leadership which we receive gives us poise when we are asked to take charge of meetings or to speak before a group.

To me the supervised farming program offers many opportunities to the farm boy enrolled in vocational agriculture. Through our farming programs we learn by doing. We learn and apply the better methods that help to make farming profitable and enjoyable.

I wish that every boy in our organization would realize all the things the FFA does is for his benefit. I believe that my experiences in FFA will be very valuable to me in later life.

FFA MEMBERS ENTER CHAMPION STEERS AT FAIR

Carroll Grove of the Wilson Memorial Chapter FFA, entered the grand champion steer in the livestock show held in connection with the recent West Virginia State Fair at Lewisburg.

The reserve grand champion was entered by Ray Weaver of Stuarts Draft.

About 150 steers from five states were entered in the show, but none matched the animals entered by Grove and Weaver. The two winning steers were bred on the farm of G. D. Hodges.

FFA-FHA Camp Committee Submits Recommendations

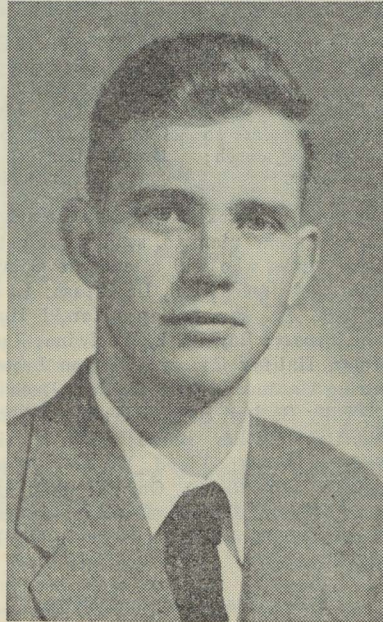
The FFA-FHA Camp Committee submits the following recommendations:

1. That 25c of each member's State dues continue to be transferred to the FFA-FHA Camp Association building fund for repair and maintenance of the camp.
2. That the cost of attending camp be continued at \$12.00 with \$3.00 reservation fee to be paid upon application.
3. That the facilities of the store be expanded and kept open one hour after each meal, midafternoon, during intermission at night and at the end of the night programs.
4. In view of the fact that facilities at the FFA-FHA camp have been increased to take care of those requesting reservations, some of whom could not be accommodated during former years, delegates and instructors are urged to advise their chapters that more boys may attend camp and to urge chapter members to take advantage of the recreation-leadership program afforded by the camp.
5. That the Vesper services be held at least twice during the camp week, conducted by the campers.
7. That the Board of Directors and the camp personal be commended for the excellent manner in which they have supervised and conducted the camp.
8. That we express our appreciation to the International Harvester Company and the Smithfield Implement Company for their kindness in providing useful equipment for the camp. (State Secretary write a letter to Smithfield Implement Company and International Harvester Company).
9. That the camp limit the campers to one fishing trip per day and one trip to the Common Glory.
10. That bugle call be held each morning and each night to begin and close the day.
11. That the local advisors put more emphasis on summer camp.
12. That camp attendance be selected as nearly as possible on a basis of 50 percent boys and 50 percent girls.
13. See that other members attend the camp with the assistance of the assistant teacher, the week of the Rally.
14. That there be shown a movie one night of the camp week.
15. It is recommended that an effort be made to secure hot water for shower baths in the dormitory.
16. That the camp treasurer continue to publish an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements in Chapter Chats.

Jack Tucker Given Honor At Farm Bureau Picnic

Jack Tucker, member of the McKenney FFA Chapter, was awarded a bronze plaque at the annual Dinwiddie Farm Bureau picnic held at Dinwiddie High School recently. Jack was selected as being the most outstanding vocational agriculture student in Dinwiddie County. Over 1,000 Farm Bureau members and guests were present for the occasion.

Young Tucker has assumed the major responsibility of managing a 267 acre dairy farm with the assistance of his mother, Mrs. J. Lisle Tucker and his



JACK TUCKER

eleven year old brother, Elliott. He has completed three years of vocational agriculture and will be a senior in high school this year. His current supervised farming program includes 6 acres oats, 5 acres corn, 5 acres lespedeza hay, 2 acres clover hay, 2 dairy cows, and 1 dairy heifer.

Jack played varsity basketball and baseball during his sophomore year, but due to his father's death he could not spare time from farming for athletics during the past year. P. F. Myers, vocational agriculture instructor at McKenney points out that Jack is an excellent judge of dairy cattle.

An executive once notorious for windy after-dinner speeches now expresses himself with extreme brevity.

He explains: "It was through a remark I overheard. During one of my speeches one man said to another, 'What follows this speaker?' And the other replied, 'Wednesday!'"

Rocky Gap Future Farmers Have Best Community Service Program; Receive Encyclopedia

Rocky Gap FFA Chapter was named winner of the Virginia State Grange award, given each year to the chapter carrying on the best community service program. With the award went a set of the American Peoples Encyclopedia contributed by the Virginia State Grange.

Garland Updike is principle of Rocky Gap High School.

The 28 Bland County farm boys, under the guidance of their FFA advisor and teacher of vocational agriculture, Bruce Robertson, included among their accomplishments for the past year the following community service activities:

Gave Christmas presents to 55 needy children.

Planted 350 shade trees and pruned a like number for citizens in the community.

Cleaned up and hauled away 5 tons of trash.

Donated to many worthwhile charities, as the March of Dimes, Red Cross, T. B. seals, Cancer fund, Heart fund, Chrippled Children's fund.

Made 130 soil tests for farmers in the community.

Constructed over 100 items of equipment for the schools of the community, including such items as typing tables, bulletin boards, etc.

Helped control livestock losses by testing, vaccinating and treating over 200 farm animals.

Helped 50 farmers secure recommended varieties of seeds and plants.

Worked with local game warden in protecting fish and game of community.

Worked with local chief of forest warden in preventing forest fires and promoting conservation.

Put on school and civic club programs on such topics as Farm Safety and forestry.

Conducted educational demonstrations at FFA school forest.

A drunk staggered home and made his way subconsciously through the house, winding up in the shower in his bathroom. As he groped about he turned on the water, deluging himself plenty and making a racket which brought the Little Woman on the scene.

Taking in the details, she called him all kinds of a so-and-so, winding up with a none too flattering estimate of his past, present and future.

"That's right, honey," admitted the shuddering sot. "I'm everything you say and worse. But let me in, won't you? It's raining something awful out here."

—The Railway Review,



HIGHEST IN LIVESTOCK—Shown above are members of the Wilson Memorial FFA Chapter selected to represent Virginia in the National livestock and meats judging contest at Kansas City, Missouri, October 13-16. Members of the team, who won top honors in the State Contest are (left to right): G. R. Kinzie, vocational agriculture instructor, coach; Bobby Rogers, Marcus Cupp and Lyle Shaver.

FIFTY-FIVE TO ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION

(Continued from page 1)

son, vocational agriculture instructor and G. L. Updyke, principal of Rocky Gap High School.

National FFA band members: Marshall Patterson, James Wood and Hunter Spence, Creeds.

Forestry Winner: Stafford Shewey, Ceres, winner of Seaboard forestry award.

Special guests: F. B. Cale, director of vocational education and R. P. Keithly, agricultural agent, N. & W. Railroad.

Federation and chapter representatives: As we go to press the list of federation and chapter representatives who will attend the national convention is in-

complete. Approximately 25 federations and chapters plan to send representatives. Boys who will attend are Grover Etter and James Hall, La Crosse; L. B. Tolbert, Jr., Rocky Gap; Harold Hopkins, Stuart; Ray Clark, Woolwine; Jack Muler, Halifax County; Clayton Lester, Spring Garden; Robert Keithly, Buchanan, Billy Barlow, Smithfield; Mack Kitts and David Miller, Bland; Fred Martin, Andrew Lewis; Lloyd Waldin, Appomattox; Earl Reeves, Guy Kiracofe and E. B. Craun, Jr., North River; Gordan Foster, Randolph-Henry; Kenneth Nicely, Eagle Rock.

Out-of-State Judging Teams

Livestock: Bobby Rogers, Lyle Shaver, Marcus Cupp and G. R. Kinzie, voca-



DAIRY JUDGES—Caroline, highest scoring team in the State dairy judging contest will represent Virginia in the National dairy cattle and dairy products judging contest at Waterloo, Iowa, October 5-7. Members of the winning Caroline team pictured above are (left to right): Harold Brown, Charles Mitchell, Buddy Puller and J. Q. Peers, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.

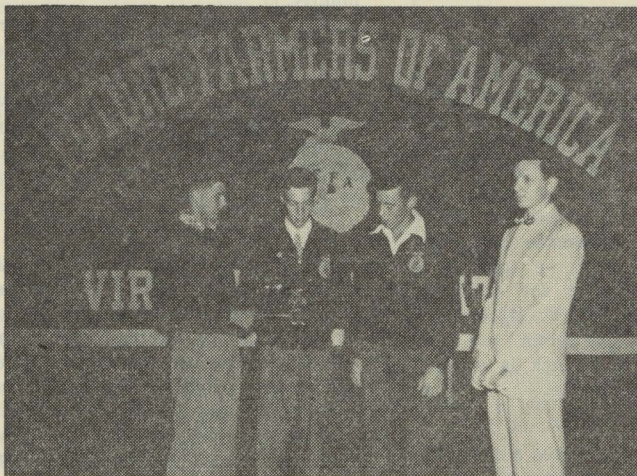
tional agriculture instructor, coach, all of Wilson Memorial High School.

Poultry: Richard Showalter, Randolph Bolton, Gordan Smith and I. W. Diehl, vocational agriculture instructor, coach, all of Broadway High School.

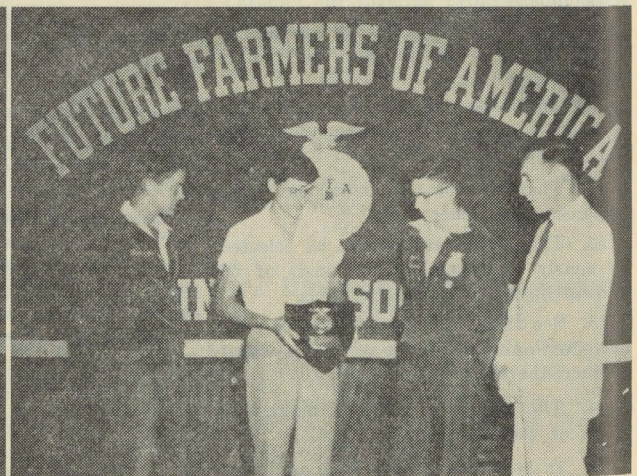
Crops: Donald Thayer, Eugene Lathan, Jesse Combs, Jr., and David Thomas, vocational agriculture instructor, coach, all of Cleveland High School.

The Dairy team represents Virginia at Waterloo, Iowa, October 5-7.

R. E. Bass, State supervisor of vocational agriculture, and J. M. Campbell, assistant supervisor of vocational agriculture and executive secretary-treasurer of Virginia FFA will direct and supervise the trip.



TOP POULTRY TEAM—Members of the Broadway poultry judging team, shown above, who won top honors in the State Contest and will represent Virginia in the National poultry judging contest at Kansas City, Missouri, October 13-16 are (left to right): Gordan Smith, Richard Showalter, Randolph Bolton and I. W. Diehl, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.



TOP IN CROP JUDGING—Shown above are members of the Cleveland crops judging team who won first place in State contest at Blacksburg in June. They are (left to right): Jesse Combs, Donald Thayer, Eugene Lathan and Dave Thomas, vocational agriculture instructor, coach. The members of the team will attend the national FFA Convention in Kansas City.

Eugene Bowman, Rocky Mount Awarded \$100 for Best Work in Farm and Home Electrification

Eugene Bowman, Future Farmer of Franklin County High School, Rocky Mount, Virginia, won the \$100 Farm and Home Electrification Award for his accomplishments in this field.

In high school, Eugene not only absorbed the teaching of basic fundamentals of electricity but he carried out many projects involving electricity on the home farm as a part of his supervised farming program. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bowman, gave him ample opportunity and encouragement to apply his knowledge and skills on electric projects on the home farm.

Among the electric projects on the home farm in which Eugene participated, included the installation of a water and heating system, construction of a hay hoist, construction and installation of a combination cold storage and deep freeze, installation of electric motors on an elevator and post drill, and wiring farm buildings. He also serviced and maintained the electrical equipment on the farm.

FFA Officers Guest Speakers at Richmond Rotary Meeting

Three State officers of the Virginia Association Future Farmers of America were guest speakers on August 25, at the Richmond Rotary Club meeting in the John Marshall Hotel. The speakers were: Lennie Gammage, President of the Virginia Association FFA, Willie Gilman, treasurer, and Jesse Green, Jr. vice-president of the Virginia Association FFA. The three boys discussed the history, purposes, and activities of the FFA organization. Lennie's topic was "What is the FFA," Jesse's, "Activities of the FFA," and Willie's subject was "My Supervised Farming Program." Members of the Rotary club highly praised the boys on their presentations and the work of the Future Farmers of America.

In describing the program in the September 8 issue of "Tabasco," official paper of the Richmond Rotary Club, Joe Kempton, reporter, writes the following:

"If any of us were of the opinion that the present crop of teenagers was not interested in working, these three boys quickly changed our minds, for the work the members of the Future Farmers of America are doing is absolutely amazing. I believe President Mike expressed the feeling of everyone that heard these three boys when at the close of the meeting he said, 'I sat there thrilled.'"



TOP WINNERS—Pictured above with their prizes are six of the high award winners at Holiday Lake Forestry Camp, conducted during the month of July. They are (left to right): Mallory Parish, LaCrosse, was awarded a bow and arrow as third best camper; Bobby Pollard, Montvale, second best camper received a camera; B. C. McConnell, Shoemaker, top boy in the fire contest, was awarded a fire pump. Charles Jackson, Fairfax 4-H, best camper received a radio; Russell Burruss, Louisa, awarded camera as second best camper; Bill Munson awarded archery set as third best camper. Ray Thames, Andrew Lewis, (not shown) was awarded a radio for writing the best paper on forestry.

Ninety Future Farmers Attend Holiday Lake Forestry Camp

Approximately 90 Virginia Future Farmers were awarded scholarships to the State Forestry Camp held at Holiday Lake recently. The scholarships were sponsored by leading wood using industries in Virginia and were awarded to FFA members with outstanding supervised farming programs and who were interested in forestry.

Three Franklin County Future Farmers, Billy Honsman, Elton Law and Nelson Amos reported that they had a wonderful time at camp or as Nelson put it: "It was like a vacation to me as we worked and played together with boys from other sections of the State. During the mornings we attended classes demonstrations on forestry management. The afternoons were devoted to recreation. I feel that the camp is doing a wonderful job in making Future Farmers more aware of the need for greater forest conservation."

Elton Law had this to say about his experiences at the forestry camp: "Many FFA members are missing a week of fun and adventure by not applying for a scholarship. Business men are making the camp possible and more Future Farmers should attend. It is an honor to attend and I hope it will be possible for me to go back next year."

Wicomico Chapter Member Wins Seafood Development Award

Elmer Croxton, member of Wicomico FFA Chapter, was named winner of the 1952-53 Seafood Development Award. He was awarded \$50 in cash for placing first in competition with other Future Farmers in Eastern Virginia. Second place honors in the contest and a check for \$25 went to Melvin Martin of Smithfield.

These students' enterprises in seafood consisted of oystering, crabbing and fishing. Elmer had 10 acres of oyster land on which he put 102 hours of work. He devoted 402 hours to crabbing and 1520 hours to fishing using a haul seine. From his seafood enterprises he received a labor income of \$1164.40. His investments in seafood equipment total \$617.

Melvin Martin's operations consisted of oystering, 4 acres; crabbing with 32 crab pots; and fishing, 4 fykes. He devoted 586 hours on seafood projects from which he received \$346 labor income. He has \$396 invested in seafood equipment.

"Dad, what was your great ambition when you were a kid?"

"To wear long pants, son. And I've got my wish. If there's any body in this county that wears his pants longer than I do, I'd like to see him."

Committee on Public Relations Makes Recommendations

The Public Relations Committee at the State FFA Convention recommended the following activities to promote public relations during the coming year.

1. Each chapter strive to put on radio and television programs.
2. Invite school board members, key farmers, members of the board of supervisors and local businessmen to attend special functions of the chapter.
3. Each chapter elect at least one outstanding citizen of the community who has rendered valuable service to the local chapter to the honorary degree of Chapter Farmer.
4. Each chapter put on one or more programs before out-of-school groups such as Ruritan, PTA, Grange and other farm and civic organizations.
5. Each chapter stress the use of project markers, farm markers, window displays and FFA clothing to put FFA before the public.
6. Encourage all members to exhibit in local shows and fairs and provide proper identification.
7. Each chapter print one or more letters (news) and distribute to key people in the community and county.
8. Each chapter obtain special training for the reporter.
9. All members assist reporter in preparing feature articles for publication which should be sent to all newspapers in the area.
10. Encourage education exhibits by chapters.
11. Each chapter keep a scrapbook of FFA activities.
12. The Federations set up a reporter scrapbook contest to include all published clippings concerning chapter activities.
13. All chapters give greater emphasis to timely news stories for newspaper, farm magazines, school papers, Chapter Chats, etc.
14. All chapters participate in National FFA Week by planning special events including radio and television programs, increased publicity in the papers, etc.

FITTING AND SHOWING LIVESTOCK

Another Fair season is upon us and livestock must be prepared for showing. The State supervisor for Vocational Agriculture and the National Safety Council urge Future Farmers of America members to observe safety practices in grooming, fitting and showing animals.

One of the principal safety rules is to never trust any livestock, no matter how old it is or how gentle it has been in the past.

Bulls should be rung at an early age

Budget Committee Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures for State Association is \$24,017

Upon recommendation of the budget committee the delegates at the 1953 State FFA Convention recommended the following receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year 1953-54 for the Virginia Association FFA.

Receipts	
Dues (\$2.00 each)	\$15,477.00
Record Books	650.00
Advertisements, Chapter Chats	700.00
Royalties—Jewelry and FFA	
Supplies	215.00
Seaboard Forestry Award ...	175.00
Registration Fees	5,000.00
FFA Foundation Awards ...	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	700.00
Total Receipts	\$24,017.00
Expenditures	
FFA Pins & Manuals	\$ 3,000.00
State Officer Expenses	350.00
Record Books	2,000.00
State Convention	8,000.00
National Convention:	
National Band	220.00
Delegates	250.00
American Farmer	480.00
Judging Teams—Waterloo	1,350.00
Judging Teams—Kansas City	750.00
Contests:	
Public Speaking	320.00
Chapter Contest	150.00
Chapter Chats	2,900.00
Miscellaneous:	
Camp Miniwanca	152.00
National Dues	767.00
FFA—FHA Camp	1,975.00
Auditing Books	30.00
State Officers Jackets	75.00
FFA Foundation Award ..	1,000.00
Others	250.00
Total Expenditures	\$24,017.00

and worn or weakened rings replaced promptly. When it is necessary to lead a bull, always use a staff.

Work quietly and deliberately in releasing, leading and driving animals. Crowding may cause injury to the worker; it is easy to get stepped on. Swinging horns inflict painful wounds; in "fly time," this risk is greatest. Never stand directly in front of or behind horses, mules or cattle.

Forks, shovels or other hand tools should never be left on the ground or on the floor. Stacked grain or other feed should be placed so it cannot topple and injure a worker.

Little children and livestock cannot read. All bottles or cans of disinfectants and remedies should be correctly labeled and promptly returned to a closed safe place,

Chapter Chats Committee Recommendations Approved

We, the Chapter Chats Committee, wish to make the following recommendations to the Twenty-Seventh State Rally of the Virginia Association of Future Farmers of America for the convention's approval:

1. All news articles should be prepared while timely and submitted to **Chapter Chats**.
2. Each Chapter and Federation should submit at least three timely articles that are of interest to the entire state.
3. **Chapter Chats** be distributed to every member and class time be used to discuss each issue.
4. All suitable radio programs be submitted to **Chapter Chats**.
5. Each state officer should submit at least one news article.
6. Students be encouraged to use "For Sale" and "Wanted" columns carrying articles connected with the projects of students and advisors.
7. Appropriate jokes and humorous incidents be submitted to **Chapter Chats**.
8. Greater emphases be placed on soliciting of ads for **Chapter Chats**.
9. Greater emphasis be placed on the "Project of the Month" including projects or activities of interest.
10. That two class periods be devoted to news writing each year.
11. Highlights of FFA-FHA Camp be submitted to **Chapter Chats**.
12. **Chapter Chats** Committee recommendations and other fundamental information pertaining to news articles, pictures, publication dates, etc. for **Chapter Chats** be published in the September issue, also a list of suggested activities that would make suitable news articles for **Chapter Chats**.

RICH VALLEY FAIR WINNERS

Rich Valley FFA Chapter was first in the Smyth, Wythe and Bland Dairy and Livestock judging contest held at the Rich Valley Fair, Friday, August 28.

The winning team received a plaque donated by the Rich Valley Fair Association, and \$10 in cash awards were divided among first, second and third individuals. The \$10 was donated by the First National Bank of Saltville.

Highest individual was Donald Gillespie of Chatham Hill. He received a cash prize of \$5. Second high individual was Jack King of Bland chapter, who received \$3. Third high was a tie between Charles Reedy of Marion and Danny Bird of Bland, each receiving \$1.

A few women throw themselves away, but most of them take pretty careful aim.

FFA Chapter Briefs

Bland—David Miller was elected president of the Bland FFA Chapter at a recent regular meeting. Lee Tate awarded the public speaking metal to John Lundy and Jack King presented metals to high scoring boys in forestry judging. Lee Tate received the Chapter Star Farmer award. John Lundy was presented an award for having been the most outstanding senior in vocational agriculture. Danny Bird received a metal for being the best FFA member in the freshman class.

Midway FFA Chapter received recognition in three fields at the Rally in Blacksburg in June. Wendell Springston placed third in the State public speaking contest. His topic was "The Farm Woodland—Our Forgotten Acres." Five members of the chapter degree team, first place winners in the State Contest, received individual metals as members of the all state degree team. They were Dan Pruitt, Wendell Springston, Gay Davis, and J. H. Summerville, chapter

advisor. Mr. Summerville was also awarded the honorary State Farmer degree in recognition of his work in teaching vocational agriculture.

Rustburg—Among the community projects completed recently by the members of the Rustburg FFA Chapter was the construction of eight combination picnic tables and lawn benches for the Campbell County Community Center. Materials for the project were furnished by the Rustburg Lions Club. Other community projects completed by the chapter included painting the vocational agriculture building, school cannery and pruning all shrubby on the high school grounds.


Rocky Mount—Chapter members are planning to have a booth display at the County American Legion Fair to be held soon. Representatives from all FFA Chapters in Franklin County attended the annual weiner roast at Rocky Mount held at the high school recently. Jimmy Campbell was elected president of the chapter for the remainder of the year.

Battle Field Park—Clayton Hall of Battle Field Park FFA Chapter was presented the Star Chapter Farmer Key at a recent chapter meeting for his outstanding accomplishments during his four years of Vocational Agriculture. Clayton is primarily a truck farmer and has carried at least three enterprises each year in vocational agriculture, consisting of calves, pigs for pork, rye, poultry, watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes and corn.


James Wood FFA Chapter discussed and set up objectives for the year at their summer meeting. Aims and purposes of the FFA were explained to new vocational agriculture students present. Following the business meeting the members enjoyed a recreational program and weiner roast.

Shoemaker—FFA garden contest was won by Wayne McConnel. Of some eighteen gardens judged other top winners in order were: J. C. Pendleton, Edward Ferguson, Jonnie McConnell, and Don Jessee. The mothers of the young gardeners, in many cases, said the contest helped to get more work out of the boys and their records were beneficial. Contest judges were: G. A. Kiser, member of school board, George King, member of the agriculture adviser committee, and A. M. Stearns, instructor of vocational agriculture.

Andrew Lewis FFA Chapter poultry judging team placed third in the American Poultry Association national contest at St. Louis recently. Team members were Don Otey, Charles Dame-



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wood, Andy Groseclose, Galen Eller, and J. E. Peters, vocational agriculture instructor coach. Part of the teams expenses were paid by local feed dealers and friends. Don Otey was third high individual. Charles Damewood was elected national secretary of the junior division of the American Poultry Association.

Buchanan has new officers for the school year which began September 8. They are Delbert Dudding, president; Ray Eubank, vice-president; B. D. Deacon, treasurer; John Miller, secretary, and Everett Markham, reporter.

Ceres elected Harry Dillman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dillman, president of the Ceres Chapter for the year 1953-54, at the regular meeting held at the high school. Other officers for the year are: Dick Compton, vice-president; Archie Atwell, secretary; Frank Cassell, treasurer; J. C. Dillow, Jr., reporter; Vernon Stowers, sentinel, and Eugene Orr, Advisor. Arnold Compton, Billy Cregar and Marvin Hayton comprise the executive committee,

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STATE FFA PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 1953-'54

I. SUPERVISED FARMING:

1. Encourage each member to plan long-time balanced supervised farming program suitable to home farm plan, by first making a home farm survey.
2. Encourage chapters to contact and cooperate with available government agencies in securing maps and farm plans for the boys' home farms.
3. Continue to stress the procuring and use of certified seeds, adapted hybrids, and pure-bred poultry and livestock in the boys' projects.
4. Each boy endeavor to carry out some practices for the conservation of our natural 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 contest, and participate in agricultural fairs.
6. Encourage the adjustment of crop and live stock production to meet the changing conditions.
7. Encourage the use of artificial insemination where practical.
8. Stress the use of good managerial and financial practices in supervised farming program.

II. COOPERATION:

1. One hundred per cent of chapter engage in cooperative buying and selling, with added emphasis on the selling.
2. Encourage chapters to invite State officers to visit them and encourage the State officers to accept the invitation.
3. Encourage more cooperation with the Future Homemakers of America.
4. Increase State membership when ever and where ever possible by more ex-agriculture students continuing as active members. (State dues of 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 contest at the Atlantic Rural Exposition at Richmond, Va.
6. Every boy in agriculture to be a member of local chapter with 100 per cent of dues paid by October 1, 1953, or two weeks after school opens.
7. Each chapter submit copies of program of work for State and National contests.
8. Each chapter secretary see that a complete record of the chapter activities be sent to his district supervisor by May 1.
9. Encourage seniors in vocational agriculture to become affiliated with the Young Farmers' Club.
10. Due to the shortage of farm labor, each chapter be encouraged to assist local farmers where needed.

III. COMMUNITY SERVICE:

1. Assist at least three local organizations to reach their objectives.
2. Assist in beautifying the home, school and church grounds of the community by the use of native shrubs or by other means.
3. Assist local school organizations by achieving their goals.
4. Every chapter aid its community by:
 - (a) Cooperating with local game wardens and wildlife commissions for the protection of game and fish; and seed, feed and cover practices.
 - (b) Cooperating with local fire wardens in preventing forest fires and by encouraging members to join a K. V. G. Crew.
 - (c) Cooperating with soil conservation service.
5. Each chapter cooperate with local organizations in giving assistance to needy in the county.
6. Conserve farm machinery by encouraging chapters to hold tractor maintenance schools.
7. Encourage the chapter to assist the community in the production, conservation and processing of food.

IV. LEADERSHIP:

1. Each chapter to hold the annual election of officers prior to Rally in order to send an officer that he may render greater service to the chapter the following year.
2. One hundred per cent of chapters encourage membership participation in public speaking contests; not only FFA, but other contests open to members.
3. Each chapter to have instructions in parliamentary procedure; at least five class periods early in the school year.
4. Have National officers visit annual Rally.
5. Continue the annual Rally; the place to be selected by 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 1954 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. Use a minimum of thirty minutes of one class period to read and discuss each issue of Chapter Chats.
9. Encourage each member to use the FFA Manual—a copy available for each boy.
10. 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 who visit chapters. (local)
11. All chapters present radio broadcasts during the year and continue broadcasts at Rally.

My Trip to Camp Miniwanca

By Henry Marks

State First Vice-President

The two week period of August 17-30 will be a period of my life, which I am sure I will never forget. For during this time I attended Camp Miniwanca, at Stoney Lake, Michigan.

The Virginia delegation included E. B. Craun, instructor of vocational agriculture at North River High School, Marion Wampler, state secretary and myself. We traveled by automobile, which made the trip very interesting. Enroute to Michigan we visited Niagara Falls and traveled on into Canada. I was really amazed at the beautiful farming land in Canada.

Camp Miniwanca is sponsored by the American Youth Foundation, which main object is Christian Youth Leadership Training. The emblem of the camp is a four square cross. Each square represents a phase of a well balanced person, they are Mental, Social, Physical and Religious. During the two week period classes were taught in the following

subjects. "The Life and Teaching of Jesus," "Balanced Four-Fold Living," and "The Art of Creative Living." There were also electives taught in two other periods.

The camp was run on a very close and carefully planned schedule. The day started at 6:30 in the morning with flag raising ceremony, morning exercises, and a quick dip in Lake Michigan. This was followed by clean up period, after which we had breakfast. Our classes started at 8:30 and ran through 3:00 in the afternoon, with time out for lunch.

The Camp was divided into six tribes. Each tribe was competing for the tribal shield. Points were awarded for tent inspection, tribal games, etc.

There were about 450 boys present from 44 states and 7 foreign countries. Every afternoon we went up on a high dune overlooking Lake Michigan and held our vesper services. It was really a beautiful sight to see the sun set across the blue waters of Lake Michigan.

Two afternoons for supper each tent went to its own spot on the beach and had a weiner and hamburger roast. After this we sat around the camp fire

and got acquainted with our tent members. The boys in my tent were from Ohio, Kentucky, Missouri, Idaho, New York, and our tent leader was from Japan.

These are only a few of the things that went on during the two week period. It would be almost impossible to tell all the grand experiences at Camp Miniwanca.

As I stated in the beginning I am sure I will never forget this marvelous experience and I would like to thank the Virginia Association of Future Farmers of America and the Danforth Foundation for what I consider a chance of a life time.

An ardent baseball fan finally agreed to take his wife to the park to see a game, but during the afternoon she became interested and asked her husband:

"Why do they always take the pitcher his sweater when he gets to first base?"

"To keep him from catching cold," replied her husband.

"Oh, I see," said the wife, "you mean its colder on first base!"

12. Each chapter send at least five news articles during the year to Chapter Chats, placing emphasis on articles which will be of interest to FFA members as a whole, rather than of local interest only.
13. The teacher of vocational agriculture devote a minimum of two agriculture class periods the first part of each year to teaching the fundamentals of news writing.
14. Encourage and assist chapters to build good chapter libraries, and each library to include two copies of "Forward FFA" by Ross.
15. Each chapter set up objectives by October 1, adopting a satisfactory system for keeping an accurate and complete record of accomplishments.
16. Have 100 per cent participation in chapter degree team, and the district winners to be sent to the State Rally for the State contest.
17. Encourage members to compete for FFA Foundation Awards.

V. EARNINGS AND SAVINGS:

1. Each chapter have 100 per cent participation in thrift activities.
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 should 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. Each chapter elect a set of assistant officers.
8. Each chapter hold at least one joint meeting with other chapters.

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.
2. Encourage each chapter to appoint "Big Brothers" for the new members.

VIII. RECREATION:

1. Each chapter to hold parent and son get-together of some kind.
2. State Department continue the practice of sending films of FFA activities to chapters desiring them.
3. Each FFA chapter follow recommendations of camp committee by making contributions to the up-keep and expansion of State FFA Camp.
4. Each federation consider the possibilities of holding a get-together of some kind.
5. State Association make a film of 1954 Rally.

Delegates to State Convention Amend Constitution

Virginia delegates at the 1953 convention approved the following amendments to the State FFA Constitution and by-laws.

Article IV—Membership.

Section C—Chapter Farmer Degree—Minimum qualifications for election

Item 7.—Change \$25.00 to \$50.00

This item will read:

“Must have earned by his own efforts from his supervised farming program and deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least \$50.00.”

Section D—State Farmer Degree—Minimum qualifications for election

Item 6.—First line change \$250.00 to \$500.00

This item will read:

“Must have earned by his own efforts from farming or other agriculture work and deposited in the bank or otherwise productively invested at least \$500.00. (At least two-thirds of the amount must be derived from his supervised farming program.)”

Section E—American Farmer Degree—Minimum qualifications for election.

Item 3.—Third line—Change \$500.00 to \$1,000.00

This item will read:

“During the period covered by his application, the candidate must have earned by his own efforts from farming and other agriculture work and have deposited in a bank or otherwise productively invested at least \$1,000.00, provided that at least two-thirds of this amount is derived from his supervised farming program. In cases when the applicant has assisted in the support of dependents, the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Student Officers, may be considered an investment.”

ARE YOU SUPPORTING A LITTERBUG?

In the very near future you will see posters along the highway and in public places featuring a vicious-looking creature known as a Litterbug. A Litterbug is one of those folks who think that the way to dispose of garbage and trash is to take it in the car and strow it along the highway and in the country side.

He costs the State Highway Department nearly a half million dollars a year in tax money to clean up after him, and he costs farmers more than that in lame or poisoned animals and “hardware disease.”

The Anti-Litterbug Council of Virginia, which includes many organizations, requests the support of the Future Farmers of America in persuading the Litterbug to keep riding until he gets to a public dump. Local FFA chapters are encouraged to co-operate with the Anti-Litterbug Council in this community and state-wide project by distributing posters, and encouraging folks to cary trash to public dumps.

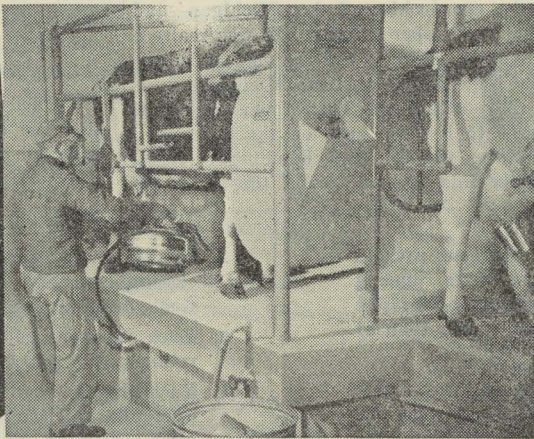
OAK WILT FOUND IN VIRGINIA

Oak wilt has been found in several places in Virginia, according to a report recently received by State Forester George Dean of Charlottesville. The dreaded disease has been positively identified as occurring in Bath and Highland Counties. Suspected points of occurrence have been found in Rockingham, Shenandoah, Frederick, Scott, Wise and Lee Counties. The fungus disease affects all oaks. It will kill red, black, pin or scarlet oak within a few months, but it may take two years to completely kill a white oak.

Oak wilt poses a serious threat to the hardwood of the State. Unless some practical means can be found to combat the disease on a wide spread basis, the oak trees may follow the chestnut trees and disappear from the forests.

In every case where the disease is found, the Forest Service will notify the landowner and urge him to take measures to destroy the infected tree or trees.

Dairying is easy and fast with a **CONCRETE** Milking Parlor



CONCRETE milking parlors and milk rooms are becoming increasingly popular with dairy farmers all over America. In a typical type shown above the two-floor level makes milking easier and faster by eliminating tiresome crouching and back-bending. Concrete milking parlors and milk rooms are sanitary too. When milking is done the entire room can be washed down quickly with a hose.

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Future Farmer Membership Reaches New Record Total

Membership in the FFA has reached a new record total of 363,369 during the organization's 25th anniversary year, according to records compiled in the national FFA office at Washington, D. C.

The 1953 membership topped 1952 by 10,453, or nearly three per cent.

Thirty-one states increased their FFA membership during the year. The organization is active in all the 48 states, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico. Texas leads the nation with 36,322 members, followed by North Carolina with 21,914, and Illinois with 17,421. Virginia is in 22nd place.

1. Texas	36,322
2. North Carolina	21,914
3. Illinois	17,421
4. Georgia	16,619
5. Tennessee	15,521
6. Okalahoma	14,523
7. Wisconsin	13,835
8. Arkansas	12,524
9. Alabama	12,262
10. Missouri	11,447
11. California	11,143
12. Kentucky	11,114
13. Pennsylvania	10,580
14. Michigan	10,515
15. Ohio	10,390
16. Mississippi	9,834
17. Minnesota	9,454
18. Louisiana	9,187
19. Iowa	8,937
20. Florida	8,050
21. Indiana	7,781
22. Virginia	7,676
23. New York	7,530
24. South Carolina	7,260
25. Kansas	7,045
26. Puerto Rico	6,024

Stony Creek Future Farmer Receives Forestry Awards

The Stony Creek Chapter of the Future Farmers of America has received, for the second consecutive year, two awards for outstanding work in the Eastern Virginia area, comprising 22 counties.

S. W. Lee, itinerant instructor of vocational agriculture, and District Forester C. C. Steirly of Waverly, presented to Chapter President Lawrence Spiers a check for \$25 for accomplishments in forestry during the past year, and a plaque for winning the chapter accomplishments contest.

The awards were made at a barbecue given by the chapter at the Old Hickory Hunt Club, honoring their parents and school board and board of supervisors members from the school area, comprising Stony Creek and Sussex Courthouse districts.

27. Washington	5,831
28. Nebraska	5,103
29. West Virginia	4,920
30. Oregon	3,609
31. Idaho	3,024
32. Utah	2,990
33. South Dakota	2,611
34. Montana	2,261
35. Maryland	2,108
36. Colorado	1,975
37. New Mexico	1,935
38. North Dakota	1,922
39. Arizona	1,508
40. New Jersey	1,387
41. Hawaii	1,331
42. Wyoming	1,229
43. Maine	1,125
44. Massachusetts	774
45. Vermont	710
46. Delaware	651
47. Connecticut	476
48. New Hampshire	387
49. Nevada	365
50. Rhode Island	129

Total363,369

BLAND FFA MEMBERS ATTEND WEST VIRGINIA FAIR

Bland Chapter FFA members numbering twenty-one traveled to the West Virginia Fair at Lewisburg on Wednesday, August 26, in a Bland County school bus. Ralph Reynolds, chapter advisor, accompanied the group. There the group viewed the many agricultural exhibits, farm machinery, crop and livestock exhibits, and the "Showboat Review."

The regular meeting of the chapter was held on Monday night, August 24.

Jack King, a member of the chapter livestock judging team placed second individually in a judging contest sponsored by the Rich Valley Fair for FFA teams from Bland, Smyth and Wythe Counties. Jack received a prize of \$3.00.

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2. for layers on good range . . .

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When you turn your layers out on good pasture, feed them Southern States Egg-Maker. A top quality feed, Egg-Maker supplies all necessary vitamins and minerals for top production. Contains 20% protein, vitamins A, D, Riboflavin, calcium and phosphorus. For top egg production from hens on range, Egg-Maker can't be beat. Try it!

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FFA Judging Teams Compete at Atlantic Rural September 28; Hereford Bull Show Planned

Virginia FFA livestock, dairy and poultry teams will compete in the Atlantic Rural Exposition FFA judging contests September 28, at the exposition grounds, Richmond, beginning at 10:00 a. m.

Contestants in the livestock contest will judge breeding and fat classes of

teams will judge one cow and one heifer class each of the Jersey, Guernsey, and Holstein-Friesian breeds. The classes to be judged in the poultry contest will consist of four classes of poultry and two classes of eggs.

The second high teams in the State judging contest were selected to represent Virginia in competition with other State FFA teams at the Atlantic Rural Exposition. Team members and their coaches are:

Dairy: Warrenton; George Nowland,

Robert Gains, Marcus Cupp and J. A. Whitmore, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.

Livestock: Rocky Mount; Everett Gusler, Morrie Holt, Bobby Flora, and H. A. Watson, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.

Poultry: Oak Grove; Gene Hancock, James Fogg, Aubrey Mitchell and S. L. Davis, vocational agriculture instructor, coach.

The judging contest will be under the general supervision of W. C. Dudley, area supervisor of vocational agriculture and superintendent of the contest.

Purebred Bull Show Planned.

Two classes, consisting of fourteen purebred Hereford bulls will be exhibited at the Atlantic Rural Exposition September 25-October 3. The fourteen bulls to be shown will be selected from among the fifty odd assigned to the Virginia Association Future Farmers of America in co-operation with the Sears Roebuck Foundation. The animals will be in place at the exposition grounds at 6:00 p. m. September 27, and will be released at 6:00 p. m. October 1. The bulls will be judged at 11:00 a. m. September 28.

In addition to the two classes of bulls, the Louisa FFA Chapter will put on an educational exhibit to demonstrate the value of a good sire in up-grading livestock. This exhibit will include one of the purebred Hereford bulls, two grade cows and their calves sired by the bull exhibited.

EIGHT BOYS APPROVED AS AMERICAN FARMERS

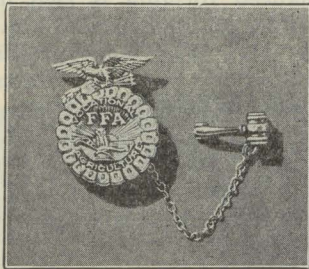
(Continued from page 1)

FFA organization, and a \$50.00 check from 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 of major fraction thereof, except that States having fewer than a thousand members are entitled to submit one candidate each year.

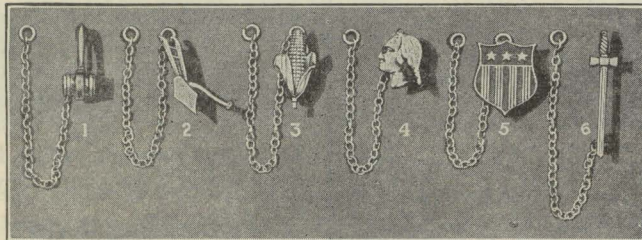
Four of the 336 American Farmers this year will be designated Regional Star Farmers and one of the four will be named Star Farmer of America. Announcement of Star Farmer awards will be made during the evening session of the convention on October 13.

The picture of President Eisenhower on the front page is from a copyrighted photograph by Nicholas Muray.



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