

NEWS LETTER

Alabama



Association

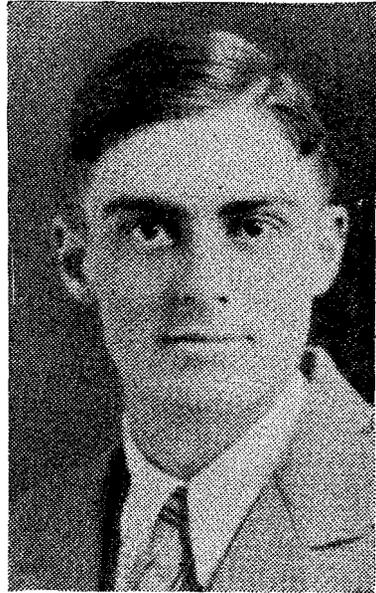
Future Farmers of America

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, MARCH, 1932.

TWO ALABAMA YOUTHS ARE HONORED WITH DEGREE OF AMERICAN FARMER



OLIVER MANNING



LLOYD EZELL

The degree of American Farmer, the highest degree possible to be awarded a young man in the Future Farmers of America organization,

was bestowed on Lloyd Ezell, of Ozark, and Oliver Manning, of Chilton County, at the recent meeting of the National Congress of Future Farmers in Kansas City, Mo. This award came to them as a result of their outstanding supervised practice work both during the time they were taking vocational agriculture in high school and finishing school. Both took the regular vocational agriculture work during their high school course, which embraced field crops, animal husbandry, horticulture and farm management. Each of these subjects was studied intensively over a period of a year. Home project work was carried on in line with each subject under direction of the teacher of vocational agriculture. Since graduating from high school, they have continued their farm operations on a partnership basis with their fathers.

During his high school course, Lloyd Ezell served as an officer in the chapter of Future Farmers of America at Ozark, and also as reporter in the State organization.

Oliver Manning was president of the chapter at Isabella High School, in Chilton County, and during his senior year, served as secretary of the State organization. He is a sophomore in agricultural education at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute this year. He spends his summers working with his father on the home farm 10 miles west of Clanton.

Lloyd Ezell likewise maintains an active interest with his father in the operation of the home farm near Ozark. He is also secretary of the Dale County Farm Bureau, having held this position since his graduation from the Dale County High School at Ozark.

Lloyd Ezell took vocational agriculture under W. D. Thomason, who was teacher of this subject in the Dale County High School during the former's high school career. Oliver Manning studied under Earle Thomas, teacher of vocational agriculture in the Isabella High School.—*Montgomery Advertiser*, December 29, 1931.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

F. F. A. Radio Programs

The delegates to the Fourth National Convention of Future Farmers of America held in Kansas City in November voted unanimously to accept the opportunity offered by the National Broadcasting Company to put on full-hour monthly radio programs during 1932 instead of the fifteen minute programs offered in 1931.

The **second Monday** in every month is F. F. A. day on the National Farm and Home Hour of the N. B. C. radio network. The F. F. A. broadcasting dates for 1932 are listed here. Mark them on your calendar so you will remember them.

January 11.

February 8.

March 14.

April 11.

May 9.

June 13.

July 11.

August 8.

September 12.

October 10.

November 14.

December 12.

The F. F. A. program occurs during the N. B. C. Farm and Home hour which is:

12:30 P. M. to 1:30 P. M. Eastern Standard Time.

11:30 A. M. to 12:30 P. M. Central Standard Time.

10:30 A. M. to 11:30 A. M. Mountain Standard Time.

9:30 A. M. to 10:30 A. M. Pacific Standard Time.

Motion Picture Films Available

The motion picture library of the American Farm Bureau Federation contains films particularly well fitted for use by the Future Farmers of America. These pictures, made with agricultural interest and welfare foremost, emphasize those same principles and practices which the F. F. A. seek to establish. The only charge to F. F. A. groups for the use of these pictures is that of transportation on the films both ways; however, if you wish to book them through your local county or community Farm Bureau—and we know the Farm Bureaus would cooperate willingly with you in this matter—the pictures could be obtained absolutely free of charge since they are available to Farm Bureau people without cost.

Each film is two reels long, takes one-half hour to project, and is printed on 35mm non-inflammable film.

If you are interested in securing any of these films, write Miss Julia C. Stevens, Motion Picture Division, American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago, Illinois, for catalogue and further information.



My Trip To Kansas City

By Earnest Thornhill

Bill Mason and I were appointed as official delegates to represent the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America at the fourth National Convention which was held in connection with the National Livestock Exposition in Kansas City, Missouri, in November.

It will be useless for me to attempt to inspire you as I was inspired or to tell you all the interesting and educational things that I had the opportunity of seeing and hearing. I can say, though, that the experiences I had and the association I had with delegates from other states will be a very determining factor in my life.

I left the Union Station at Montgomery at 6:15 P. M., Friday, November 13. I had an entire night's sleep which passed away much riding time. By being on a fast train I got into Kentucky about six o'clock the next morning.

I passed away most of the day watching the country and reading the F. F. A. Constitution and Roberts' Rules of Order, a standard book on parliamentary procedure.

The train was thrown late by engine trouble and I got into St. Louis just one minute before the train was leaving for Kansas City. I knew that I could not get the right train in time alone, so I gave my baggage to a red cap and he directed me to the right train as it was pulling out.

Most of the country between St. Louis and Kansas City along the railroad was very rough and hilly. It kept me looking all the time. I would look down and we would be going over a high fill and before I knew it I would hear a rumbling sound and we would be going through a dark tunnel.

Two things I noticed along the farming section of the country were the methods of harvesting corn, and the enormous piles of wheat straw and the fields of young green wheat. They do not pull the ears from the corn stalks as we do, but cut the stalks with a machine and stack them up on shocks. Later they come along and husk the corn and save the stalks and shucks to feed the cows. This feed is called stover.

In many cases the farmers had their wheat straw piled on a frame in the field or pasture to form a shelter for the cattle in winter.



EARNEST THORNHILL

Some farmers had their straw piled up and the cattle had eaten out tunnels in it. Some of them resembled huge toadstools in the distance.

The young wheat was just old enough to cover the ground. A large field on a hillside resembled a large green carpet spread out. Some of the farmers were plowing for fall planting and the soil was very black and rich and contained plenty of moisture. I could see little puddles of water standing in the fields.

When I arrived at Kansas City at 9:00 P. M. Saturday night I met Bill. We went to the Baltimore Hotel where he and Mr. Pittman had registered for our rooms for the week. We were very tired and went to bed expecting a great time next day.

We were very much surprised when we visited the live stock exhibits the next morning. The pens covered many acres and it was all under permanent shelter. There were beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, poultry, sheep, horses, and mules on exhibit. All the animals were the prize animals of all the states brought together. Most interesting to me was the size of the beef cattle. One was only two years old and weighed a little over twenty-five hundred pounds. We walked nearly all day and didn't get to see all of the exhibits. These animals were fed and cared for very carefully every day. The men would give them a bath every day, groom them, comb their hair, and keep them looking nice. The pens were also kept very sanitary.

The grand champion beef cow of the world was owned by a Future Farmer member.

We attended a horse show which was given in the arena. There were many prizes offered for saddle horses and horse teams. A ten thousand dollar first prize was offered for the best five gaited saddle horse. Another interesting feature was fifty rough riding children. They did tricks, fancy and rough riding. One girl who was only six years old was considered the best trick rider among women in the world. She could ride her two-year old pony standing on her head in the saddle while the horse was trotting fast. This is only one of the many astonishing tricks that she did.

Another feature that drew much interest was the hurdling horses. Poles were suspended on frames as high as four to five feet and set about twenty-five yards apart and the horses would jump them in single file and also in pairs.

The first business session that the



BILL MASON

Future Farmers held was on Monday. After the opening ceremony, reports were given by delegates telling the accomplishments of each state in the organization.

Mr. Taylor, a very important supporter of the organization, made a short talk before making his awards. He was chairman of the committee to decide upon the winning local chapters.

Sale City, Georgia's chapter, won the first prize of \$400.00. Mr. Taylor said that one of the outstanding things this chapter did was to build a nice house in the residential section and rent it to send the high scholars in agriculture to the state agricultural college. The report that this chapter sent in was contained in a very large book that they made themselves. This book showed the work of each officer in the chapter. I wish that every officer in local chapters could have had the privilege of looking through and studying this book sent in as the report of this chapter.

The second prize of \$300.00 went to the chapter in Garland, Utah; the third prize of \$200.00 to the W. A. Brawel Chapter in North Dakota; and the fourth prize of \$100.00 to the chapter in Washington, Pennsylvania. Of course, there were other chapters that presented good reports but all of them could not win.

Mr. Taylor reported that 171 chapters presented reports and applied for this honor. In past years, the highest number to apply was 43. He said two of the most important things in accomplishing great results in a chapter are cooperation and interest. Select boys who are actively interested in agriculture and boys who will make good at that particular office and let them know that you are expecting them to make a good job of it.

Mr. Groseclose, the treasurer, of Washington, D. C., presented the Founders' Cup to Tennessee as being the outstanding state association. This cup is passed around each year and as a state wins the honor its name is put on the cup until the next convention.

The six highest states in membership in order are: Illinois, Texas, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Ohio. Alabama ranked tenth. There were reported great sums of money invested in savings accounts that were earned by the members in their project work.

Mr. F. M. Simpson, at the head of research work for Swift Packing Company, gave a lesson on marketing. The farmer, or the producer of any other commodity, should consider what the consumer wants and how he wants it. If a certain produce is fixed up nicely and makes an impression on the buyer, he will be better satisfied and thus he will buy again and be willing to pay the price. I can remember hearing Mr. Formby, my vocational agriculture teacher, say that the farmer spends three-fourths of his time producing something that the people he wanted to sell it to didn't like, and then spent the other one-fourth trying to sell it to them anyway.

Mr. Simpson said that the display and arrangement of products being marketed had much to do with the sale. He said that in their factories and laboratories they made packages of different shapes, colors,

and combinations and set them up on shelves and decided upon which was most attractive and which would catch the eye of the busy shopper. A farmer as well as any merchant, banker, or lawyer must study his business and keep wide-awake to modern methods and recommendations.

Mr. Brood, director of the National Broadcasting Company, sponsored the broadcasting of speeches in the speakers' contest over the NBC network. After hearing the speeches given by these boys, he said he thought there were some future representatives and senators as well as farmers in this organization. I think that Alabama should take more interest in this contest next year.

Mr. Brood announced that the Future Farmers of America organization would be given one hour over the NBC network each second Monday in each month from 11:30 to 12:30 o'clock. The programs will be sponsored by the state associations. Mr. W. A. Ross, executive secretary, is to arrange with the certain states as to when they will have the program. Any state or states desiring to give a program may arrange with Mr. Ross. This will be a great advertisement for the organization because there are many stations in this network and more people listen in on these programs than on any others. Every one is cordially invited to listen in on this program.

There were 63 outstanding State Farmers who received the American Farmer Degree. Two of these were from Alabama, although they were not present to receive the honor. They are Oliver Manning of Maplesville, Alabama, and Lloyd Ezell of Ozark, Alabama.

The total number of F. F. A. members in the United States including Hawaii is 56,718. There is a total of 47 state associations including Hawaii. This leaves two states in the Union without paid up state associations. The objective for membership next year is 75,000. If there is as high percentage increase this year as there was last year it will go over that mark. This information was given by Mr. Ross. He also said that we misuse the title of the organization. We should speak of the Future Farmers of America as: Local Chapter, State Association, and National Organization, and not National Association and State Organization.

One of the objectives for next year is as follows: Make the F. F. A. a high school activity and not a college or honorary activity for the students other than those actively interested in vocational agriculture and agricultural projects. The organization should be run by the boys and the responsibility put upon them after they have become familiar with the work. Of course, the local and state advisers should be of every possible assistance to local chapters in an advisory capacity. A picture of Washington was donated and mounted in the assembly room by a commercial organization in Kansas City.

The officers who were elected for the ensuing year are:

President.....	Mr. Peddiborn, Tennessee
First Vice-President.....	Mr. Briand, Illinois
Second Vice-President.....	Mr. Gants, Pennsylvania

Third Vice-President Mr. Holley, Utah
Fourth Vice-President Mr. Clauser, Missouri

The same adult officers were retained. They are:

Treasurer Mr. Groseclose, Washington, D. C.
Executive Secretary Mr. Ross, Washington, D. C.
Adviser Dr. Lane, Washington, D. C.

A banquet was given Tuesday night in honor of the Future Farmers. It was attended and very much enjoyed by 590 F. F. A. and 4H boys.

After the banquet the entire group marched through the arena led by a large band from a college in Missouri.

Free tickets were given the official delegates to a banquet Wednesday night, given by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce. This was a very swell affair consisting of a five-course dinner and inspiring speeches and singing in between courses. This was very much enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Mr. Benny was the principal speaker of the evening. He is a very successful wholesale and retail merchant and spoke about his own business. He said that to become successful in any vocation in life a boy must handle the handicaps that come up in this life and take advantage of the opportunities. You must stay with the job and not let little handicaps discourage you and finally make you drop out when they get larger and larger. If you learn to master the problems young in life while they are small, then when you grow older and the problems get more complicated you are able to overcome them intelligently. For this reason I think that a person lays his corner stone early in life, in fact, before he realizes it.

Mr. Benny said that when he was young in the business his fellow workers would complain because he often worked late at night and didn't take an hour for dinner every day, and now they wonder, "Why did Mr. Benny make success?"

After this speech the awards were made to the winning judging teams and to the individuals rating high in judging meat, cattle, swine, poultry, sheep, mules, and horses. It would take too long to go into the winners of all these various contests and judging teams, but I will say that after the total number of points in every judging contest were added for each state, Texas won. The award was a very beautiful silver cup. Other teams and individuals received various other valuable prizes, such as, gold coins, watches, volumes of books, and medals.

This banquet was the last meeting held of the entire group. One morning the various committees which had been appointed met and reported to the assembly. I was appointed on the auditing committee. Of course we found the treasurer's books to be correct, as far as we could tell, and very nicely and well kept.

Chapter Notes

EVA CHAPTER

We have a paid up membership of 28 thus far.

Our program for 1931-32 is as follows:

1. Foster a certified seed program.
2. Foster a pure bred live stock program.
3. Encourage cover crops.
4. Beautify school campus.
5. Sponsor a play or minstrel.
6. Have basketball games with other chapters.
7. Sponsor father and son banquet.
8. Have a debate for other chapters.
9. Take an educational tour.
10. Encourage year round garden at home.
11. Send delegates to annual conference.
12. Members get State Farmer Degree.
13. Keep important news for farmers.
14. Enter booth at county fair.
15. Wire shop.
16. Build dressing room for athletics.
17. Install good water system at school building.
18. Build bus shed on campus.

—Curry Arrington, Reporter.

RANBURNE CHAPTER

Thanksgiving night will be long remembered by the F. F. A. boys and their dads on account of our father and son banquet. There were nine fat o'possums prepared with the old fashioned taters. Pumpkin pies, cakes, apples, parched peanuts, and steak were also served. There were seventy plates prepared. This banquet was made possible by contributions from the members of the chapter.

This banquet took place in the agricultural room. The letters "F. F. A." were on each of the six tables. The program consisted of a small negro minstrel and talks.

ABBEVILLE CHAPTER

December 4, 1931, marked the accomplishment of one of the objectives of the Abbeville Chapter. There were around one hundred members, dads, and visitors present at the third annual father and son banquet sponsored by the Abbeville Chapter.

The preparation and serving of the food was under the direction of Miss Myra Belle Smith, teacher of vocational home economics, and her classes. The boys furnished the food for the banquet by donations.

Mr. R. E. Cammack, State Adviser, gave a very interesting talk. There were also other interesting talks made.

A delegation of three was invited to attend this banquet from each chapter in the southeastern district. Only two were represented.

We have a membership of 35 thus far. The F. F. A. Chapter is co-operating with the student body in working on a plan whereby they can remodel the high school stage. This will be a monument to the F. F. A. Chapter.

The chapter ordered fruit trees for the members. They were bought for less than half of what they would have cost if bought separately.

We intend to order pure seed corn. We will get field selected corn and the variety that is recommended for this section.

A hot bed is being constructed for the use of the chapter. We have already planted a nursery. It is doing fine.

An F. F. A. quartette has been organized.

—Louie Ezzell, Reporter.

GLENCOE CHAPTER

The Glencoe Chapter is in full swing for the new year. For the month of December I have to report the following:

1. A pruning demonstration which was attended by many local farmers.
2. A terracing demonstration.
3. A chapel play—"The Trial of the Soil Robber."
4. A joint social with home economics girls in the form of a banquet.
5. We have taken in two new members this month and expect more next month.
6. We raised eight Green Hand members to the Future Farmer degree.
7. We accepted a challenge from the home economics club for a debate.

—Grady Minter, Reporter.

HISTORY OF THE ISABELLA CHAPTER

Four years ago, the agriculture boys of Isabella started their struggle for an active F. F. A. chapter. Officers were elected and the new chapter organized to begin work at once. A charter was secured as soon as possible.

Upon the opening of the following school term, F. F. A. was begun with a bang. Isabella was represented at the first state conference. One of the state officers was elected from our chapter. After the conference the local chapter elected new officers and set up a plan for the coming year.

The school improvement program was started with the installation of an electric water pump for the school. Beautification of the school campus was next thought of. The chapter constructed a brick wall so as to level the ground. Now the campus is almost level with grass and shrubbery planted on it. A landscape specialist was obtained from Auburn to do this work.

The second year the Isabella Chapter was represented on the executive committee of the state.

The third year the F. F. A. boys cooperating with the home economics girls put in the unit kitchen system which was needed very much. Italian rye grass was planted on the campus for a temporary lawn. A banquet was sponsored jointly with the home economics girls to establish a closer relationship between the two.

This year a number of tables have been constructed for the primary department.

We have three State Farmers and one American Farmer in our chapter.

Our work is handicapped this year on account of the depression.

—S. L. Broadhead, Reporter.

DANVILLE CHAPTER

1. Father and son banquet.

This is a part of our annual program. We had our banquet January 29. This is for the purpose of getting the fathers and their sons together for a few minutes of social activities, and to show them the purpose of the F. F. A.

2. Beautify school campus.

The F. F. A. has built several gravel walks in the school campus. We also set out some trees, and fixed entrance signs at both entrances.

3. The F. F. A. is helping the community in an agricultural way.

We have the pump and spray material for the purpose of spraying the different orchards of the community. We also have a truck of our own to carry the material to the orchards. We charge a small amount to cover the cost of the spray material. We also have built a soy bean harvester that has proved successful in the community.

NEW HOPE CHAPTER

The two main objectives of our chapter this year are as follows:

1. To wire the vocational agricultural building so that lights will be available for night meetings.

2. To establish a home orchard in every home reached by the chapter, and in as many other homes as possible. The first of these objectives has been accomplished through the cooperation of the local chapter and the P. T. A. The boys raised some money by selling *The Progressive Farmer*, and the local P. T. A. helped by paying part of the money. The boys are buying fruit trees cooperatively and taking orders for them from people in the community.

—Roland Moon, Reporter.

CHEROKEE CHAPTER

The Cherokee Chapter is very proud of the objectives we have reached this year. We know that we have not done as much as we could have done, but due to the present financial situation, we feel very proud of what we have accomplished. We meet on the first and third Saturdays of each month and have a good attendance.

Accomplishments:

1. Care and management of school property.
2. Foster a real Arbor Day program.
3. Foster a one hundred per cent supervised practice program.
4. A definite outline program for each chapter meeting.
5. Improve and make a more impressive initiation team.

Objectives for 1932:

1. Foster collection of school incidentals.
2. Make a one hundred per cent score card for an active chapter.
3. Report to the local newspaper a weekly report and to the state reporter a monthly report.
4. A school ground beautification program.
5. Furnish material and construct boys' sanitary toilet.
6. Encourage a thrift program for the members.

—W. W. Neill, Reporter.

SLOCOMB CHAPTER

The main objectives of the Slocomb Chapter for the year are to rid the community of rats, keep our school campus and building clean, urge a clean town, have father and son banquet. We are also planning a fishing trip.

In cooperation with the city council we have staged a very successful rat campaign, and plan to have another in the near future.

With the cooperation of the student body and faculty we are keeping our building and campus clean.

We are now making plans to have a father and son banquet, and to go on a fishing trip.

—Pat Smith, Reporter.

McKENZIE CHAPTER

Our F. F. A. Chapter has not done much during the past month due to the fact that our school building burned down. We had a meeting a few days ago and began to work on the play that had been started before the building burned.

Our chapter spirit was stimulated when we distributed garden seed among boys to be sold for the benefit of the chapter.

Our members are also working on plans for landscaping the new building when it is completed. We have worked out plans for several of the homes in the community.

Plans are being made to have meetings more often than before.

—W. W. Huggins, Reporter.

MEMBERSHIP OF CHAPTERS FOR 1931-32

Chapter	No. Members	Chapter	No. Members
Abbeville	36	Odenville	18
Albertville	22	Camden	22
Athens	15	Akron	17
Blountsville	22	Alexandria	12
Evergreen	32	Arab	16
Hamilton	15	Arley	10
Jackson	25	Baker Hill	14
Lineville	19	Beauregard	14
Sylacauga	18	Belgreen	5
Wetumpka	14	Berry	17
Centerville	14	Blue Springs	10
Ashland	14	Camp Hill	11
Leighton	19	Cedar Bluff	11
Ozark	20	Cherokee	30
Eclectic	15	Citronelle	14
Atmore	10	Collinsville	16
Moundville	15	Corner	28
Headland	12	Curry	20
Columbia	15	Danville	14
Scottsboro	30	Daviston	11
Vernon	11	Dixon's Mills	23
Rogersville	36	Dozier	20
Moulton	16	Eva	27
Auburn	5	Excel	18
Guin	10	Fairview	13
Marion	16	Falkville	32
Reform	5	Felix	13
Brundidge	50	Five Points	20
Columbiana	17	Frisco City	16

Chapter	No. Members	Chapter	No. Members
Glencoe	12	Pine Hill	13
Goodwater	14	Ramer	27
Gordo	17	Ranburne	23
Gorgas	9	Rawls	14
Hackleburg	25	Riverton	15
Haleyville	23	Robertsdale	18
Holtville	16	Silas	19
Isabella	22	Slocomb	28
Jemison	13	Straughn	18
Leroy	11	Sulligent	30
Lexington	32	Sweet Water	14
Liberty	23	Tanner-Williams	17
Lyeffion	15	Uriah	23
McKenzie	16	Vincent	25
Magnolia	23	Wadley	25
Marbury	17	Walnut Grove	13
Millerville	14	Ward	9
Mount Hope	18	Weogufka	19
New Brockton	6	West Point	18
New Hope (Madison)	15	White Plains	14
New Hope (Randolph)	10		
Ohathee	15	Total Membership to Date 1788	

DELINQUENT CHAPTERS

Cuba	Millport
Milltown	New Market
Notasulga	Phil Campbell
Foley	Pine Apple
Geraldine	Pisgah
Palmetto	Smith Station
Midland City	Winfield

A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE REPORTER

Fellow F. F. A.'s.:

I wish to thank you for the hearty cooperation that was given me in the publishing of this news letter. I believe you are waking up to the fact that we cannot be active members in a chapter and sleep all the time.

Every chapter please report regularly from now on. There are some chapters that have not yet made a report, but we look for some to be the "cow's tail" anyway.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Yours for a better F. F. A.,

W. F. Owens, State Reporter.