
THE ALABAMA FUTURE FARMER



MONTGOMERY, ALA., NOVEMBER, 1932



More Than 400 Future Farmers Attend State Meeting

The third annual meeting of the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America was held at Auburn, Alabama, on Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16, 1932. There were more than 400 present at this meeting with delegates and representation from the following chapters:

Abbeville, Albertville, Athens, Blountsville, Evergreen, Hamilton, Jackson, Lineville, Sylacauga, Wetumpka, Bibb County High, Chambers County High, Clay County High, Colbert County High, Dale County High, Elmore County High, Escambia Coun-

ty High, Hale County High, Henry County High, Houston County High, Jackson County High, Lamar County High, Lauderdale County High, Lawrence County High, Lee County High, Marion County High, Perry County High, Pickens County High, Shelby County High, St. Clair County High, Wilcox County High, Akron, Alexandria, Baker Hill, Berry, Blue Springs, Beauregard, Camp Hill, Cherokee, Citronelle, Collinsville, Curry, Danville, Daviston, Dixon's Mills, Dozier, Eva, Excel, Fairview, Felix, Five Points, Foley, Geraldine, Glencoe, Goodwater, Gordo, Gorgas, Haleyville, Holtville, Isabella, Jemison, Liberty, Leroy, Lyeffion, Magnolia, Marbury, McKenzie, Midland City, Millerville, Mount Hope, New Hope (Madison), New Hope (Randolph), Ramer, Rawls, Robertsdale, Silas, Slocomb, Straughn, Sulligent, Tanner-Williams, Uriah, Vincent, Wadley, Walnut Grove, Wegufka, West Point, White Plains, Frisco City, Smith's Station.

The Association is to be commended for such a large representation at the annual meeting especially in view of the financial condition existing at this time. Many of the delegations from the various chapters on their trip through the country, availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting places of interest; such as, outstanding farms, sub-experiment stations, demonstration farms, the State Capitol at Montgomery, and various other points of interest along the route. It was the general feeling of those in attendance that the program and activities carried out during the annual meeting were more interesting and instructive than at any previous annual meeting. The delegates left for their homes with a better knowledge of Future Farmer objectives and the way in which to put them into operation in their local chapters, and a greater determination to make the year 1932-33 an outstanding one in Future Farmer work.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

The Committee on Revision of the Constitution composed of: Jack Cammack, Chairman; Jack Mourning, Hugh Lambert, and G. T. Sargent, met during the annual meeting and considered the suggestions for changes in the Constitution submitted by various chapters and made certain recommendations to the House of Delegates. The following amendments were adopted:

1. Article IV, Section D, Page 3, which reads, "Earn and deposit in bank or productively invest at least \$200.00," be amended to read, "Earn and deposit in bank or productively invest at least \$100.00."
2. Article V, Section A2, Page 4, which reads, "Each chapter shall be represented by the vocational teacher as a delegate," be eliminated from the Constitution in that each chapter will send delegates to the State Convention.
3. Article VI, Page 5, which reads: "State meetings of Future Farmers of Alabama shall be held annually. The time shall be on Saturday before the summer school of instruction," be amended to read, "The State meeting of Future Farmers of Alabama shall be held annually. The time shall be on Friday and Saturday before the summer school of instruction."
4. Article VII, Section A, Page 5, which reads, "Dues shall be paid into the State Treasury by November 1," be amended to read, "Dues shall be paid into the State Treasury on November 1 and April 1 of each year."

The above amendments should be typewritten and attached to the copy of the Constitution in the F. F. A. files of each local chapter. The Executive Committee does not plan to rewrite the Constitution each time an amendment is adopted but rather to attach the amendments to the Constitution in its present form. This is the procedure followed in making amendments to any constitution under which a group operates.

THE ALABAMA FUTURE FARMER

Published twice a year by
Alabama Association of Future
Farmers of America

The State Organization of Students
of Vocational Agriculture

Member of Future Farmers of
America

STATE OFFICERS

President—Earnest Thornhill, Rt. 3,
Wetumpka, Alabama.

Vice-President—Keith Ferrell, Mount
Pleasant, Alabama.

Secretary—Clyde Davis, Melbourne,
Alabama.

Treasurer—Albert Ellison, Rt. 2, Ra-
mer, Alabama.

Reporter—Perry Clay, Route 2, Glen-
coe, Alabama.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

By Clyde Davis, Secretary.

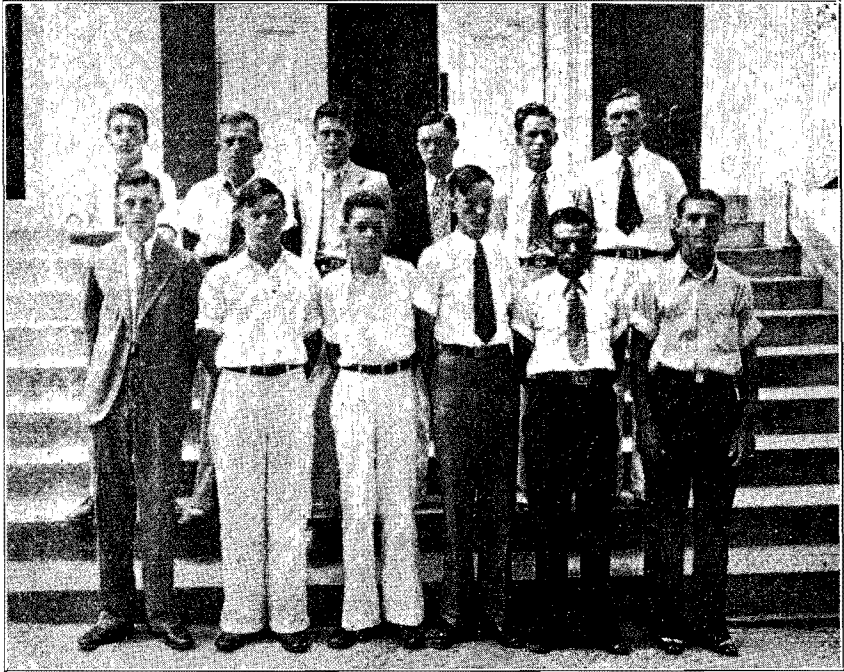
According to the annual report of the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America for the year ending June 30, 1932, there were 113 chartered chapters with a total membership of 2093. Of this number there were 1610 holding the Green Hand degree, 445 holding the Future Farmer degree, 35 holding the State Farmer degree, and 3 holding the American Farmer degree. In addition to the above, there were 228 associate members and 240 honorary members. This gave a total membership of 2561, which represents an increase of 329 over the previous year. The Association is to be commended for this growth especially in view of the economic conditions. It is to be hoped, however, that during the coming year there will be even a greater increase in membership.

A study of the statistics given above will show that there is probably too wide a spread between the

number of individuals holding the Green Hand degree and those holding the Future Farmer degree. In like manner there is too wide a spread between those holding the Future Farmer degree and those holding the State Farmer degree. I talked to a number of persons during the annual meeting, including local advisers, and they all seemed to be of the opinion that it would be well for each chapter to give serious consideration to the matter of raising more Green Hand members to Future Farmer members. It is very important that careful consideration and attention be given to the present Green Hand members in order that there may be a reasonable number of them who will be able to qualify under the Constitution to become Future Farmers. In like manner when a Green Hand is raised to a Future Farmer, it should be the ambition of each one to so acquit himself both in his general work in school and in his vocational work that he will be able to qualify for the State Farmer degree. As secretary of the State Association I should like to urge upon all presidents of local chapters the importance of this matter. It is only in this way that we will be able to raise the standards of our membership.

We should also keep in mind that there is an opportunity for a limited number of outstanding applicants to become American Farmers. There are three vocational agricultural pupils in Alabama who have already received the American Farmer degree. Alabama is eligible to receive three more this year provided the applications submitted are found worthy. As our membership in F. F. A. grows we will be entitled to a greater number each year.

Let me urge that all chapters have programs of work adapted to the local situation; that there be regular scheduled times for meetings; that meetings be conducted in a business-like manner; that each member of the chapter be responsible for the activities of the chapter; and that the standards of work throughout the entire vocational agricultural and F. F. A. program be raised higher and higher as the years go by.



Future Farmers Raised To State Farmers At Annual Meeting

Above are shown twelve of the fourteen Future Farmers who received the State Farmer degree at the annual meeting. The degree was conferred upon the following: D. Keith Farrell, Uriah High School; James C. Snider, Robertsdale High School; Claxton Ray, Clay County High School; Edwin Moady, Lawrence County High School; Lamar Northington, Sulligent High School; Clyde Davis, Lamar County High School; Norman Crawford, Perry County High School; Clifford M. Manning, Isabella High School; J. T. Lucy, Collinsville High School; Perry Clay, Glencoe High School; Averette Kelley, Abbeville State Secondary Agricultural School; Tillman Spear, Ramer High School; Albert Ellison, Ramer

High School; Byron Cowart, Evergreen State Secondary Agricultural School.

In addition to those listed above the Alabama Association conferred upon the following persons the degree of Honorary State Farmer for outstanding work in promoting the organization in Alabama: A. F. Harman, State Superintendent of Education; P. C. Brook, Assistant Supervisor of Agricultural Education; J. C. Cannon, Assistant Supervisor of Agricultural Education; Earle Thomas, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Isabella High School; J. R. Formy, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Holtville High School; J. M. McReynolds, Teacher of Vocational Agriculture, Evergreen State Secondary Agricultural School.

ANNUAL PROGRAM OF STATE
ASSOCIATION FOR 1932-33

1. Have an active F. F. A. chapter in every school in Alabama offering courses in vocational agriculture.
2. A state convention to be held in Auburn in July, 1933.
3. Each chapter represented at the State convention by two official delegates.
4. Confer the degree of State Farmer on at least 40 members.
5. Send two official delegates to national convention.
6. At least 10 Alabama Farmers apply for American Farmer degree.
7. Continue work toward establishing permanent F. F. A. camp.
8. A thrift program to be promoted in every chapter.
9. A father-son banquet to be held by each chapter.
10. Each chapter reporter to report chapter activities to local paper weekly and to send articles to state reporter once a month.
11. Each chapter to set up a definite, written annual program of work consisting of (1) agricultural, (2) social-civic, and (3) recreational activities.
12. Each chapter to make a written report of accomplishments, during year to the State Adviser by June 1, 1933.
13. Each chapter confer the degree of Future Farmer as rapidly as Green Hand members are eligible.
14. Each chapter to start F. F. A. library.
15. Aid teacher in improving the supervised practice program.
16. Live-at-home program to be sponsored by each chapter.
17. Encourage cooperative projects such as: (a) producing soy bean seed, (b) producing plants for sale.
18. Each chapter conduct a project tour.
19. Start F. F. A. nursery for beautifying homes of F. F. A. members.
20. Have joint meeting each month with home economic girls.
21. Boys to help with evening schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF STATE
ADVISER FOR 1932-33

Mr. R. E. Cammack, State Adviser, gave the following suggestions to those in attendance upon the annual meeting as being worthy of their serious consideration in building and carrying out their local chapter programs during the coming year:

1. Each member should pay his local, state, and national dues out of money made through receipts from home project work. State and national dues should be sent in to the state office before November 1.

2. Program committees for local chapters should not confine their objectives to repair and construction work about the school, but in addition to these items appearing on the chapter program each chapter should foster in a very definite way improved agricultural practices throughout the community; such as, better poultry, hogs, dairy cattle, and live stock; improved seed; a wider use of winter and summer legumes; and terracing. I do not mean to discredit the splendid work which has been done by a number of chapters in making improvements on school grounds, doing repair work about the school building, etc. I think this is fine and should be a part of each chapter's program, but in addition to items of this character there should be an increased amount of emphasis in every program in fostering better agriculture along the lines named above.

3. Each chapter should organize and carry out a thrift bank during the coming year. I would suggest that while here you talk to the delegates from the Ramer chapter in order than you may familiarize yourselves with the start they have made in a thrift bank movement. If there are other chapters which have started this movement, it would be well to talk to the delegates from these chapters also.

4. It is going to be necessary that people live at home during the coming year to the same extent that it has been necessary to do this during the past two or three years. I am, therefore, suggesting that the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America through the chapters represented here be one of the strong factors in each community in pointing the way for the people to produce as much as practicable of the

feed for live stock and food for the family. In connection with this thought, each member of every chapter throughout the State of Alabama should be a committee of one to see to it that the attention of every farmer in the community is called to ways in which economy should be practiced in the live-at-home program, acreage adjustment, the feeding and care of live stock, and the maintaining of soil fertility.

5. At an early date there will be mailed to each chapter in Alabama a copy of the Future Farmer Creed. These have been furnished through the National Congress of Future Farmers of America. When school opens in the fall, each chapter should have this creed framed, and it should be appropriately displayed on the occasion of chapter meetings.

You are the future leaders in agriculture as well as in other lines of business in this State. I cannot urge upon you with too much emphasis the importance of preparing yourselves well for this responsibility which will inevitably fall upon your shoulders at no great distant date. You represent an organization that has greater possibilities for good than any organization within the confines of the State of Alabama. Mr. P. C. Brook, Assistant Supervisor of Agriculture, has been requested to work with the Executive Committee of this organization during the coming year in setting up a suggested library for each chapter. You will receive early next fall some further suggestions along this line. If we are to be prepared for the leadership that we must assume now and in the future, it is going to require constant study on our part. I, therefore, urge each of you present at this time to be even more diligent in the future in preparing yourself for intelligent leadership than you have been in the past.

**EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS DURING ANNUAL
MEETING**

The Future Farmer organization is a national affiliated organization and as a national organization it is four years old, while the Alabama Association is only three years old, having received a charter one year after it was nationally organized. At the present time there are 47 chartered

state associations of F. F. A. There are 2,500 local chapters and a total membership of approximately 57,000.

In the Alabama Association we have 113 local chapters, and a total membership of 2,093. In Alabama we have 113 vocational agriculture departments and 113 of them have an organized chapter with a charter. Alabama's membership increased about 200 this year.

The purpose of the organization is to give us training in agriculture, also training in management and ideals, as to how to handle our profits and at the same time be willing to help our neighbors by being capable of advising them along some particular line. We hope that in time every farmer of our great country may be a man who has been enrolled in a class of study of organized supervision of farming. The advisers of our organization are men who have studied and who have made the teaching of a supervised system of farming their vocation. With their capable leadership we feel that our F. F. A. organization will be a great aid in making the supervised program a world-wide affair.

During the past year I was one of the state delegates to the national convention of F. F. A. held at Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Earnest Thornhill was the other delegate. I shall not attempt to speak for Earnest, but I want to tell you how much I appreciate the privilege and honor of helping to represent the Alabama Association at this convention. I want to thank the organization as a whole for this privilege and especially the members who made it possible for me to go.

During the annual meeting held here at Auburn last summer an annual program of work was set up. I am glad to tell you that the greater part of the objectives mentioned have been fulfilled. At the same time, I am sorry to say that all of them have not been reached. However, the few that have not been accomplished in full have been worked on continuously and accomplished in part.

It has been a great pleasure working with you during the past year and I thank you for your splendid cooperation. I sincerely trust that in the near future the Future Farmer organization will be the outstanding organization for young men of America.—Bill Mason, President, 1931-32.

ANNUAL REPORT OF RAMER CHAPTER FOR 1931-32

Objectives Set Up For 1931-32

1. Continue to operate school lunch room started last year.
2. Continue playground equipment construction for elementary school.
3. Cooperate with town in sponsoring clean-up days.
4. Sponsor rat eradication campaign.
5. Continue school ground beautification.
6. Sponsor the erection of two brick column posts at entrance to campus.
7. Hold annual barbecue supper for parents and friends.
8. Present two comedy agricultural plays at chapel hour.
9. Start thrift bank for Ramer chapter.
10. Construct hot beds for purpose of propagating plants and cuttings.
11. Publish at least eighteen news articles in daily papers.
12. Present loving cup to best all-round vocational agriculture boy.
13. Hold a two or three day summer camp for F. F. A. boys.

During the past school year our chapter again operated the school lunch room that was started last year. Sandwiches, potato chips, cakes, milk, ice cream, and hot soup were sold during the year. The total profit this year after all expenses were deducted amounted to \$125.00. Fifty dollars of this money was used by the chapter to help pay for the projects of the members. The remaining amount went into the school treasury.

Last year our chapter constructed play ground equipment for our elementary school valued at \$300.00. This year the equipment was reworked and more equipment planned for the future. Our chapter cooperated with the town and civic clubs in sponsoring town clean-up days. Our activities included: pruning shade trees along the streets, demolishing unsightly town eye-sores, raking up and hauling off of trash along the streets.

Last fall our chapter sponsored a rat eradication campaign in the community. Eighteen farm homes cooperated in this campaign. Our boys purchased, mixed, and delivered the poison and bait, gave directions as to how to put out the poison, and check-

ed up on results. A check showed that about 100 rats were found dead. Allowing \$2.00 for the cost of one rat a year, our campaign was successful to the extent of \$200.00 or more.

Although we are very proud of our now beautiful school grounds, we can always find improvement work to be done. This year our activities on the grounds included such work as: spraying, pruning, and fertilizing trees and shrubbery, keeping grass and underbrush cleared out, and keeping alive a movement to keep paper and trash off the grounds.

One of our major objectives for the year was the construction of two large brick column posts equipped with electric lights, at the entrance of our school grounds. The total cost of this project, including electric wiring, was \$65.00. The posts were presented to the school as a gift from the chapter at our annual barbecue supper.

It is the policy of our chapter to hold annually a barbecue supper for our parents and friends. On these occasions the boys with the assistance of our adviser and home economics girls prepare and serve this supper. The cost seldom runs over one dollar per boy, as much of the products are donated by the boys and those interested. This year we barbecued 100 broilers along with a small pig. With this we served camp stew, potato salad, and the other things that go with barbecue. A check showed that we had more than 175 parents and friends at our supper this year.

On two occasions during the past school year, our chapter presented plays at the school chapel hour. These plays usually cause much interest to be worked up in the school. Our chapel programs were voted to be among the best for the year by the school. This year we presented "The Trial of the Soil Robber," and "Beating the Sheriff to Farmer Brown."

Another venture of the chapter was that of organizing an F. F. A. thrift bank. We did not expect to perfect this organization in one year but planned to work it up on a safe and sound policy. Due to the present lack of cash, we have to date only about \$25.00 on deposit drawing 6 per cent interest. We hope to run this total up to \$300.00 by the end of this year.

A group project of our chapter that no one thought very important when

discussed proved to be one of the best that we accomplished. Our boys with the assistance of our adviser planned last spring the construction of a small hot bed for the purpose of producing plants and cuttings for our personal use. The results are that we now have a 90-foot flue hot bed and a 12-foot electric hot bed that yielded over 70,000 potato draws, 15,000 tomato plants, and several hundred flower plants that were used by the boys and the surrounding communities. The plants were sold at a very reasonable price and were in great demand. The entire plant cost \$87.00. Our receipts from the sale of plants will just about pay for the construction cost. We expect to continue this project again next year.

During the year just ended we have had written and published 24 news articles in reference to F. F. A. work.

It is the policy of our chapter to present annually to the best all-round vocational agriculture boy the Ramer Chapter loving cup which he holds for a period of one year. It then goes back to the chapter to be presented to the new winner. Standards have been set up by which this winner is selected. These standards are based upon scholastic work, vocational agriculture work, club work, and the vote of the chapter. This year the cup was presented to our chapter president, James Raley.

The last objective we have not yet reached but hope to do so in a few weeks when the entire membership of the chapter will go on a camping trip for two or three days. While on this trip we will set up objectives for next year and make plans for carrying out the objectives.

ANNUAL REPORT OF EVER- GREEN CHAPTER FOR 1931-32

Our chapter began the 1931-32 year with thirteen chapter members. Our president was unable to be with us so we moved the vice-president up and elected a new vice-president. Our year's program of work was then prepared by a committee.

The first objective was that of securing new members. To do this we planned a chicken barbecue in September. All candidates for membership were invited to be there with a chicken. While the chickens were barbecued by members of the chapter, the other fellows took a swim. We had a grand feed that was fol-

lowed by a program. The editor of our town paper was the only outside visitor present. He was made an honorary member at the end of the program. Nineteen applications were received for membership. These applicants were initiated at the following meeting.

We then went to work to arrange our class room as is suggested in the F. F. A. manual. Our members at a regular meeting authorized the secretary and treasurer to order a banner. When the banner arrived the members wished the lettering "Evergreen Chapter" to be placed on it. It was returned and we now have it as desired. The money spent for this was earned by the group. We have the pictures of Washington and Jefferson which were presented by Swift Packing Company. A miniature plow was presented by the John Deere Company. On one wall we have our flag that measures 39 by 70 inches. We have our charter framed as well as the pictures of the 1931 F. F. A. convention. We do not have the stuffed owl yet, but we have the gavel, ear of corn, and six F. F. A. manuals. Our membership is proud of its class room and we work to keep it in order.

We held regular meetings at a period set aside for the club work on Tuesday afternoon. The various clubs in the school were responsible for a chapel program once a week. The F. F. A. chapter held the lead in position and we put on three programs during the year. First, we told the purpose of the F. F. A.; second, we presented "The Trial of a Soil Robber"; third, a program celebrating George Washington's 200th anniversary.

We had more students enroll in vocational agriculture this year than ever before and we are proud to say that one hundred per cent are members of the F. F. A. chapter.

The chapter organized a court for the purpose of punishing criminals among our group. The officers were elected after taking the stump in their behalf. They then went to the court house and visited the clerk, judge, and attorneys to learn more of court procedure. Some of our laws were regarding damage to lawn, shrubs, shop tools, fences, class room, and other school property. The court proved a means of impeaching an inefficient reporter during the year. The judge passed sentences of labor and punishment.

Our chapter presented "The Trial of a Soil Robber" to the Mt. Union evening school one night. We also purchased fruit trees for our home orchards cooperatively with this evening class.

We had a basketball team that was composed of F. F. A. members who did not go out for the regular team. On Friday afternoons we played the non-ag. team. We have our baseball team but to date we have played only two inter-chapter games. Our players are scattered and the grass has had them on the go since school was out.

One of our most interesting activities was a father-mother-son banquet. We had been leaving mother out long enough and it was a real pleasure to have both parents present. We had about ninety people present including visitors from town. Most of the food was brought from the homes of the boys and prepared by the senior home economic girls. We made our own ice cream and the girls served the banquet. In return, the chapter financed a picture show party for these girls.

We have the front of our school grounds landscaped and are now propagating shrubs for the rear grounds. We plan to complete our landscaping this year.

Our chapter entered into the fight for the continuance of vocational education as provided in the Smith-Hughes Act. We sent a telegram from the chapter to each senator and representative, and had written 131 letters.

Each member of the F. F. A. chapter made a survey of the shop jobs at our homes that needed doing, and we worked to get the jobs done.

Our thirty-two members are carrying a total of 86 projects and one of our aims is to finish with at least 90 per cent of them completed.

During the year we have made our chapter one of which the members are glad to be a part. Also, it is an organization that the younger boys wish to join. We are striving to make our profession one that is honorable and self-supporting.

We plan to go to the Bay for a few days' fishing as soon as the crops are laid by.

HONORABLE L. L. PATTERSON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS, COM- MENDS FUTURE FARMER ORGANIZATION

As a former teacher and superintendent of schools, I have been interested in the vocational agricultural work from its inception, and while serving on the Educational Committee in the House of Representatives I was pleased to sponsor a bill before our committee to grant a national charter by congressional enactment to the splendid organization, "Future Farmers of America."

When those splendid young men, the national president at that time and his associates, came before us, their vision and enthusiasm were convincing to our entire committee and the bill was reported at once.

I am glad to take this opportunity to say to you young men who are students in the different vocational agricultural schools of our State, and the nation as to that, that I wholeheartedly commend this organization to you, feeling that by vision, training and a program you will go far to raise the dignity of farming in America to its rightful place among other great industries.

Agriculture is the backbone of our industrial life. After years of delay vocational agriculture and the opportunities which it offers in training and now through this new national organization, "Future Farmers of America," have come to our rural and small-town young men, and I am delighted with the response that the people of our country, our state, and our district in particular, have given to this program.

I sincerely hope the time will soon come when there will be a class in vocational agriculture in reach of every farm boy in America and that every young prospective farmer will be a member of this forward-looking American organization, "Future Farmers of America," which, if its purpose is fulfilled, I have no doubt will help to revolutionize agriculture and home life in our rural sections. This, with the great principles and ideals upon which it is founded and the clean sportsmanship demanded of its members, should commend it to all parents and students within its sphere.—LaFayette L. Patterson, Representative in Congress, Fifth District of Alabama.

**FIFTH NATIONAL F. F. A. CON-
VENTION NOVEMBER
14-17, 1932**

The Fifth National Convention of Future Farmers of America will be held in Kansas City, November 14-17, 1932. The convention occurs in connection with the National Congress of vocational agricultural students at the time of the American Royal Livestock Show. Delegates from most of the 48 State units of the F. F. A. organization are expected to attend, along with hundreds of visitors.

The tentative program for the convention was formulated by the national officers at their spring meeting held in Washington during April. In the program there are provisions for executive sessions of the board of trustees, national advisory, council and state advisers prior to the opening of the convention on Tuesday morning, November 15. In addition to the regular business of the convention American Farmer candidates will be raised to the fourth degree membership, one delegate from each state will give a three-minute summary report on accomplishments, and results will be announced on the Star Farmer contest, the chapter contest, and the state association contest.

The arena parade on Tuesday evening, November 15, will be a high point in the convention program, which will close with a great banquet on Wednesday evening, November 16, at which F. F. A. delegates, vocational judging teams, prize winners, and guests will be present. Complete programs will be printed and distributed at a later date.

According to present indications, the Fifth National Convention of F. F. A. bids fair to be the largest and best since the organization was formulated in 1928.—Agricultural Leaders' Digest.

THRIFT BANK

By Tillman Spear, Banker, Ramer Chapter

Farming is a business. As such it demands the application of sound business procedure. Our banker is a business man. We expect him to know his business, and he in turn has a right to expect farmers to know their business. Knowing our business involves being able to show our financial standing at any given time.

In our Future Farmer Creed we find the following words bearing on

thrift, "I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so—for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it where needed."

It was a desire to live up to this our national creed that caused the members of the Ramer chapter to organize a thrift bank during the 1931-32 school year. Although we did not reach the objectives set up we feel that we have accomplished the desired results, for we have the boys thinking about saving some of their money. With the experience we received last year we hope to do much more with our bank this year. We hope to get one hundred per cent of our boys to start a thrift savings account in our bank. We have made arrangements with a local savings bank to redeposit our money where it will draw six per cent interest. Our officers include a banker, one assistant, and our adviser. Deposits are received once each week. Each depositor has a bank book. In case one boy absolutely must have his money he may draw it out after talking the matter over with the bank officials. His deposit draws interest for the length of time it remained in the bank.

Personally I believe that the future independence of Alabama farmers depends on thrift practiced by the Future Farmers of today. The present panic shows us what the lack of thrift can do for the farmer. It is up to F. F. A. boys to get the habit of saving so that we will not find ourselves in the years to come, in the condition that our parents and friends are finding themselves now.

It has been well stated by some one that, "A fixed habit of thrift is pretty good evidence of solid, lasting qualities which manifest themselves as a man rises in the world."

To Local F. F. A. Treasurers:

As treasurer of the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America, it becomes my duty to handle the finances of this organization, and to collect dues and money for pins, keys, etc. This is a great responsibility and I feel it more and more each day. You as local treasurers can make my job easy or hard by the cooperation you give. We want our organization to grow and prosper, and to do this everyone must cooperate.

I hope that you have already begun collecting state and national dues and that you will forward to the State Adviser as soon as possible check or money order covering state and national dues together with membership blank and a copy of your chapter program of work. There are expenses in connection with the state organization, such as, stationery, printing of news letter, and stamps, which necessitate funds during the fall over and above the balance carried over from the previous year. Our balance brought over from last year is growing very small. For our Association to function properly each member must pay his part, which is twenty-five cents for state dues and ten cents for national dues. This money is due on or before November 1. We are expecting all chapters this year to be prompt in the matter of submitting dues, and in complying with other requests made.

It has been suggested that F. F. A. members pay their dues from money made on their projects. I think this is a good suggestion and pass it on to you. If we do this I am sure we will have much more pride in our organization and our dues will be submitted more promptly.

ALBERT ELLISON,
State Treasurer.

SUGGESTIONS FROM STATE REPORTER

As reporter of the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America, one of my responsibilities is the publication of the news letter. In order that I may discharge this responsibility in a satisfactory manner, I must have the cooperation of every local chapter reporter and state officer of the Association.

One of the objectives of the state annual program of work for 1932-33 reads as follows: "Each chapter reporter to report chapter activities to paper weekly and to send articles to state reporter once a month." I should like for each chapter reporter to get his reports to me by the tenth of each month.

If we want our organization to grow we must cooperate in every respect. May I urge that every chapter reporter cooperate with me by sending his reports of the chapter as soon as possible each month.

The Future Farmer organization in Alabama is to be congratulated upon the record it made in reaching

the objectives set up in the annual program for 1931-32. However, one of our weaknesses in carrying out our program was in the objective relating to publicity. Only fifty per cent of the chapters reported regularly to the state reporter. This year I should like for us to far exceed our record of the past year. I am hoping that we may be one hundred per cent in this respect.

At the annual meeting next summer there will be special recognition given to the chapter which it is agreed has done the best possible job in publicity during the year. Don't forget your reports are due on or before the tenth of each month. It is my purpose to keep a record by chapters of all reports received on the matter of publicity, and the Executive Committee will give consideration to this material and announce the results at the annual meeting.—Perry Clay, State Reporter, Gadsden, Alabama, Rt. 2.

F. F. A. LIBRARY

By P. C. Brook

One of the long-time objectives of every F. F. A. chapter in the State should be an adequately stocked library and one that is used by the chapter members. This objective should be continued from year to year in the annual chapter program and at least a few good books should be added each year. Another objective should be to encourage chapter members to form the habit of reading.

The habit of reading is one that should be formed by every F. F. A. member. It will be possible for you to meet the great men of the world in books and to mix and mingle with the most interesting people that live and have lived. It will be possible in an hour's time to journey to the four ends of the earth and see the wonders of nature and in the next hour to mingle with the sparkling crowds in European capitols.

Fickle Fortune smiles upon but few of us to the extent that through the means of wealth, or happy coincidence, we may be able to acquire our knowledge of the Wonder World about us through personal contacts and first-hand experiences. The vast majority of us must acquire our knowledge through reading of the experiences of others in the printed pages of books. Through the formation of the habit of purposeful reading, we may be able to bring the peoples and

customs of the far flung corners of the world into our own modest homes and every-day lives.

Below is a list of books recommended for a library for F. F. A. chapters.

The Green Hand—By Paul W. Chapman, Price \$1.50.

Moon Valley—By John F. Case, Price \$1.50.

Tour of Peace Valley—By John F. Case, Price \$1.75*.

Hidden Treasure—By John Thomas Simpson, Price \$1.75.

Drifting Cowboy—By Will James, Price \$1.75*.

Cow Country—By Will James, Price \$1.75*.

Smokey—By Will James, Price \$1.00.

Log of a Cowboy—By Andy Adams, Price \$2.00*.

Skyard—By Commander Bird, Price \$1.00.

Five Rabbits at Bonny Acres—By Walter A. Dyer, Price \$1.75.

*Books will be billed at 10 per cent off the price quoted postpaid.

Note: The above books may be purchased from B. B. Clark, P. O. Box 1532, Birmingham, Ala.

A MESSAGE TO F. F. A. CHAPTERS

By Earnest Thornhill, State President

As president of the Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America, it is my sincere desire to see that this year be made the best year in F. F. A. work. After noting the marked progress made each year since the organization of the Association, I consider it a great responsibility in continuing this progress. We are proud of an organization that grows and increases in usefulness and efficiency. With over two thousand active members working in one hundred and thirteen local chapters headed by an executive committee which is willing and anxious to carry out its responsibilities, I see no reason why we should not make this year a year that will be remembered by each member in the State for years to come. Each member should feel equally responsible for the success of the organization. Let us not be half-hearted because anything that is worth our time and ef-

fort is worthy of our very best efforts.

During the first few years of F. F. A. work in Alabama it has been necessary for officers to depend largely upon advisers for help in carrying out their duties. I do not mean that local advisers should not help in carrying out local chapter activities. I do say, though, that we should be getting into the work better now and should be able to take a greater responsibility than we could before we knew the working of the organization.

We might be inspired to strive a little harder if we would stop and think of the fact that the agricultural leaders of tomorrow are being trained in F. F. A. chapters. Let us stop and ask ourselves the question, "Are we getting our share of the training?" We are getting just as much as we are contributing. Let us think of this fact and be conscious of the opportunities that we have while we have a wonderful chance to make use of them. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every F. F. A. member in Alabama could just realize the value of his time and the opportunity that he has of making good use of it.

We have an opportunity of forming good habits. Though it may be a little hard at first to break away from the old ones, just think what it would mean to us if we would develop good health habits, habits of intelligent and concentrative study, and habits of sportsmanship, courtesy, and friendliness. Are we willing to put forth the earnest effort that it takes to do the job well or are we going to waste our time? Each person has the opportunity of choosing for himself. Now the most important question is which will you take?

Let us not forget two of the main objectives of our Association: First, training and leadership; and second, improved conditions in agriculture and country life. The local F. F. A. chapters and the State Association furnish the best mediums through which these worthy objectives may be realized. There is much work to be done along these lines and I am hoping that each chapter in the State, as well as the State Association itself, may use its best efforts in making the year 1932-33 the most outstanding year in the history of Future Farmer activities in improving agriculture and rural leadership among farm boys.