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A monthly publication by the Alabama Association  
of Future Farmers of America.

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By and for farm boys

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Executive Committee  
1934-35

President -----	Ernie Lee Robinson, Route 1, Randolph, Alabama
Vice-President -----	Ennis Young, Mount Hope, Alabama
Secretary -----	J. P. Dodd, Walnut Grove, Alabama
Treasurer -----	Seals Menefee, Grady, Alabama
Reporter -----	Sammie Pate, Shelby, Alabama
Adviser -----	R. E. Cammack, Montgomery, Alabama
Assistant Adviser -----	P. C. Brook, Auburn, Alabama

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

At this season of the year, F. F. A. work in Alabama should be well under way. If your chapter has functioned properly, all state and national dues should already have been paid and many of your chapter objectives reached.

If your chapter has not paid the state and national dues, this should be attended to at once, as November 1 was set as the date when dues should be in.

All F. F. A. members who attended the convention at Auburn last summer will recall that one of our major objectives for the year was the organization of chapter orchestras, and learning to sing well at least two F. F. A. songs. The job of working up a state band has been delegated to me. I want every chapter to practice our songs and where possible have members organize orchestras. At a later date I shall ask for a report from each chapter on its musical activities.

Let me again urge that you lend every effort possible to make this the best F. F. A. year in the history of the organization. Pay your dues, learn to sing at least two songs, organize a chapter orchestra, have members who are capable of learning to play band instruments take lessons with the idea of playing in our F. F. A. band. We can have a band if we want it hard enough. You will hear from me later on this subject.

May the year 1935 bring with it the desire, on the part of every F. F. A. member, to have an Alabama State F. F. A. band.

----- Seals Menefee  
State Treasurer.

SOME HIGH LIGHTS ON THE SEVENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF  
F. F. A., October 20-26, 1934

I. GENERAL

ATTENDANCE. Nearly 4,000 students of vocational agriculture were registered at the American Royal Grounds and the Hotel Baltimore, headquarters. Forty-seven states and the Territory of Hawaii were represented. The attendance was the largest on record.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS. The Board of Trustees was in session on October 19, 20, 21, and 22. The National Advisory Council and the State Advisers met on October 21.

OFFICIAL BAND. The official State F. F. A. band this year, consisting of seventy-two pieces, came from Utah. The boys made a wonderful showing. Their concert at the Public Speaking Contest and leading the arena parade were excellent, as were all other appearances. The band was in charge of L. R. Humphreys, State Supervisor, and was directed by Mr. N. W. Christensen. The members were recruited from twenty-seven different centers in the state; every boy was a bona fide F. F. A. member having at least 2 years of vocational agriculture to his credit. There were soloists, duets, trios, quartettes, sextettes, and a glee club included in this band.

DELEGATES. There were eighty-seven official delegates present. This was a record.

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1934-35

President	- Andrew Sundstrom, Beresford, South Dakota
V. Pres.	- L. Arrington, Twin Falls, Idaho
V. Pres.	- C. A. Duplantis, Houma, Louisiana
V. Pres.	- John Reisz, Owensboro, Kentucky
V. Pres.	- George Meyers, Greencastle, Pennsylvania
Secretary	- "Jack" Waller, Plant City, Florida

BUFFET SUPPER. About 1,800 vocational agricultural students, most of whom were F. F. A. members, attended this event on October 23----- a record.

ARENA PARADE. About 2,500 participated in the parade, in the arena at the American Royal Grounds, following the buffet supper-----also a record.

BANQUET. There were 665 in attendance at the big banquet on the evening of October 24. The Midway Chapter of the Idaho Association furnished the potatoes and the Washington Association of the F. F. A. furnished apples which were much appreciated by all present. Thanks are due these two Associations and congratulations on their spirit.

CHAPTER CONTEST. Results as follows:

First--- Toyack Chapter, Roosevelt, Utah  
 Second-- Sweet Springs Chapter, Sweet Springs, Missouri  
 Third--- Waterville Chapter, Waterville, New York  
 Fourth-- Calico Rock Chapter, Calico Rock, Arkansas  
 Runners Up: N. A. Region--Presque Isle, Maine and  
 Gouverneur, New York; Southern--Gold Sand, North  
 Carolina and RAMER, ALABAMA; N. Central -- Marshall,  
 Missouri and Ottawa, Kansas; Western--Boise, Idaho,  
 and Chehalis, Washington.

BEST ASSOCIATION AWARD. This honor went to the Hawaii Association of F. F. A. Honorable mention went to: Louisiana, Montana, Arkansas, Tennessee, California, Ohio, Georgia, New Jersey and Virginia.

II. SOME ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE DELEGATES:

LAMB TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. By unanimous action the prize vocational agriculture lamb (under 90#) at the American Royal, produced by Harry Crandall, Jr., of Cass City, Michigan, was purchased for \$19.34, dressed by Wilson and Company, and sent to President Roosevelt with the compliments of the F. F. A. organization.

CERTIFICATES TO AMERICAN FARMERS. It was decided that all American Farmers, past, present and future, should receive certificates from the national organization.

REPRESENTATION AT NATIONAL FARM ORGANIZATION MEETINGS. The F. F. A. will have representatives present this year at the National Grange and National Farm Bureau Meetings.

UNIFORMS. The new blue corduroy jacket and swagger cap presented at the convention was adopted as official---military cap optional. The contract was awarded to the Universal Uniform Company of Van Wert, Ohio.

STATE REPORTS. All state reports, if given in the future at the national convention, are to be confined strictly to three minutes and will deal with the most outstanding events only.

NATIONAL PUBLICATION. No action to be taken until the organization sees its way clear to handling the proposition efficiently and putting out a first class publication.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP. It was the consensus of opinion of the delegates that the three-year period should be interpreted to mean three years after either leaving school or graduating from high school.

DELEGATE EXPENSE. The same plan was endorsed for paying delegates' way to the 1935 National Convention as was used for the 1934 convention.

HAND BOOK. The delegates were in favor of continuing this proposal of last year and putting out an F. F. A. Recreational and Social Hand Book in addition to the Manual.

FELT GOODS. The contract for this merchandise went to The Staunton Novelty Company of Staunton, Virginia.

EMBLEM. The delegates voted unanimously to have the complete emblem (with the eagle at the top) used in all instances as the official emblem of the organization. It was the sense of the meeting that this in no way detracted from the degree key of the American Farmer since it was the key that distinguished the individual as an American Farmer rather than the Eagle surmounting the cross section of an ear of corn.

JEWELRY CONTRACT. This contract was renewed with the L. G. Balfour Company. Prices to be adjusted. For the past year the national organization has been "absorbing the shock" due to increased cost of gold in order to hold prices at the same level.

METAL MARKERS. Permission was given the St. Louis Button Company to continue to manufacture these markers but it was suggested that the colors be made more resistant to the weather.

ADDITIONAL DEGREE. The proposition of having a "5th Degree" set up in the organization was voted down, and all qualifications for the four degrees remain the same at present.

THREE DAY CONVENTION IN 1935. It was decided that the 1935 convention should be three days in length but that consideration should be given to setting the convention on Monday; Tuesday and Wednesday of the week rather than Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING. An exhibition contest of this type will be staged at the 1935 convention. It will not affect the present public speaking contest in any way, however.

DUES. THE NATIONAL DUES FOR 1934-35 REMAIN AT TEN CENTS PER YEAR, BUT FOR 1935-36 THE NATIONAL DUES WILL BE FIFTEEN CENTS PER MEMBER PER YEAR.

CONTESTS AND AWARDS TO BE CONTINUED. The State Association Award, Chapter Contest, Star Farmer Award and Public Speaking Contest will all be continued in 1934-35.

RADIO PROGRAM. The national radio program will be continued on a basis similar to the past year.

ORGANIZATION FOR F. F. A. ALUMNI. It was the opinion of both delegates and advisers that such organizations, where needed, should be encouraged, but on a chapter and state-wide basis only. It was the general feeling that we should keep both member and public attention centered on the work of the present F. F. A. organization.

CONSTITUTION. No changes made but several suggestions concerning the emblem and degree insignia were made. All suggestions were turned to the Board of Trustees for study and recommendations at the next National Convention.

PROGRAM OF WORK. Sixteen items were set up in the national program of work for 1934-35 and the complete program was sent out as F. F. A. SERVICE LETTER NO. 79, under date of November 6, 1934.

ANNUAL REPORT FORM. The annual report form for the year ending June 30, 1934, will be very similar to that of last year with new national program of work items included.

PROCEEDINGS OF SEVENTH NATIONAL CONVENTION. There will be a new division entitled "Joint Activities with the Ninth Annual Congress of Vocational Agriculture Students" included in this publication.

PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST RULES. The rules will be liberalized, under the heading of eligibility, making it possible for departments having two-year vocational courses to get boys into the State Public Speaking Contest. Age limit is set at twenty-one years, and contestant must be enrolled in or have taken all the vocational agriculture offered in the school.

AMERICAN FARMER SCORE CARD. To be re-evaluated, giving more weight to investments in farming and to specify savings to be earned by the candidate.

CHAPTER CONTEST. The 1935 Chapter Contest rules will be about the same as last year, but programs of work (entries) will probably be called for by February 1.

#### ALABAMA'S AMERICAN FARMER

EDD CHRISTIAN of Fernbank, Alabama-- Eighteen years of age, he has had three years of vocational agriculture, receiving his State Farmer degree in July, 1933 and graduating May, 1934. At the time of making application Edd's record shows he owned 1 dairy cow, 1 heifer, 1 bull, and a partnership interest in 4 mules, 3 cows, 1 heifer, 1 bull, 1 bred sow, 1 shoat, and a flock of White

Leghorn chickens. He holds a  $\frac{1}{3}$  partnership interest in 154 acres of land used for crops and pasture. A 3 year supervised farming program in connection with his vocational agriculture course yielded him a labor income of about \$220.00. His investment in farming is over \$2,000.00. Edd plans to enter Mississippi State College for a course in Agricultural Education and Business, carrying on his farming work while in school. He has made many worthwhile improvements in the home farm in addition to his project work, including new farm buildings, light plant in home, soil improvement, and landscaping. His record shows evidence of farming ability and cooperation. His leadership ability is evidenced by his active participation in F. F. A., school, and church affairs. His scholarship record shows him to rank 2nd in a class of 15 students.

#### GEORGIA AMERICAN FARMER

DEAZ FLOYD of Bowman, Georgia-- Twenty-four years of age, he graduated from high school in May 1933, and received his State Farmer degree in October of that year. His record shows him to be the owner of 30 acres of farm land, purchased on a payment basis, together with 2 milk cows and 2 beef cows. The candidate also rents 13 acres of land for cotton and feed crops. Deaz expects to complete the payments on his land as soon as possible and will continue to be a farmer. A 5 year supervised farm program included the enterprises of cotton, corn, dairy, and feed crops, and yielded him a total labor income of nearly \$700.00. There is good evidence of satisfactory farm management experience and cooperation. He bought and distributed several thousand fruit and nut trees in the Bowman school district as well as several hundred gallons of spray material, and he has been active in the Live-at-Home program of the community. His investment in farming is \$1400.00 with a payment due on his farm of \$800.00. The candidate's record indicates that he is a leader in his community and a cooperator of the first rank, having purchased hogs, seed cotton, and seed corn on a cooperative basis, along with numerous other similar activities. The candidate has also had experience in judging dairy cattle and in public speaking. His scholarship rank is 5th in a class of 25 and he won second place last year in the Star Georgia Planters' Contest. It is evident that Deaz has given freely of his time to the improvement of the home farm and the community in which he lives.

#### TENNESSEE AMERICAN FARMER

CARL BAIRD of Brush Creek, Tennessee---Twenty-one years of age, he received his State Farmer degree in April, 1933, but graduated from high school in May, 1932. Carl was the Star Farmer of Tennessee in 1934. At the time of making application, the candidate owned 10 head of sheep, 11 head of hogs and 50 chickens. He held a  $\frac{1}{2}$  partnership interest in 220 acres of land, which he inherited, and the same interest in 2 mules, 10 sheep and 5 calves, obtained by work and trading. Carl has planned to continue farming on the home farm, working out a suitable program for increasing the scope of the business in line with conditions and needs. In his 4 year supervised farming program, developed in connection with his vocational agriculture course, Carl obtained a total labor income of over \$900.00; the enterprises included were corn, tomatoes, sheep, beef, hogs and poultry. The investment in farming is reported at \$265.00, with other assets totaling \$863.00. Carl is active in his community, especially in church work and adult evening schools. He has won \$240.00 in prizes and awards on farm products exhibited at fairs. In scholarship he stood 4th out of a class of 20. Evidence of ability to cooperate is shown in the fact that this young man sells his wool and lambs through county organizations, is a member of the Farm Bureau, and was active in the Community Fair. His leadership record shows a variety of participation.

## RARER ELEMENTS CONTEST

Would it not be wise to acquaint yourself with the regulations of this contest, then have it on a chapter meeting program for discussion by some good boy? The opening date for entries is December 1, and names of the entrants should be sent to Mr. M. H. Pearson, Montgomery, Alabama, before the closing for Christmas holidays. All students of vocational agriculture are eligible, and they can learn much from the study of last year's State winners, and from the materials sent out by the Chilean Nitrate Company. Be specific in explanations of the contest as to length, form, opening and closing dates, how judged, and prizes. We hope each school will have several entrants. Last year one of the schools had nineteen. Be sure every essay written is mailed to Mr. Pearson by March 1, 1935.

## 1934 DEMONSTRATIONS

It is now time to send in records on 1934 demonstrations. These go to Mr. M. H. Pearson, Montgomery, Alabama.

## GOODWATER CHAPTER.

The father-son-mother-daughter banquet, sponsored by the F. F. A. club and the home economics girls, was held Friday night, November 9 in the high school auditorium. The program presented at this banquet was as follows:

- Introduction to Toastmaster - Moody Ray, President of F. F. A.
- Reading - Miss Dixie Patten, Expression Teacher.
- Kitchen Band Music - Home Economics Club.
- Reading - Katherine Macon.
- Clogging - Physical Education Girls.
- Wedding of Homer Economics and Aggie Culture - Home Economics Girls and Agriculture Boys.
- What Vocational Agriculture Means to Me as a Farm Boy - Edgar Lesslie.
- What Vocational Home Economics Is and What It Means to Me - Bernice Harris.
- What Vocational Work Means to the School - Mr. O. T. Smith, Principal.
- What Vocational Work Means to the County - Mr. J. G. Pinson, County Superintendent.
- Value of Bankhead Act and Unjust Criticism of Same - Mr. C. H. Beddingfield, County Agent of Lee County, Opelika, Alabama.
- Relation of Vocational Work to the Extension Service - Mr. E. N. Merriwether, County Agent.
- What the Letters F. F. A. Mean to Me - Jay Gilliland, Active Member.

Ralph Conoway, past president of the local F. F. A. served as toastmaster on this occasion. A plate having barbecue pork as its main constituent was served at this affair. Over 200 parents and vocational members were present. Every one seemed to have a good time and it was voted by all present to make this an annual affair.

At the weekly meeting on November 13 it was decided that the next major undertaking would be the promotion of a home orchard campaign, by which it is hoped that a number of good home orchards will be started.

No spot of equal size on the farm will yield more profit than that planted to a good home orchard. Don't forget to make preparations now for

spraying and pruning your fruit trees this fall or winter. Information can be obtained on how to do these jobs from members of this chapter or our vocational teacher. Recommended varieties of the common home orchard fruits will appear in this column at a later date. --Jay Gilliland, Reporter

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F. F. A. AND F. H. A. OF CURRY HOLD THEIR ANNUAL  
FATHER-SON AND MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

The F. H. A. and the F. F. A. of the Curry High School held their annual father-son and mother-daughter banquet at the Curry High School on Friday, November 9.

Alvin Burrow, President of the F. F. A., acted as toastmaster. The following program was presented:

Welcome address - Alvin Burrow.  
 Harmonica solo - Kelly Herring, Jr.  
 Accomplishments of F. F. A. and objectives for 1934 - Leo Kidd.  
 Objectives of F. F. A. - Elaine Lay.  
 Song - Terrell Struender, Clayton McCullor, Lula Black, Julia Norris.  
 The program of work for vocational agriculture department - Leonard Hesterly.  
 The joint program of work - Verda Burrow.  
 The place of Vocational Education in the school and community -  
 E. B. Shotts, Principal Curry High School.  
 The Value of Education - A. S. Scott, Superintendent of Education.

In addition to the above program, we had the following visitors from Jasper: Miss Annie Louise Pruett, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Posey, Mr. Prowl, Mr. John Kilgore, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Orr, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson, Mr. W. W. Gunter, Mr. Richard Cain.

About 125 people in all attended this banquet.

This is one of the objectives for the year of 1934-35 that we carried out quite successfully with the F. H. A. girls.

-- Kelly Heminy, Jr.

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MEMBERSHIP IN STATE ASSOCIATION

To date 106 of the 117 chapters in the State have submitted state and national dues, membership lists, and programs of work, the total membership in these chapters being 2334. The eleven chapters that have not submitted this material are as follows:

Scottsboro	Lyeffion
Camp Hill	Magnolia
Dozier	Midland City
Excel	Phil Campbell
Glencoe	Winfield
Gordo	

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CHAPTERS THAT HAVE SUBMITTED STATE AND NATIONAL  
DUES SINCE LAST NEWS LETTER WAS ISSUED

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Members</u>
Jackson	25	Daviston	11
Lineville	30	Eva	18
Sylacauga	20	Fairview	26
Centerville	22	Palkville	11
Ashland	15	Geraldine	20
Leighton	31	Goodwater	19
Ozark	26	New Hope (Madison)	22
Headland	16	Pisgah	11
Columbia	14	Straughn	19
Notasulga	20	Sulligent	30
Guin	18	Vincent	25
Ramer	28	Weogufka	31
Camden	36		