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ALABAMA FUTURE FARMER

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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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\* Volume III February 1934 No. 6 \*

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Executive Committee  
1933-34

President -----	Austin Ezzell, Spruce Pine, Alabama
Vice-President -----	Perry Clay, Glencoe, Alabama
Secretary -----	Edd Christian, Fernbank, Alabama
Treasurer -----	Willard Brown, Rt. 2, Box 75, McKenzie
Reporter -----	Clifford Manning, Maplesville, Ala.
Adviser -----	R. E. Cammack, Montgomery, Alabama

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A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE REPORTER

Future Farmers, do you realize that we are the ones who will carry on the farming industry of tomorrow? Farming conditions are changing every day. We are not raising only one or two kinds of field crops, and livestock, but are changing to a number of them to balance the farm program.

AS you know, agriculture is the primary basis of wealth, and will continue to be in the future. Without agriculture the world would be entirely lost. Some would go back to the hunting and fishing age; others would starve to death. Rural leadership is the outstanding need of the hour, and will be in the future. Members of the F. F. A. are the ones who will be agricultural leaders of tomorrow. They will not only be leaders, but will help to solve farm problems that will come before them, such as overproduction or underproduction of farm products so as to balance the market of each one. Each day a new "live-at-home" and "money saving plan" is needed for the farmer to compete with the other industries of this competing age.

There is no better organization for farm boys than the F.F.A. What is better for training to speak before the public than the F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest which is in full swing now in the Alabama organization? News articles are of great importance to progressive farming. There is also the F.F.A. Essay Contest that is being sponsored now in the Alabama organization, and a number of other things the state officers are trying to get F.F.A. members interested in, but space will not permit me to name them.

The F.F.A. is a nation-wide organization of boys taking vocational agriculture and the boys who are not members do not realize what a great opportunity they are missing, although our aim is not to unduly influence one to become a member of the F.F.A., but for him to see for himself what the great organization stands for.

-- Clifford Manning, State  
Reporter

APRIL 1 AS THE DEADLINE

April 1 is the date on which all dues, programs of work, and membership lists are to be sent in. Chapters that have not qualified this year will lose their charters if they do not qualify by April 1.

Chapters that have not yet qualified should take warning, because the State organization is getting stronger each year, and no chapter is allowed to linger.

-- Executive Committee

F.F.A. FATHER AND SON ENTERTAINMENT  
AT BELGREEN

Thursday night, November 30, a group of about 60 people gathered at the Belgreen schoolhouse, bringing with them some game they had killed that day. The meat was prepared and put on to cook as soon as it seemed possible. Then the F.F.A. Chapter went through the opening ceremony.

Messrs. Cochran, Bonnell and the Sandlin brothers entertained the assemblage for a few minutes with splendid music. Mr. Cochran playing the violin, Mr. Bonnell the guitar, and the Sandlin brothers the harmonicas.

Mr. Wood made an interesting talk on the aim and objects of the work of the F. F. A. Austin Ezzell told about the trip to Kansas City. Talks were made by Mr. L. T. Sandlin, Dr. Flippo, and Mr. John Ezzell.

We are sorry that our Russellville friends were not able to be with us.

Our president, Austin Ezzell, had the honor of going to Rogersville for the purpose of bestowing upon Mr. Carmichael the degree of an honorary member.

We hope all who were present had enough to eat, but if they didn't we do not feel to be at fault, for we had a pan full of meat left.

Mr. Cochran and Mr. Bonnell played "The Mocking Bird" and "Leather Britches" to close the program. ---Jack Bragwell, Reporter.

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THINGS THE WALNUT GROVE CHAPTER OF F. F. A.  
HAS DONE TO FEBRUARY 10, 1934

By Lucien Miller, Reporter

The chapter has given two chapel programs. One of our programs was regarding the 1934-35 cotton acreage reduction program which we think was interesting and beneficial to the school and community. Our chapter also had a leading part on a P. T. A. program in which we explained and urged cooperation in the 1934-35 cotton acreage reduction program.

We are now working on a rat eradication campaign which we think will be carried through successfully.

We have kept all important matters posted on our bulletin board in the Post Office.

Our chapter has given a play, "The Dutch Detective," for the benefit of the chapter and school. The receipts for this play were \$28.00.

Our chapter gave a mock trial, "A Trial of the Soil Robber," at Mr. Harbor's evening school which he was teaching on "Soil Improvement." I think all the farmers enjoyed and received much benefit from it.

We had laid our plans for a terracing demonstration a few weeks ago, but had to put it off on account of rain. We are planning to give it as soon as possible.

We gave a pruning demonstration at Altoona February 7, at which three F. F. A. boys discussed and showed the farmers how to prune apple trees, young peach trees, and old peach trees. We believe this was very beneficial to the farmers present. We were asked to give another demonstration of the same kind a few days later for the benefit of the farmers who were not present at the one we held.

There are several members who have oototan bean seed, which they grew last year, to bring back to the chapter. Each member is going to take some of these seed and plant them in his project for this year. Each

one will bring back one-half of the seed he produces to the chapter to keep seed production going among the members, and what we don't use in our projects, we will sell to the farmers of the community.

Our chapter broadcast the following program over the broadcasting station of WJBY in Gadsden December 20, 1933:

- "Hail the F. F. A." - A piano solo by J. Francis Silvey.
- "Future Farmer Song." - A piano and guitar selection by J. Francis Silvey and Ned Mayo.
- "Report of Accomplishments and Program of Work." - By J. P. Dodd, president of chapter.

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#### OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON THE ISABELLA CHAPTER'S PROGRAM OF WORK

Our annual father-son-mother-daughter banquet was held in November with all members, a number of special visitors, and most of the parents present. A well planned program was rendered, which furnished a full evening's enjoyment.

Since we sent in our membership list, a number of boys have taken the Green Hand degree to become members, some have taken the degree of Future Farmer, and we hope that we will have some to apply for the State Farmer degree this summer.

We have started on our F. F. A. library and exhibit board. All officers and some members own F. F. A. Manuals.

All the members are taking home beautification projects, and some other kind of agricultural project, and keeping records on same. Our F. F. A. nursery has been started about a year. During that time we have put shrubs around one of the churches, some around the school, and some around a number of homes.

One of the members has been assigned the job as chairman of the rat killing campaign.

We have had about four joint meetings with the Home Economics Club to plan for banquets, etc. We have put on one successful chapel program, and have had two social entertainments which were enjoyed by those who attended.

We have changed the feed room into a dressing room and have built a concrete foundation for a shower for the athletic department of the school.

The majority of the boys have paid chapter dues, and we have procured necessary equipment for conducting chapter meetings. We have had a meeting every week since school started and conducted them as recommended in the F. F. A. Manual.

Our chapter is now working on a radio program to be broadcast over some station in the near future.

Three boys have entered the Public Speaking Contest, and some are going to enter the Essay Contest.

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#### IMPORTANCE OF RAISING GREEN HANDS TO FUTURE FARMERS, AND FUTURE FARMERS TO STATE FARMERS

Each year the degrees in the F. F. A. are harder to make. So it is important that as soon as the Green Hand members are eligible they be raised to the degree of State Farmer. According to the Constitution, only

Future Farmers can hold office in the local chapters, and State Farmers office in the State Association. We are looking forward to a number of applications for State Farmer degree this year. Application blanks will be mailed to each chapter which they will fill out and submit on the qualifications of any Future Farmer members who desire to make application for the State Farmer degree. It is therefore imperative that if there are those in the local chapter who are now Green Hands and are eligible to become Future Farmers, they be raised to this degree at once in order that they may be in position to make application for the State Farmer degree when application blanks are received.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE - Read the entire Service Letter given below and after listening to the program, comply with the often-made request of writing cards to Mr. Frank E. Mullen, National Broadcasting Company, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, giving reactions to the program and telling how many heard the broadcast.

F. F. A. SERVICE LETTER No. 60

Subject: NATIONAL F.F.A. RADIO PROGRAM FOR MARCH 12, 1934.  
THEME - "DEVELOPING AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP."

The following radio program will be presented by the Future Farmers of America during the F.B.C. Farm and Home Hour on March 12 (12:30 to 1:30 p.m., E.S.T.; 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., C.S.T.; 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., M.S.T.):

- I The F.F.A. March by the U. S. Army Band.
- II Talk by Dr. George F. Zook, Commissioner of Education, Office of Education.  
  
Dr. Zook will have a message of particular interest with respect to rural schools and undoubtedly will have a special message for the entire membership of the F.F.A. as representing a significant rural youth group.
- III F.F.A. Radio Bulletin Board by H. B. Swanson, National Executive Secretary
- IV Talk by the Honorable Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture for the United States.  
  
Secretary Wallace is particularly interested in the farm boy. His message should be heard by every Future Farmer in America.
- V Contests for 1934 by Dr. C. H. Lane, National Adviser.
- VI Music by the U. S. Army Band.

This broadcast features F.F.A. day. The Sixth Annual F.F.A. Convention made provision for F.F.A. day to feature Father and Son meetings sponsored by local chapters. This program is a fore-runner to Father-Son meetings scheduled for March 12. It would appear appropriate that arrangements be made for Father-Son meetings, that rural high schools generally be

F.F.A. SERVICE LETTER (CONT'D)

special interest in rural education be notified and that other groups holding luncheon meetings and interested in rural education likewise be invited to listen in.

Tune in and enjoy the program

Urge chapters to do the same and send postal cards to Frank E. Mullen, National Broadcasting Company, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, giving reactions to the program and telling how many heard the broadcast.

SPECIAL NOTICE

This is to inform you that the March 12 program will go over short wave as well as the regular broadcast channels. W3XAL, Bound Brook, N. J., broadcasting on wave length of 17780 KC, will carry this program on short wave in addition to the network of regular broadcast channels. The N.B.C. instructs that they do not want to give general publicity to the fact that the program is on short wave, but it will be all right for you to notify chapters.

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Following the program on February 12, forty-three letters, thirty-five cards, two telegrams, accounting for 1,382 listeners in twenty-three States have reached this office. This is an incomplete return. The January 8 program brought replies representing 586 listeners in fourteen States. Many valuable suggestions have been received, and it appears that the February 12 program brought forth a much larger response than did the January program. Mr. Frank E. Mullen has recently written this office "I am receiving a number of State publications, and I am exceedingly pleased with the way the boys are writing me. We have received several hundred cards and letters following your last program."

Bulletin Board

Have you heard the references made to your State in the Bulletin Board? In the January and February broadcasts the radio Bulletin Board carried items with reference to the work in New Jersey, New York, Ohio, West Virginia, Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Arkansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. In addition there was one item of regional interest to the Western States and five items of national interest. A total of forty-five items appeared on the Radio Bulletin Board during January and February.

REPORT OF STATE TREASURER

Since the last news letter was published, several chapters have met the requirements for affiliation with the State Association. This leaves the following chapters which have not yet affiliated this year:

Arab      Camp Hill      Dozier

Of the chapters which had their charters revoked last year, the following have met the requirements and are now fully affiliated with the State Association: Blountsville, Notasulga, Milltown, Reform, Beauregard, Corner, Geraldine, Goodwater, Midland City, Smiths Station.

This leaves ten of the twenty chapters whose charters were revoked which have not yet met the requirements for reinstatement. They are:

Cuba	Moulton	Berry	Citronelle	Falkville
Gordo	Gorgas	Lyeffion	Vincent	Winfield

The Executive Committee as well as the entire State Association desires to congratulate the ten chapters which had their charters revoked and have seen fit to meet the requirements for reinstatement. A fine spirit has been shown on the part of the boys in the chapters with revoked charters and it has been a pleasure for the Executive Committee to work with these chapters in any way they could in aiding them to reestablish their affiliation with the State Association. They, of course, stand ready to render any service possible to aid the other ten chapters which have not as yet been reinstated.

The Executive Committee is also happy to announce that to date there is a membership in the State Association of 1806. In many respects it is felt that better work has been done this year on the part of the Association as a whole than during any previous year. The Executive Committee is working for a minimum membership of 2,000. We feel confident that when dues have been submitted for members who have been initiated since November 1, we will have an active membership in the State Association of more than 2,000. You will recall that last year we had a membership of only 1375. It is gratifying to see the enrollment increase and I know you join the Executive Committee in feeling proud of this showing and that it will serve to spur you and your chapter on to greater activity in the interest of F. F. A.

--- State Treasurer

#### CONTESTS

There are being conducted in the State at this time two contests: the public speaking contest and the essay contest. I am happy to say that these contests have stimulated the organization a great deal and I feel that they are productive of much good.

The national contests in which the Alabama Association is eligible to participate are listed below.

- National Public Speaking Contest
- National Chapter Contest
- National Live Stock Judging Contest
- State Association Contest

I hope that it will be possible for the State Association to make creditable entries into some of these contests. If it is your desire to enter any of these contests, I suggest that you write to Austin Ezzell, President of the State Association, whose address is Spruce Pine, Alabama. He will be glad to furnish you with full information on any of the contests.

-- State Adviser.

## LEIGHTON CHAPTER INCREASES MEMBERSHIP

The Chapter at the Colbert County High School was organized in November 1929, with a charter membership of nine vocational students. These few members initiated five others during the first year, giving the Green Hand degree to each. Since its organization, the enrollment has increased each year, and will reach thirty this year. The following were elected to serve for this year: Hubert Inman, president; Aaron Lowery, vice-president; Wilson Burgess, secretary; Ollie Nichols, treasurer. Three new members, Willie Suggs, Walker Myhan and Thomas Palmer, were given the Green Hand degree. Honorary degrees were given to L. T. Kidd, truck-driver and Coach Sibley.

Honorary degrees were given last year to two other faculty members: Principal H. J. Holland and S. E. Sherrod. The membership is planning for an active year. Activities included in the program for 1933-34 are: establishing an F. F. A. library, protection of school property, sponsoring evening school work at Spring Valley, planning school ground beautification programs for four junior high schools in East Colbert and cooperating in furnishing shrubbery for each school.

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## IT COULDN'T BE DONE

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
 But he with a chuckle replied  
 That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one  
 Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
 So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
 On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
 He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
 That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;  
 At least no one ever has done it";  
 But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,  
 And the first thing we know he'd begun it.  
 With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,  
 Without any doubting or quiddit,  
 He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
 That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,  
 There are thousands to prophesy failure;  
 There are thousands to point out to you one by one,  
 The dangers that wait to assail you.  
 But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,  
 Just take off your coat and go to it;  
 Just start to sing as you tackle the thing  
 That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

--- Edgar A. Guest.