Patterson Family Is Progressive

When the Patterson family of Athens lost their home by fire last October 15, they were left with one washing machine and the clothes they wore.

But instead of moving into a house that Mrs. Patterson owned and was renting out, Mr. Patterson and his boys started the next day to saw logs for another house. On November 20, the Pattersons moved into their new five-room home.

In the meanwhile, the two acres of soybeans they had saved for seed were ready to be harvested; and, since their tractor and combine had lights, they decided to harvest the beans at night when they finished working on the house. Mr. Patterson says that farming is a job that lasts 365 days in the year and quite often you have to throw in a few nights, but he managed to harvest 25 bushels of clean soybean seed after dark.

The Pattersons believe in working together and there is an excellent relationship between the father and sons. Mr. Patterson plans with his boys the things that need to be done on the farm and they all do them together. Two of the boys, James and Harold, take vocational agriculture at Athens High School and are required to carry out projects on the farm. Mr. Patterson is very interested in their work on these projects because they mean money and valuable experience to his sons. Mr. Patterson's interest in their work makes the sons more interested in the farm.

Mr. Patterson was rather successful in 1940 with his vetch crop, and (Turn to page 5)
CHAPTER PROGRESS—FFA members over the State are taking an active part in the school and community problems. The pictures above tell something of their work: 1. Greenville boys are shown with the 275-pound calf which they slaughtered, dressed, cut up, and sold out over the town. The local slaughter house and cold storage plant were used for this work; 2. Senior II boys of the Fort Payne FFA are shown terracing a field. By means of the "Projecting Machine," the boys learn how the terrace should be constructed; 3. A pantomime was presented as a chapel program by members in the West Point High School, Cullman; 4. "Learning to do by doing" is illustrated by the picture of the Senior I vocational agriculture class at Ranburne. Members are shown here setting out kale; 5. Claude Thomas, a senior at the Goodwater High School, is shown with his home-made brooder which has been constructed in his chicken house. Since completion in 1940, Claude has brooded 110 pullets and 300 fryers; 6. Students of the farm management class of Samson, under the direction of C. E. Sherard, are shown here landscaping the school grounds; 7 and 8. "Before and after" is the story told by these pictures of the work of Lee County High School boys, Auburn, who are first shown at work on the ground back of the vocational building. No. 8 shows the results. In the clean-up and landscape project, grass, weeds and debris were replaced by shrubs, a hedge, walks, and serving tables.
Advice From An Adviser

By J. W. Locke, Adviser
Pell City FFA

As adviser of an FFA chapter, I am going to write some of my experiences, and give some conclusions I have arrived at over a period of years. Before you go further, I want it understood that I am not an authority on FFA, but just an average teacher of vocational agriculture trying to develop boys into men.

The degree of success an FFA chapter attains is due to the adviser and his procedure in securing the cooperation of FFA members. A wide-awake, efficiently functioning FFA group is a necessity wherever there is a department of vocational agriculture, and we might add that a department of vocational agriculture cannot fulfill its rightful place in a community without an efficiently functioning FFA to share part of the responsibility and to assist in pulling the load.

It has been said that the amount of work a man can do is limited, but the amount the same man can get done is unlimited. That is the value of a good FFA unit. An adviser, who does it all himself, gets just so many activities over; but an adviser who fulfills his rightful position in regard to his chapter can get any number of activities carried through to a successful conclusion. An adviser who runs the chapter affairs is robbing the members of something that rightfully belongs to them, training in leadership and the ability to run their own business by actually doing the job. An adviser can make or break the chapter, and we hear it said that whether the chapter has good officers or poor of­ficers to plan chapter operations, every member should own a manual. It gives him a certain dignity to be familiar with FFA procedure. (3) Separate FFA programs from regular classwork, as it will fast become another class to the members if this is not done. (6) Engage in lots of activities, and have it known by both the school and the community that the FFA boys are carrying on these activities. This is very important to the boys. (10) Balance recreation with other activities, so that your program will not be top-heavy either way. (11) Officers should learn the mechanics of opening and closing meetings without referring to a manual. (12) Every member should be given something to do, and everyone should be on a committee. Officers should insist on committee reports at chapter meetings. Hold committee meetings.

(13) Make use of publicity, news articles, pictures, scrap books, bulletin boards, the FFA library. Every boy likes to see his name in the paper and his picture in a scrap book. (14) Always see that due recognition is given a member for doing a job for the chapter, regardless of what it is. Responsibility develops a boy. (16) Insist that all members do something to promote the chapter. The adviser should find ways to insist that members study FFA work by question sheets, talks, contests, and quiz programs. (17) It gives a member self respect always to pay his own dues.

These items have proved very helpful in making the Pell City FFA a smooth-running, efficient chapter.

NOTICE TO TEACHERS

An announcement has been received from W. F. Stewart, business manager of the magazine "Agricultural Education," to the effect that several hundred copies of the booklet "Contributions of Leading Americans to Agriculture" are still available. The booklets may be secured from the Meredith Publishing Company at the regular price of 15 cents per copy or 10 cents in quantities of ten or more.

Agricultural teachers are urged to get copies of the publication for their professional libraries, and it is also suggested that the booklets would be helpful in Future Farmer libraries.

Long-Time Program Planned By Smith

In 1937 Randall Smith enrolled in the Vocational Agriculture Field Crops class of the Pell City High School, St. Clair County, and immediately began planning a long-time project program. He first built a kerosene lamp brooder and raised 59 broilers out of the 63 he started, at a profit of $9.40. One acre each of corn and cotton completed his supervised practice program for that year.

In 1938, Randall's program included 100 chicks, a pure bred gilt, two acres of corn, and one acre of cotton. He also made plans to carry through and increase the small amount of livestock, which he had at that time. So, in 1939, he grew out 275 baby chicks, and a litter of 13 pure bred pigs from his gilt. He also had two acres of corn and one of cotton again that year. He grew out the chicks for broilers, and started a laying flock of 80 hens.

Randall finished his vocational agriculture work in 1940, but he continues to have frequent conferences with the teacher of vocational agriculture, and often visits the

(Turn to page 4)
Cullman Boy Finds Pigs Profitable

Curtis Goodman, Cullman High School, finds three pigs profitable and sees greater possibilities on a larger scale.

Soon after school started last fall Curtis bought three pigs and started feeding them corn and tankage. In 39 days the three pigs had gained 237 pounds which was a gain of two pounds per day. This gain costs 4.6 cents per pound (corn at 1.4 cents per pound and tankage at 3.2 cents per pound), and he was able to sell the hogs at 7.9 cents per pound. He thinks this is a fair margin per pound and is sorry that his project was not larger.

Curtis is now considering buying a registered gilt and raising his own pigs so that his swine project can be larger.

Other projects of his supervised practice program include three acres of corn, five acres of cotton, and growing out poultry for laying hens next fall. This is the first year that he has had the opportunity to take vocational agriculture as he has been out of school for the past few years.

He will finish high school this year and is planning to start farming for himself next year.

Curtis has shown interest in shop work and has done some worthwhile jobs in shop. He has repaired farm tools, built a “new ground harrow,” which has attracted attention from everyone who has seen it, and also has built a lamp-type brooder for the poultry project.

He has done a number of supplementary farm practices. Some of the farm practices are pruning, spraying, and fertilizing the orchard, and inoculating and planting legumes.

Shrub Propagation Project Is Planned

The horticulture class of the Walnut Grove High School has taken as their project for the coming year the propagation of 15,000 shrub cuttings. The purpose is to provide shrubs for the new school building and for the vocational agriculture boys’ homes.

The project will require no capital, but considerable work will be involved in constructing the cutting bed and making the cuttings. Briefly, the rooting of the shrubbery will consist of pruning the old shrubs, making the cuttings, constructing the cutting bed, setting out the cuttings, and caring for them until they are rooted.

Duke Ayers

(From page 1)

followed by five acres of corn. Two acres of peanuts are to help feed the hogs and peanuts will take care of his hogs and chicken.

His project program includes a Home Ground Improvement, orchard improvement, and farm implement improvement.

Duke said, “I believe that I can do a good job of teaching my neighbors better farming practices through my long-time farm program.” He also stated that he is “learning by doing.”

Duke is an ardent FFA member and boosts his organization with all his might. His report card speaks highly of his school work, too.

Goodwater Begins Chicken Project

The Goodwater FFA boys and agriculture students are cooperating on a project to raise out 1,500 chicks in shop-made brooders for market and egg-producing purposes.

The boys have built ten brooders, three lamp type brooders with a capacity of 50 chicks each, and seven electric ones with a capacity of 125 chicks each. The electric brooders that have been built have been insulated with rock wool to prevent loss of heat, and are equipped with an automatic switch which keeps the temperature constant. They have been used in weather below freezing with satisfactory results. The average cost of construction is from $7.00 for an in-door brooder to $12.00 for the out-door type.

By building these inexpensive brooders and using a home grown ration there is a good profit in broiler and fryer production in this community, and chicks are going to be responsible for a higher per capita income on the farms raising them. The boys who are taking a leading part in fryer and broiler production are Leo Carlton, Melvin Hyde, John Swindle, Griffin Harris, Jr., Preston Nall, Robert A. Miller, and an FFA group project to be used for the FFA barbecue.

The FFA members own 500 laying hens which are well culled and selected.

Randall Smith

(From Page 3)

shop for work that he needs to do on his program. He and his brother operate a 60 acre farm, and they are gradually improving it. Randall has started terracing their farm, and is a firm believer in vetch and peas as soil improvers. He has started a small young orchard for home fruit production. Each year, he also raises a small acreage of turnip greens and lima beans for the local market.

His accomplishments in the farm shop include sharpening tools, repairing farm implements, building a poultry house, constructing lawn sets for home use, hog lot equipment, screening the house, and many other jobs to improve living conditions at home.
The Alabama Future Farmer

Pattersons

(From page 1)

harvested 7,800 pounds of clean vetch seed from 14 acres. His best yields came from five and a half acres of Monantha where he harvested 5,200 pounds of clean seed. On the eight and a half acres of Hairy and Williamette he harvested 2,300 pounds. The vetch seed grossed $637.00 or a net profit of $425.00 after all expenses were deducted. He realized a net profit of $30.00 per acre on his vetch.

Last fall Mr. Patterson and the boys sowed 60 acres of vetch from which they plan to save seed. They say that there is no way of losing seed, the vetch is not easily damaged and was not stored any later than September 15 to October 15. They contend that even if you fail with your seed you are still building your land which is equally important.

Another source of income was a small flock of sheep owned by James. The nine ewes dropped 14 lambs which grossed $126.00 or a net profit of $70.00. This year James and Harold have 12 ewes and 17 lambs which are running on Crimson Clover and oats and will be put on their permanent pasture about April 1. They will be ready for market about June 1.

Another project which the boys are carrying is to raise honey. The boys have 22 hives and are planning to get about 10 more. They have 10 hives of bees. In addition to eating from the garden they sell honey for $2.00 a pound.

"No farmer is too big or too small to have a garden," Mr. Patterson says and he has a good one. In addition to eating from the garden, the year round, over 500 quarts of vegetables were canned. Unfortunately all this was destroyed by the fire.

Mr. Patterson says that he is going to the livestock business some day but he has lots to do before he gets there. The land must be built up and more pasture must be sown. However he is not putting all his eggs in one basket because he has a diversified program of farming now. Five years ago he was struggling along with cotton alone.

The Pattersons are ready operating their farm on a "Live-at-Home" basis. Instead of saying "Farmers should raise all their food and feed stuffs," they do it.

Charmichael Has Novel Project

Thomas Carmichael, FFA member of the Pike County High School, Brundidge, Ala., ran into a little difficulty in his agricultural project. Thomas had two sows to farrow at the same time; also a large bull dog to have pups. The pigs were so mixed at birth that neither of the sows would own one of the pigs Thomas. The difference is probably due to the lack of care before the pig was given to its new mother. Thomas stated, "The pig was almost dead before giving it a new mother," and now the pig is growing and doing well.

Chapter News

Addison—Improved school grounds and erected new flag pole; ordered ten new manuals and a secretory's desk. Alex-—Built six lamp type brooders; started a project on improving the school grounds and put out cuttings in cutting bed and shrubs in nursery; played 5 basketball games and won second place in district tournament. Alexandria—Sponsored Daniel quartet concert; planned chapel program; held radio program over WJBY on "Pasture Building and Care of;" FFA band played at farmers' meeting.

Baker Hill—Chapter has been landscaping and gardening; made 2 complete farm wagons for about $15.00. Barbour County—Gave radio program. Bay Minette—Rebuilt lab, area fence, and included forestry plots in area; continued work at beautification. B. B. Comer—Landscape ag. building; pruned fruit trees for 3 farmers; played 2 basketball games. Beatrice—Put 5,000 cuttings in propagating bed; made a cattle survey for stock yards. Beaugard—Had handbook and calendar published; set 55 shrubs around home ec. and ag. departments; issued garden seed for FFA boys to sell; sponsored dance; constructed floor of iron shop; sold cold drinks, cakes, and peanuts at entertainments. Belgreen—Cooperated with FHA to put on a negro minstrel, the money to be used for the summer tour; starting a softball team.

Billingsley—Purchased 100 chicks to grow out for banquet; made cooperative order for 350 fruit trees and 500 pounds Lespedeza Sericea seed; pruned 300 trees; built lamp brooder; continued hog and calf projects.

Blountsville—Built hot bed; planted tomatoes; built slat-top cutting bed.

Blue Springs—Constructed brooders for sale; pruned and cultivated shrubbery on the campus; put new cuttings in propagating bed. Brundidge—Put on FFA-FHA play; made reasonable order for 700 baby chicks; put on chapel program; purchased pipe and piped water to hog pen; constructed many worthwhile jobs in wood and iron shop.

Camp Hill—Organized FFA basketball team and played varsity teams; terraced lab. area; planted garden plot; ordered and passed out Alabama Agriculture Handbooks to members. Carbon Hill—Joint social with FHA; received D. O. E. basket of corn from "Corn Day;" built tables for classroom; bought flag.

Carrollton—Compiled weather in Alabama.
Evergreen— Went on possum hunt with F H A ; bought chickens for barren made $10.00 selling fruit trees; demonstrated a m p type brooder on campus.

Fairview— Had party with F H A ; cows secured Leopolda seed. Falkville—Landscaped gym. and one home; donated 34 books to High School library; made 10 tables for grilling ; charged $35.00 on play; had district Dad's Night; won Jersey bull; treated cotton seed for larm. Exyelle—Constricted 14 ironing boards for sale; built FFA car trailer; constructed water pump for demonstrating purposes; put on musical and sold $2.00 for FFA. Five Points— Hauled cord of wood to school lunch room; made table for school lunch room; ordered and sold 2,000 baby chicks for projects and farmers; digging shrubbery to plant around community church.

Florence— Held a domino tournament; pruned shrubbery; terraced 60 acres of land for townpeople; furnished shrubbery to landscape high school building.

Florala— Sponsored FFA-FHA Hobo Day; pruned shrubs around buildings; held theater party; discussed future plans; and planted shrubbery on campus; built terrace drag; repaired president's mallet; sponsored chapel program; organized Picture Making Service; with pictures of all outstanding chapter activities being made; entered district basketball tournament. Fyffe— Put on radio program jointly with Crossville chapter; band gave program at a school in this territory.

Gaylesville— Had joint social with F H A ; sponsoring a course in carpentry in connection with the national organization; sold drinks and candy at tournament; operated school store. Geneva— Furnished shrubs for landscaping two county high schools; added material to scrapbook; landscaped and furnished shrubbery for 2 homes and one church; had charge of chapel program. Glencoe— Working on radio program. Goodwater— Purchased chicks for FFA barbecues; set cuttings in propagation bed and rearranged shrubbery in nursery; repaired farm machinery in shop; built electric and lamp type brooders; organized FFA quartet. Goshen— Levered campus and pruned shrubbery around school building; ordered 100 trees for use in community. Grand Bay— Made 10 lamp brooders in shop; brooding chicks for banquet; lined out 1,000 hardwood cuttings; put shrubs around National building; gave dance to raise money for banquet. Greensboro— Played 6 basketball games; grew out chicks; number of members have ordered shirts and jackets with the FFA emblem on them; sponsored Jamup and Honey from the "Grand Old Opry." Greenville— Entertained FFA and teachers with valentine party; played 3 basketball games; pruned 2 orchards; bought 2 bushels of potatoes to bed, the plants will be sold to ag. boys and local farmers.

Hackett— Landscaped 2 private homes and the high school building; got play books and assigned parts for negro minstrel. Haleyville— Elected new officers; visited other organizations at Addison and Meek to discuss farm problems. Hamilton— Selling subscriptions to Farm Journal; built 2 hot beds; landscaped 2 homes; assisted in basketball tournament. Hartselle— Had joint meeting with F H A ; sponsored meeting picture "The Green Hand" with attendance from 300-400 people. Hayden— Sponsored show of "The Green Hand," putting down cement walk in front of ag. building. Headland— Had FFA-FHA barbecue; pruned and sprayed peach trees for farmers; worked in lab. area; transplanted 300 plants in nursery. Heflin— Played 2 basketball games; selling candy at games; bought 30 chickens to be raised and used at banquet if necessary. Holly Pond— Made arrangements for FFA play. Hubertville— Built barbecue pit; put out kudzu on eroded land on campus.

Isabella— Continued pruning and spraying peach trees in community; pruned shrubbery on campus.

Jackson— Set out 700 cuttings in propagation bed.

Kennedy— Made preparations to buy and feed two cayuga turkeys. Completed repair work on 38 discarded plows; held joint meeting with F H A ; made 2 cotton seed cutters for use in community; purchased 6 new manuals; built new propagating bed; planted hot bed for early tomato and pepper plants; pruned and sprayed 6 peach orchards; made $20.00 selling drinks and peanuts at ball games; fertilized school ground; put up flag pole; put out 5,000 hardwood cuttings; pruned shrubbery for church and several FFA homes; purchased 226 peach trees for members and people in community; secured 240 chairs for members.

Lefay— Sponsored radio program; sold seeds; organized basketball team; built slat house for rooting shrubbery; set out and pruned shrubbery; ordered fruit trees. Liberty— Initiated 6 Future Farmers; constructed hot bed for growing...
plants for boys. Livingston - Sold drinks at basketball game; repaired some furniture in shop; ordered 150 different kinds of orchard trees; put 2 pigs to feed out for barbecue; purchased 9 cold frames. Poll City—Purchased 12 new manuals and extra secretary and treasurer's book; elected chaplain and watch dog for chapter; purchased electric owl; chapter now has 100 per cent equipment in chapter room; still working on scrap book; 4 boys brooding broilers. Phil Campbell—Held two meetings during month. Pleasant Home—Gave musical entertainment; had FFA-FHA banquet.

Ranburne—Planning sale of things made by the members to raise money for chapter. Rawls—Put out shrubs to beautify school, homes, and community. Red Bay—Bought 2 pigs from same litter and found that a pig could be fed a balanced ration at 5 cents per pound gained; while the pig fed on corn alone cost 9½ cents per pound gained; sent news articles to local papers; made $7.10 on boxing matinee. Red

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Level—Initiated four Green Hands; purchased another steer for chapter, and are now fattening 3 steers in FFA and school stock pen. Reeltown—Gave radio program jointly with FHA; sponsored cooperative fruit tree order selling 200 trees; fertilized and sodded part of campus; presented chapel program; secured production credit loan of $250.00 to finance poultry projects for members. Reform—Held annual F.-S.-M.-D. banquet with Rotarians as guests; screened doors of lunch room; made attachment for cutter bar of a mower, thus saving several hundred pounds of common hespedezia seed on the farm of one of the members; initiated 4 Future Farmers; ordered fruit trees. Rockford—Gave oyster supper; made $4.00 on seeds; showed picture “New South” to members; sold coca cola at ball games.

Samson—Landscaped school house and one church. Sardis— Held two meetings. Sulligent—Lined out 500 shrubs; held Father-Son banquet; gave 75 shrubs to 10 boys in horticulture class to landscape their homes; landscaped 3 homes and 1 school this month; doubled size of lab. area; bought 15 lb. kudzu seed for planting; butchered and marketed 2 FFA hogs. Sweet Water—Had one social; started practicing softball.

Thomasville—Each member made cutting bed; ordered 200 fruit trees and 4,000 black locust. Town Creek—Entertained district FFA and FHA at regular meeting. Tuscaloosa County High—Constructed 2 walks and extended another one; growing out 25 chicks for broilers; sponsored picture “Helping Henry” in school chapel.

Valley Head— Sponsored show “The Green Hand”; sold peanuts, popcorn, and candy at show and divided with FHA; cleaned off lab. area and distributed shrubbery among boys. Vina—Installed water fountain in school building; cleaned off playgrounds; wired off grass on campus; played one basketball game.

Ward—Planned, prepared, and planted a community hot bed to help have good spring gardens in our community; gave demonstration on building and maintaining terraces; gave square dance with FHA and each club cleared about $6.00; culled 5 flocks of leghorn hens in the community; remodeled lockers in the shop.

West Point—Made cotton seed treaters and are now fattening 3 steers to raise money for chapter; cleared $5.83 on popularity contest, and gave valentine party in honor of most popular girl; cleared $60.17 on auction of shop made articles; fertilized and strawed one acre of strawberries; 2 boys have capon projects planned; made FFA bulletin board. Wetumpka—Had joint meeting with FHA; sponsored musical concert; organized joint FFA-FHA three-acre strawberry project; won basketball tournament; purchased 180 peach trees; partially landscaped vocational and high school buildings; gave a panel discussion on strawberries.

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