President Writes Message to Members

We the Future Farmers of America realize that the battle that we are in today may be a long battle or a short one, but we must prepare for a long hard struggle. We must insure our freedom and peace forever. To do this we must encourage our farm friends to stay on the farm and warn them of the importance of winning the battle of production.

There are over six thousand FFA boys in the State of Alabama. We are going to do our part in the war effort by increasing food and feed supplies, buying war bonds and stamps, collecting scrap iron and rubber, and fighting when called on. This we will do willingly, and anything else that will help us to live in the future as we have lived in the past.

While we are doing these things let us not forget that our land must be taken care of, because after the war the farm will still be depended upon to keep us going. We must not let our land wash away or let our forests be destroyed without replacing every tree cut with another one.

I urge every FFA member to take advantage of the help being given us by the Alabama Tree Farms System and the State Chamber of Commerce. Each FFA member in Alabama is entitled to his share of the five hundred thousand (500,000) seedling pines made available by the Alabama Tree Farms System at a cost of only fifty cents per thousands and seedlings ordered. Let us make good use of this opportunity to improve our forestry program. This will insure our land against soil erosion, give us lumber to build, and wood to burn, besides furnishing an important source of income. These things are vital to us all.

We realize that this is a critical year, probably the most critical in our history. We are glad that we are an active organization and able to carry our part of the load. We are being called upon for many services that help in the war effort. I hope, and I believe, that every FFA member will do his best in helping his chapter and the State Association to make this a successful year.

Dan Easterling
President Ala. Association FFA
Clio, Ala.

Five Boys Become American Farmers

Five Alabama FFA boys who have made outstanding records in their preparation to become leading farmers of tomorrow have been cited for their accomplishments and approved for the American Farmer degree, highest honor offered in the national organization of Future Farmers of America.

Recommended by State vocational agriculture officials, the boys have received the approval of the FFA’s national board of trustees, and the degrees will be presented at the national convention in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 25.

The winning candidates for the coveted award are Bennet Bolton Grace, McKenzie; Frances Nicholas, Frisco City; James Payne, Ozark, A. F. Caley, Orville; and Charles Zinner, Robertsdale.

All the boys are holders of the State Farmer degree, and each met the requirement to have $500 or more cash on hand or productively invested in his supervised farming program. Their combined income from supervised farming for the required three years of vocational agriculture training has amounted to approximately $10,000, and their total assets, including stock, implements and land, are valued at more than $15,000.

Grace, who operates a 400 acre farm in partnership with his brother, leads the group in assets with $1,195 in livestock and poultry, and $2,407.50 in farm equipment. Graduated from high school in 1940 after four years of vocational agriculture, he is continuing the well-rounded economical program he started as a (Turn to Page 2)
Walter Poole Makes Money With Poultry

"Poultry projects in the Castleberry area can be made a profitable as well as an instructive enterprise," says young Walter Poole, Future Farmer in the Castleberry High School.

Walter made this statement after clearing $179.28 on his poultry project in vocational agriculture. Out of the 300 baby chicks, Walter now has 130 hens from which he has sold over 200 dozen eggs, and they are still in heavy production.

To start this project off, Walter constructed a modern brooder and reconditioned the old poultry house at a low cost for his laying hens, and set up plans to produce quite a bit of his feed for them at home.

When Walter sold his fryers, he was able to clear up all of his indebtedness, leaving his pullets and a sufficient amount of cash to feed them until they got into egg production. After valuing his hens at a reasonable price, and adding to that the amount of eggs he sold, he found that his profit from his poultry flock was $179.28.

Walter purchased 400 chicks for this year, and has gone about making arrangements to take care of them. If the 600 Future Farmers in Alabama follow Walter's example, they will go a long way in assisting Uncle Sam to accomplish the goal in egg production.

American Farmers

(From Page 1)

student. He twice served his FFA chapter as vice president, and held the post of secretary in the district. He was vice president of his freshman class and of his sophomore class, secretary of his senior class, and captain of the soft-ball team. He is now 22 years of age.

Francis Nicholas, last year's president of the Alabama FFA, was graduated from high school last spring ranking third in a class of 17 students. He held the posts of vice president and president of his chapter, secretary and vice president of the district FFA, and was a delegate to the last national convention.

James Payne, now a student at API, built his farm program around livestock production. He now owns livestock and poultry valued at more than $500. As an FFA member Payne served as president and vice president of his local chapter, as well as vice president of the district organization.

Also a college student at API, Caley operates a typical farm program in the Black Belt, which leans toward the production of livestock. His combined assets total approximately $1,500, including poultry, cattle, and horses valued at $660. During high school he was president of the local FFA, and president and vice president of the district.

Resident of the truck growing section of South Alabama, Zinner reaped profits totalling $1,118.33 from a small amount of land available for his projects during his three years of vocational agriculture. He still has assets amounting to $748.75 which includes livestock valued at more than $200. He is 18 years of age, finished high school last spring, and is now a student at API. He served two years each as chapter and district president of FFA.

Convention Delegates

Dan Easterling, State FFA president, Hilton Register, vice president, and Prof. S. L. Chesnutt, teacher trainer of vocational agriculture, will represent the Alabama Association of FFA at the National FFA convention in Kansas City, Mo., October 25-26-27-28.
**War Minded Cow Aids Production**

When they start handing out the medals for notable contributions to the war production program, surely there will be a gold star for Pansy the War Cow. This war-minded 7-year-old Jersey cow has increased the calf population with 11 calves in five births.

Beginning with one calf at the first birth, Pansy next increased her family with twins, then followed a set of triplets; next it was twins again, and the fifth birth recently brought another set of three calves. A total of 11 calves.

The proud owner of this wonder cow is John Nolte, student of vocational agriculture at Fairhope High School. Under the instruction of his teacher, L. H. Harris, John has planned a well-rounded home project program and is doing well with his project work. In addition to his cow and calves he has for his project work 1 1/4 acres of cucumbers, five acres of early corn, three acres of cotton, two gilts, seven pigs, and a purebred Duroc male pig.

John has closed his records on his cucumber project and finds he made a nice profit. His cucumbers were early and he got a good price for his crop; he sold the first hamper of cucumbers in Baldwin County this year.

John plans to complete his high school work this school year and then to stay with his farm work.

**Florida Wins In Tri-State Contest**

Douglas Oswald, president of the Marianna, Fla., Chapter of FFA, triumphed over opponents from Alabama and Georgia in the Future Farmers' annual tri-state public speaking contest held August 7.

Speaking in Langdon Hall before a large gathering of vocational agriculture students and teachers, the youthful orator won the right to enter regional competition with delivery of his address on "Food For Freedom."

Second place was won by the Georgia representative, W. P. Blackburn, Jr., of Baldwin, who spoke on "What Shall Be the 'Fifth Column' of America," and third place went to Dan Easterling of Clio, president of the Alabama FFA, whose subject was "Agriculture and the War Effort." Each of the boys emphasized the heavy responsibility resting upon the farmer in time of war, and cited the importance of well-planned expansion of the agriculture program.

Oswald has completed four years of vocational agriculture at the Marianna High School, and plans to continue his education through college. He is the son of D. H. Oswald, Jackson County judge.

Entries for the State FFA public speaking contest should reach Mr. A. L. Morrison not later than Dec. 10, 1942.
Association Issues
First FFA Handbook

The Alabama Association of Future Farmers of America has just published its first FFA Handbook. Sufficient copies of the Handbook are being mailed each local chapter for the Adviser and FFA Officers.

Much credit for assembling the material of this Handbook goes to the teachers of vocational agriculture, especially a committee composed of J. D. Thorn, I. C. Kuykendall, R. J. Chandler, J. H. Camp, L. H. Harris, C. C. Scarborough and A. L. Morrison, who worked during the summer school of instruction in setting the material up for publication.

It is the feeling of this committee that the Handbook carries sufficient information for the operation of a successful FFA chapter for the year 1942-43. It is, therefore, hoped that each local president will call a meeting of his officers and familiarize them with the material in the Handbook, so that they may make the most use of it.

Plans Outlined for Alabama Youths To Pioneer New System of Forestry

Alabama Future Farmers are being offered an opportunity for pioneering a new system in forestry that should prove educational as well as beneficial to the farmers of tomorrow.

Plans have been set forth in the Tree Planting and Forestry Educational Program for the Future Farmers of America in Alabama, which is sponsored by the Alabama Tree Forestry System with the cooperation of the State Division of Forestry.

The program was outlined at a meeting early in the summer by John M. Ward, secretary of the Alabama State Chamber of Commerce (sponsor of the Alabama Tree Farm System); Brooks Toler, State Forester; R. E. Cammack, State Adviser of Future Farmers of America; Richard R. Tyron, of American Forest Productions Industries; J. C. Cannon, Associate State Adviser of Agricultural Education; the District Supervisors of Vocational Agriculture; and A. L. Morrison, Assistant State Adviser of Future Farmers of America.

One hundred percent approval was given the outline when it was discussed with the teachers of vocational agriculture during the summer school conference and in a recent FFA committee meeting.

The outlined program is given below:

**Future Farmers of America (Alabama)**

**Cooperating With Alabama Tree Farms System**

**Purpose**

1. To teach the importance of a well-managed woodland as a factor in profitable general farming.

2. To encourage as many FFA members as possible to engage in a seedling-planting project on their own farms, as a means of converting wasteland into profitable woodland, and for many allied benefits.

**Method**

1. The Alabama Tree Farms System, sponsored by the Alabama State Chamber of Commerce and operating in cooperation with the State Forestry Division, proposes to make available about 500,000 pine seedlings for planting by Alabama members of the Future Farmers of America during the next tree planting season (January and February).

The seedlings, themselves, would be furnished WITHOUT COST to the FFA members on individual orders for them, except that each member ordering would have to pay 50 cents, representing about half of the shipping charges, for each one thousand seedlings. Orders would be limited to 1,000 per member. The remainder of the cost of shipping will be contributed by the FFA Headquarters.

2. Full explanation of the program will first be furnished to the vocational advisers of each FFA chapter by the representative of FFA and by district representatives of the State Forester.

In addition, complete details of the program, its objectives and methods, and a pictorial explanation of the proper method of planting seedlings, would be furnished by the Tree Farms System in the form of a printed folder to be distributed in bulk quantities to each chapter adviser, and to be redistributed by the chapter adviser to members at a convenient meeting.

3. Order blanks to be filled out by each member wishing to participate, after consultation with his parents, would be furnished to the chapter adviser also. Upon ordering seedlings, the member would accompany the order with the proper remittance to cover a part of the shipping charges, and these would be forwarded by the adviser to the state headquarters of the Tree Farms System, which would make a record of same and furnish copies to the FFA state headquarters, to the State Forester, and to the designated nursery.

4. The nursery will make shipments as per instructions on the order forms, and will send postcard notices of each shipment to the

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War Production Board Appreciative of FFA

The following telegram which is self-explanatory has been received from the War Production Board:

"W A ROSS
NATL EXEC SECY FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA
US OFFICE OF EDUCATION
THE CONSERVATION DIVISION OF THE WAR PRODUCTION BOARD IS DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR PAST EFFORTS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BROUGHT IN LARGE AMOUNTS OF SCRAP METAL AND RUBBER FROM THE FARMS. THE SHORTAGE OF SCRAP IS SO CRITICAL THAT WE MUST RENEW AND REDOUBLE THESE EFFORTS IN THE NATIONAL SCRAP HARVEST TO MAKE UP DEFICIENCIES. OUR NATION-WIDE GOAL OF SEVENTEEN MILLION (17,000,000) TONS OF SCRAP METAL, BEFORE THE SNOW FLIES, IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE OF ACHIEVEMENT AND WE ARE COUNTING ON YOUR CONTINUED VIGOROUS SUPPORT NOT ONLY TO REACH YOUR SHARE OF THE GOAL, BUT TO SURPASS IT IN BUILDING A RESERVE SCRAP FILE THAT WILL INSURE CAPACITY OPERATION OF OUR WAR PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES.

LESSING J ROSENWALD DIRECTOR
CONSERVATION DIVISION"

Local chapters are urgently requested to respond and help to double the amount of scrap already collected.

In conveying this further challenge to Alabama Future Farmers, R. E. Cammack, state adviser, releases figures showing the results of the FFA's war work in the first six months of this year.

From January 1 through June 30, members of the State's 206 FFA chapters collected sufficient scrap iron to go in enough 100 pound bombs to drop three every hour of every day for three years. They gathered in enough scrap rubber for use in the making of 22% heavy containers or to produce 4,371,000 shell bombs, and they collected enough waste paper to produce 139,500 shell containers or to produce 4,371,000 boxes for .30 caliber ammunition.

The combined totals on contributions through the various drives during the six months amounted to 2,039,595 pounds of scrap iron, 368,953 pounds of scrap rubber, and 187,517 pounds of waste paper.

Funds from the sale of the scrap and from other savings have been invested in $20,133.95 worth of war bonds and stamps.

During the same time that the boys have been active in collecting Vital materials, they have sponsored repair and maintenance programs increasing the value of machinery on Alabama farms by $36,412.80. With 8,923 boys taking part in this project, 11,976 pieces of equipment were serviced.

With 4,524 acres of land planted to Victory Gardens, the Future Farmers are rounding out their contribution to the war effort with large increases in production of farm commodities.

Constitutional Session, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium. 1:30 P. M. Fourth Convention Session, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium. 8:00 P. M. FFA Award Night Program, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.


Constitutional Session, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium. 1:30 P. M. Fourth Convention Session, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium. 8:00 P. M. FFA Award Night Program, Little Theater, Municipal Auditorium.


Chapters planning to enter the State chapter contest should be setting up their program of work according to previous form outlines and making final preparations to enter the contest by Dec. 10, 1942.
Grace Continues Progress on Farm

Already regarded as one of the most progressive young men of his community only two years after his graduation from high school, Bennett Grace of McKenzie, Ala., sets an excellent example for other rural youths of America.

Grace's record proves that intelligent planning and hard work bring gratifying financial returns as well as recognition from leaders in his chosen field. His latest financial statement lists assets totalling more than $12,000, including nearly $4,500 in cash, $1,195 in livestock and poultry, and $2,407.50 in farm equipment.

That earnest effort also brings rewards of honor, is evidenced by the fact that Grace has just been approved for the American Farmer degree, highest award offered by Future Farmers of America. He received the State Farmer's Degree in 1939.

Left with workstock, land, and equipment for use on halves with his brother, Grace now personally owns livestock and equipment bought with profits from his projects, and together the boys own additional property obtained with profits from joint enterprises. They pay rent to their mother for the land.

Grace's farming program for the last two years has included productive projects in strawberries, cane, swine, cattle, cotton, oats, and peanuts. From these his combined income total was $1,526.21 last year, and this year the total will reach at least $2000. His In-School Supervised Farming Program from 1936 to 1940 brings the grand total to $6,204.53.

Improvement projects have included home beautification, seeding, liming, and fertilizing pasture, and home orchard. He has removed all stumps from his land and has just completed the construction of terraces on all land. Among his latest livestock purchases have been a registered Hereford bull, registered Duroc Boar and Duroc gilt, and a mare for the purpose of raising workstock.

Among Grace's new equipment is a tractor and cultivating equipment, a power mower, a terracing machine, and a combine. He harvests oats and cuts hay for his neighbors.

At the age of only 22 years, Grace is one of the leading farm youths of Alabama.

FFA Men in Service

In a recent survey among the FFA chapters of Alabama to determine the number of FFA members in Armed Services (Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guards, etc.) the following information was revealed:

Active members—542; Associate members—2,724; giving a total of 3,266 FFA members serving in the Armed Forces.

New Forestry System

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1. About a month later, the Tree Farms System will ask each district adviser to confirm the plantings, and several months later the advisers will be asked to check with members and report estimates of survivals.

Publicity

1. Public announcements should be made concerning the program and its progress as a means of engendering as much enthusiasm as possible. These will be prepared by a representative of the Tree Farms System.

2. Leaflets and other printed matter such as postcards also will be furnished at the expense of the Tree Farms System.

State Winning Speech

By Dan Easterling

We thank our Heavenly Father today that we live in one of the few nations of the world where the people still have freedom of speech and the right to an opinion. It is our democratic form of government that makes possible such frank discussions as we have here today.

While we are enjoying the privileges of our democracy, we are now called upon to defend it. It will take an all-out effort by all of the people to defend our democracy. A divided or partial effort is not enough. We must fight with everything we have and hit the enemy every time we can. In doing this, labor, industry, and agriculture will have to forget some of their present problems and put all of their effort toward winning the war. The farmer, like every other patriotic American, is eager to do his part in the war effort. Farmers are one of the most patriotic groups that we have. Most of them are getting up earlier, buying more fertilizer, and planting more food crops to keep the United Nations on the road to victory. Many farm boys and farm laborers have been drafted, yet those at home make these and other sacrifices with hardly a murmur.

It is my duty, it is your duty, and the duty of every loyal and patriotic American citizen to see to it that our boys have sufficient food and clothing in this battle for freedom.

We can win this war; we can outproduce the Axis several times, but production is only the first step. We do not need a chart to tell us that the faster we produce and use our goods, the cheaper will be our cost in men's lives, in resources, and in dislocation of the economy after the war. There can be no thought but of victory, no triumph but of justice. I know that agriculture, which has never failed under fire, will strain its every resource that the American people and the American ideal shall emerge from this war clean, powerful, and forever enduring.

On December 7, 1941, when the Japs struck without warning, farmers of America had already pledged
an increase in production of food for defense. Now that we are in the war, the call is all the more urgent. Rising costs, along with the increased production of food products, make it all the more imperative that in 1942 we practice good farming.

For more than a century and a half, this country and all its people have been completely free. We intend to remain that way; we intend to continue enjoying the right to think and to speak as we like, vote as we please, attend the church of our choice, and hold up our heads as free men and women. This is the American way of living, and it must be preserved. Agriculture can be counted upon to do its part.

We all must realize more than ever that the United States Government is you and I and all the other families next door. It is one great partnership. Fellow Americans, let us demonstrate again our faith in America by joining in every way possible in helping our boys and our government in this time of national peril.

We might ask the question, how well are we prepared to face this great problem of today and the problems we can already see forming in the future? Agriculture has made great strides forward. We have greater farm leaders than we have ever had. Our farm organizations are stronger today than ever. The Farm Bureau was recently instrumental in getting better prices for farm products. The Farm Security Administration is helping solve the tenant problem and the problem of shifting farm populations. Farmers at last have national unity through the A. A. A. program, and we are thankful for the fact that the farm program of this country is so organized today that we can increase our production many times, when only a year or so ago we could control our production by planting fewer acres of certain crops. There are other farm organizations and government agencies which have played an important part in the agricultural progress that has already been made.

One of these is the organization I represent here today, vocational agriculture. We believe in the betterment of farm conditions through farm operators and leaders that are trained in the job of farming. After studying vocational agriculture, I realize more than ever that farming is more complicated than most any other business and needs men with more training in management ability and farm skills than probably any other occupation. It is our job, the job of vocational agriculture schools, to train the youth of American so that they can better meet the problems that face us. We believe in learning by doing, and you cannot ride through a single community in America where there is a vocational agriculture school and not see the results of this work. More often than not, the improved practices and skills that we carry out are seeds from which similar practices develop all over the community.

Despite all the work that we have done, we see another great problem developing—that of more large company farms worked by machinery. Naturally, with farm labor being drafted, farmers have turned to machinery. Mechanization of farming is just as inevitable as the mechanization of other occupations. It is a natural development, but we must master the machines or they will master us, just as Hitler and his machines have enslaved most of Europe.

One of our chief aims is to have more independent family-sized farms and to have farmers on them with a high standard of living. There is no better way to safeguard the democracy of this country than to have agriculture on a sound footing with happy, healthy, and well trained people living on the farm. We can bring this about by mastering the machine instead of letting it master us, and by working a little harder toward solving the problems that now face us and that will face us after the war is over.

The future is not too dark for us if we win the war—and we will win the war. As we face the future, let us do our part in the war effort by increasing food and feed supplies, buying war bonds and stamps, and when called upon, fight—fight for the way of living that we know now and have all learned to love. Our forefathers fought, bled, and died for the same freedom for which our boys are fighting today.

Can our boys on the battle field depend upon us to supply their every need? Can they rest assured that you are back of them—heart, soul and body? Are we going to retreat because of unsuitable weather, shortage of labor, pest and insects? No, we will never retreat, come what may. We shall fight our battles that their battles may in turn be a victory, and that those who die may not die in vain.

**Chapter News**

**Addison**—Reorganized and elected new officers; sponsoring scrap iron drive. **Akron**—Had 3-day outing at lake. **Albertville**—Appointed committees; 10 new members. **Auburn**—Held officers meeting; made survey of number of members in Armed Forces.

**Belgreen**—Elected new officers; initiated 11 Green Hands and had joint watermelon cutting with FHA. **Blountsville**—Each member collected 100 lbs. scrap iron; organized baseball team and played 2 games; initiated 16 Green Hands.

**Cedar Bluff**—Initiated 7 Green Hands, 3 Future Farmers; bought needed parts for electrical equipment; sent flag and felt banner to cleaner; put on chapel program; appointed committees for coming year; set up annual program of work; sent 2 articles to local paper; collected scrap material.

**Crossville**—Went on 2-day fishing and camping trip; bought purebred gilt for FFA hog project; bought $100 defense bond; sponsored picture show party for chapter; sold 7 pigs from FFA hog project. **Cuba**—Collected salvage material; 100% members buying stamps and bonds. **Cullman**—Chapter made week-end camping and fishing trip; appointed committees for 1st semester. **Curry**—Appointed committees for year; set up activity program.

**Elba**—Collected 2400 lbs. scrap rubber, collecting scrap iron. **Enterprise**—Collecting salvage materials. **Fairview**—Initiated 12 Green Hands; appointed committees. **Fyffe**
—Appointed committees for activity program; bought $100 bond.

Gaylesville — Initiated 9 Green Hands, operated store on school campus, bought new chairs for vocational classroom, sent news article to local paper each week, prepared programs in advance for each meeting on timely subjects, appointed committees for coming year. Goshen — Collected scrap material. Guin — Elected chapter officers, bought 7000 egg capacity incubator.

Hackleburg — Appointed committees, held executive committee meeting. Haleyville — Collecting scrap iron, called to Armed Services.

Hayneville — Organized FFA string band. Heflin — Building sweet potato curing house.

Isabella — Went on 2-day camping trip; sold load scrap iron; opened account at bank; put up football goals on football field.

Jackson — Sent in plans for September. Lexington — Initiated 6 Green Hands; 100% vocational agriculture boys will be FFA members; delivered 6 registered gifts to FFA boys. Lyeffion — Collecting salvage materials.

Marbury — Collected 1,774 lbs. of scrap rubber; canned 165 qts. vegetables for lunch room from victory garden. Millerville — Built boxes for collecting scraps; bought 2 pigs to be fed on scraps collected; committees appointed for major activities for year. Millport — Sent in plans for September. Mount Hope — Initiated 2 Green Hands. New Market — Initiated 15 Green Hands; bought and sold bonds and stamps; collected scrap iron. Oneonta — Planted fall garden in lab. area; 15 members and advisor went on week-end camp; collecting salvage materials.

Phil Campbell — Initiated 7 Green Hands; elected officers for year. Riverton — Initiated 18 Green Hands at chicken supper; jointly operating school store with FHA; sold over $100 in bonds and stamps; collected salvage material; held 2 joint classes with Home Economics class. Rockford — Chapter has $23.00 in treasury; 3 members, first in chapter, received State Farmer Degree. Last year’s president in Marines. Rogersville — Initiated 18 Green Hands; worked shrubbery; went on camping trip.

Sand Rock — Opened FFA school store; bought 2 registered spotted Poland China gilts; held demonstration on planting up and staking peanuts. Sardis — Sent in September plans. Spring Garden — Went on fishing and outing trip; sponsoring scrap collection program; worked on school library. Susan Moore — Collected 7000 lbs. scrap iron; set up program of work for year; giving out information for fall victory gardens. Sweet Water — Collected scrap iron and rubber. Tanner — Purchased 13 registered Jersey heifers; built thirteen tables for new classrooms; constructed sewage disposal system for new lunchroom; worked around shrubbery. Town Creek — Elected officers for year; 2 more members received registered pigs. Valley Head — Set up activity program.

White Plains — Collected 1,500 lbs. scrap rubber, 8,500 lbs. scrap iron.