Future Farmers Growing Victory Gardens
6,500 Gardens In 1944 Is Goal For Alabama

The 1944 goal is 6500 gardens like this grown by Future Farmers in all parts of Alabama. The above picture (made January 19th) of the Smith Station FFA Chapter garden, is typical of the better demonstrations. (For another good one see story of Central FFA Chapter garden, page 4)

In addition to these demonstration gardens every Future Farmer in Alabama is expected to include vegetable production in his supervised farming program.
Our State Treasurer

If we had a contest for the "most active FFA member in Alabama", Elson Powell, our state treasurer, would make a good race! Not only is Elson a believer and a booster of FFA, but he does something about it. As a state officer, he has visited FFA chapters in every county in his section. As president of the West Point, Cullman County, Chapter, he is leading those wide-awake Future Farmers in their most active year.

Elson says the biggest surprise of his life was at the convention last year when he was elected State FFA Treasurer. But a look at his supervised farming program and FFA activities makes it no surprise to see Elson as a State FFA leader. Although 18 years of age, members of the local draft board say that Elson will be kept on the farm producing food, since he has one of the best farming programs in the county.

Elson's supervised farming program has included the following:

First year: 1941-42
2 acres corn, 1 acre kudzu, 1 acre peanuts, 1 acre Williamette vetch, 1 acre cotton, 7 pigs, 2 beef calves, 1 registered Angus bull, 1 horse.

Second year: 1942-43
3 acres corn, 2 acres kudzu, 2 acres peanuts, 1 acre cotton, 2 acres Irish potatoes, 7 pigs, 1 registered boar, sow and litter, 1 beef cow, 1 registered bull, 4 beef calves, 1 horse.

Third year: 1943-44
5 acres corn, 4 acres peanuts, 2 acres kudzu, 2 brood sows, 1 registered boar, 1 registered bull, 2 beef cows, 6 beef steers.

Elson's cash records show that his net profit on his projects for the first two years was $1,089.29. Outlook for this year is promising.

The highlight of the year as a State FFA Officer for Elson came last October when he attended the National FFA Convention as one of Alabama's delegates. Elson says it was really a privilege to talk with FFA leaders from all parts of the United States. A particular pleasure for Elson was the fact that the seating of the delegates for the entire convention placed him next to Robert Bowman from California, who was elected National President.

Elson has a point of view that will be of special interest to all chapter officers and advisers. He believes that the chapter president and other officers should assume more responsibility for their chapter activities, thereby giving the adviser more time to devote to his many other duties. Do you agree with Elson?

Elson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Powell of the West Point Community in Cullman County. Ambition? To become the best farmer in Cullman County, which means, says Elson, the best in Alabama!

Prof: "Where did you get that bump on your head?"
Student: "Oh, that's where a thought struck me."—Vernon FFA.

District Supervisor

When someone wants to know who the ag. teacher was at a certain place and year, the answer is always the same—"Ask Mr. Gibson, he can tell you!" And that's right; he can probably tell you more about teachers of vocational agriculture in Alabama over the years than any other person. But being historian is only one of Mr. Gibson's many hobbies. His main interest is Northwest Alabama which is, according to the district supervisor, easily the most outstanding section of Alabama for vocational agriculture, FFA work and other important activities.

Mr. Gibson is a native of Morgan County. Probably the most publicized event of Mr. Gibson's life is his graduation from Auburn in the famous (?) class of '23. Checking the records (since we couldn't ask him) we find that Mr. Gibson was teacher of vocational agriculture at Dixie, Ranburne, Abbeville and Auburn. Although the records did not reveal this, we have heard that outstanding programs were developed at each place. However the best thing he did during this time was to marry Edna McGowin.

Future Farmers will be interested to know that Mr. Gibson was Assistant State FFA Adviser in 1936-38, and was in charge of publishing The Alabama Future Farmer. He was made district supervisor for Northwest Alabama in 1938, succeeding Mr. George Sargent. Mr. Gibson makes it a practice to visit some supervised farming programs in each department. So if you Northwest Alabama Future Farmers have not seen Mr. Gibson on your farm, you will. He believes in our vocational agriculture motto of "Learning to do by doing", with lots of emphasis on the doing!
Presentation Of Degree

130 outstanding Future Farmers in Alabama will receive the State Farmer Degree at the State Convention this year. Will you be among these FFA leaders?

The State Farmer Degree is the highest award given by the State FFA Association, and is limited by the constitution to the top 2% of its membership. You don't get "elected" to be in this group, you "earn" your way in.

Pictured here is the State Farmer Degree Certificate and one of 72 who received their degrees at the last convention. Will you receive a certificate like this at the convention? If not this time, what about next year? Now is the time to start. In earning this State Farmer Degree, the first year is just as important as the last.

MONTHLY FFA QUIZ

1. When should I apply for the State Farmer Degree?
2. Can I still get pine seedlings at "20 for a penny"?
3. What chapter has the largest percentage of Ag. boys in FFA?
4. When are the quarter-finals speaking contests to be held?
5. Who is the boy receiving his State Farmer Degree from Dan Eastering in the picture on this page?

(Object with our answers)

The Blue Springs FFA Chapter is planning to buy two acres of land adjoining the school. Part of this area will be devoted to pine tree demonstration. Can you beat that? Max McLaughlin is chapter president and Mr. L. E. Porter, adviser.
Demonstration Garden

The Future Farmers of America in the Central Chapter of Lauderdale County are cooperating in solving the food shortage of their community and in the neighboring city of Florence. During the fall a demonstration garden was planted on the school ground by the FFA boys. In this garden all the common vegetables usually planted in fall gardens were planted, as well as many new vegetables not usually grown in the gardens of the community. An abundance of vegetables were ready for market during the early fall. Since so many of them were not needed for local use, it was decided that the chapter would sell products on the curb market at Florence. Several trips were made to the curb market and a profit of $35.00 was made for the chapter.

Plans are now being made by all members of the chapter to increase the production of home gardens. Many of the members will grow vegetables for market in their own gardens for the first time.

A spring garden is to be planted by the chapter again. The work will be done by chapter members and all vegetables produced will be marketed by the chapter. In this way the members feel that they are not only making funds for carrying on their chapter activities, but are helping win the war by producing more food for the home front.

Dotson Fulmer is president of Central Chapter and Mr. R. L. Reed is adviser.

"Folks", said the colored minister, "the subject of my sermon dis even' is Liars. How many in de congregation has done read de 69th chapter ob Matthew?"

Nearly everyone raised his hand. "Dat's right", said the minister, "you am de ones I wants to talk to. Dere ain't no 69th chapter of Matthew."

—Beatrice FFA.

This Portable Laying House was designed and built by Mr. Ben Hagler, teacher of vocational agriculture and adviser to the Future Farmers at Auburn. Costing a little less than $15, and made to house 10 laying hens, the handy house is proving very satisfactory after being in use a year. Mr. Hagler says that the main advantages of this Portable Laying House are: (1) convenience, (2) sanitation, (3) good production, and (4) no loss of manure. He says that this laying house should prove valuable to any backyard poultryman, especially in these wartime days of few, high-priced eggs.

FFA Calendar

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1st—Mail February Chapter report to district supervisor
—Send name district speaker to C. C. Scarborough.

5th—February chapter report and results of district speaking contest due in Auburn

10th—State Executive Committee meeting.

?—Final order and planting pines

11th—Tune in Nat'l. FFA Radio Program 11:30 A. M.

?—Hold regular chapter meeting

31st—Mail March Chapter report to district supervisor
—Send name winner quarter-finals speaking contest to C. C. Scarborough.
The Alabama Future Farmer, official publication of the Alabama Association of the FFA, the state organization of the students in vocational agriculture, this month was featured as a special Forestry Edition to further the combined efforts of the State Chamber, the Education Department's Division of Vocational Education and the Conservation Department's Forestry Division, in their reforestation program for the state's FFA members.

The special Forestry Edition was appropriately printed in green ink, and featured photographs of a well posted Tree Farm and a demonstration plot being planted in pine seedlings, as the full front page spread. Other features of the magazine included articles by State Chamber's Executive Secretary, John M. Ward, and State Forester, J. M. Stauffer, both pointing to the value and opportunity that can come with participation in the tree planting program.

L. L. Sellers, District Supervisor for Southeast Alabama, is also featured in the magazine, for it was he the magazine states, who took the lead with his vocational students in his area and led the state in the tree planting program last year.

(Photo and article from Jan. issue "Alabama—Today and Tomorrow.")

My Project Story
Edward Burgess
West Point F. F. A.

After a bit of planning and a lot of hard work, I cleared $93.53 on an acre of cotton this year.

To begin the project I hauled 6 loads of stable manure, averaging 1000 pounds each, and broadcasted it over the area. The fertilizer used besides the manure was 500 pounds of 4-10-4 put under the cotton at planting time. At chopping time 200 pounds of nitrate of soda was used.

Thirty pounds of Stoneville 5A cotton seed was used in planting.

A total of 44% hours of self labor and 23 1/6 hours of horse labor was required in producing this cotton. A total of $114.63 was received from the 1225 pounds of cotton that was sold. After expenses of $21.10 were paid I only had $93.53 left. Expenses were $14.25 for labor and fertilizer, ginning $5.85, and marketing $1.00. This $1.00 for marketing was used to get the bale of cotton hauled to town. Lot manure for the project was given to me by my dad.

I have found out from my projects this year that it pays to go by experiment station recommendations and the advice of my vocational teacher.

Alabama's forests are one of the state's most valuable assets, however this abundant source of wealth is in danger of being either partially or completely destroyed by destructive cutting methods and by the failure of landowners to provide ways of reforesting barren or cut-over areas. The photograph taken of a planted area just six years old, is proof that replanting these areas is well worth the time and money it takes to reforest such plots. This year, during the months of February and March, FFA and vocational education students in all parts of the state will reforest approximately 500 acres of land with seedlings distributed by the State Chamber in cooperation with the Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry, and the Department of Education, Vocational Division. These new forest lands will mean much to Alabama in the future.

FFA QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Right now, Mr. Cammack must have all applications in Montgomery by March 1st.
2. Yes. See your Ag. teacher and rush order to State Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery, Alabama.
3. Sweetwater reports 130%. Does that beat yours?
4. In March. See your adviser.
5. Don't know. Write us if you know.

(What is your score?)
**Want To Sell**

- One small upright boiler that can be used for canning purposes.—Red Bay FFA, L. C. Shields, Adviser.
- 16 Grade Duroc Jersey pigs, $5 each. Wt. average 40 lbs.—Pell City FFA, J. W. Locke, Adviser.
- One 10-inch middle buster in good condition.—Carrollton FFA, A. A. Hester, Adviser.
- Hereford hogs, bred gilts, boar pigs, no relation.—Pine Apple FFA, Gregory Oakley, Adviser.

**FFA Trading Post**

Registered Duroc pigs, 8 wks. old, $10 each. Papers furnished and pigs delivered to RR station.—Isabella FFA, J. H. Camp, Adviser, Rt. 1, Maplesville.
- 14 registered OIC pigs—8-12 wks. old.—Smith's Station FFA, J. D. Duke, Adviser.
- Registered Duroc pigs, delivered to RR station, $10 each.—Centerville FFA, W. R. Martin, Adviser.

**Want To Buy**

- Copper Skin sweet potato plants. Give shipping date and prices for 100,000 or more.—Elba FFA, E. P. Geiger, Adviser.
- One section harrow.—Isabella FFA, J. H. Camp, Adviser, Rt. 1, Maplesville.
- 50-75 bushels of Otootan soybeans for planting purposes.—Billingsley FFA, J. L. Pat, Adviser.
- Registered Aberdeen Angus heifer.—West Point FFA, M. E. Wilson, Adviser, Rt. 5, Cullman.
- One riding cultivator.—Georgiana FFA, B. T. Gibbons, Jr., Adviser.
- Large size post drill in good condition.—Marion FFA, W. S. White, Adviser.

**Some Corn Producing**

69 bushels of corn per acre! No, that's not news from Iowa, but from Etowah county, Alabama! And a Future Farmer grew the corn. This champion corn grower is J. C. Pentecost, member of the Southside FFA Chapter.

Here's the way it happened. Mr. H. H. Martin, adviser, says that each year at harvest time the Southside Future Farmers checked their corn yields together. The idea of giving special recognition to the top producer started slowly several years ago, as the weather received a full share of the blame for low yields. But Mr. Martin says that closer checking of records showed that many factors seemed to work together to make good yields, many of them depending upon the corn grower himself. Interest has increased every year until now all Southside Future Farmers are in their own corn growing contest.

Last year was the first time J. C. has made the highest yield. He says that his 69 bushels per acre (more than four times the Etowah county average) was due to good seed, fertilizer, careful cultivation and rain at the right time.

What was your best corn yield last year? Who is the champion corn grower in your chapter?
Leaders At Alabama Education Association, March 29-31

Helping run the annual meeting of the Alabama Education Association in Birmingham in March will be the gentlemen pictured here.

Mr. Clements, supervisor of vocational agriculture for the South will be the featured speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Alabama Vocational Association. He is a native of Lowndes County, Alabama, and a graduate of Auburn. Mr. Clements is intensely interested in FFA work.

Mr. Culver, teacher of vocational agriculture at Fort Payne is president of the Alabama Vocational Association. This group includes workers in vocational home economics, trades, distributive occupations, rehabilitation and crippled children’s work as well as vocational agriculture. The Fort Payne FFA Chapter always takes a leading part in state as well as local FFA activities.

Mr. Williams, teacher of vocational agriculture at Frisco City, is president of the vocational agriculture teachers. The Frisco City FFA Chapter, long noted for home beautification and community service, is also a producer of state officers. Two of our FFA leaders, a president and treasurer, have come from there in the past three years.

It looks like a successful A. E. A. meeting for teachers of vocational agriculture.

Chapter News

Addison—Planned FHA-FFA banquet. Akron—Competed in District Debating Contest; won 4 basketball games. Ashley—Fertilized shrubs and grass around school; awarding $25 bond for best year-round garden in county, and $5 for second prize. Ashland—Cleared $25 on softball game. Ashville—Operating supply store; sponsoring three farm repair shops; organized basketball team. Auburn—Constructed 20 brooders. BB Comer—Started pig chain with 2 boys; purchased $50 war bond; benefit basketball game with admission one 10c war stamp. Beatrice—Earned money wiring house for neighbor; replanting FFA garden, products to be bought by school lunch room. Beaufried—Ran terrace lines for farmers in community. Berry—Showing motion picture films to school; operating school store. Billingsley—Ordered 4000 pine trees; ordered 10 copies “Helps In Mastering Parliamentary Procedure”. Blue Springs—Bought land for a pine tree demonstration plot; awarded honorary Future Farmer degree to principal; netted $14.75 on basketball game; boy among FFA members. Blountsville—Construct hot bed on campus. Brookwood—Completed the installation of school water system. Brundidge—Gave chicken fry for FHA. Camp Hill—Purchased $25 war bond; received $25 from sale of kudzu seed. Carrolton—100 guests present at FS-MD banquet. Centerville—Pruned fruit trees in lab area; 8 members to set 1000 pines each. Cherokee—Ordered 6000 pine seedlings; assisted in farm machinery repair; constructed 4 lamp brooders, 2 self hog feeders and 3 wagon boxes. Cold Springs—Bought additional $200 war bond; pruned FFA orchard; ordered fruit trees for farmers; ordered 1000 pine seedlings. Corner—Repaired and painted farm tools which burned in fire; held joint FFA-FHA party. Cotaco—Piped water in shop; built 1 electric brooder, repaired 1 brooder; planting 1 acre of pines on school campus; studied broiler production. Crossville—Planted vegetable garden. Cullman—Bought $50 bond; constructed cabbage and tomato bed. Curry—Cleared 962 sponsoring Fiddlers’ Contest; FFA-FHA buying paint to paint vocational building. Danville—Members helping build house for neighbor. Enterprise—Ordered and set out fruit and nut trees; sprayed, pruned 25 peach trees; held FS-MD barbecue. Elba—Cooperative order fruit and nut trees; set out trees in orchard for school, pruned old orchard. Fairhope—Collected 20,000 lbs. scrap
Farmers today are stepping up production of dairy products, eggs, livestock and other essential foods. One way to begin the job is to build concrete barn floors, stock feeding floors, poultry house floors, manure pits, storage cells and other improvements that make your farm more efficient and productive.

All you need are a few sacks of Portland cement, sand, gravel or stone, and some boards for forming. Concrete conserves critical "war materials"; many farm concrete jobs need none.

For helpful free literature on "how to do it," check list below and mail today.

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PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

BUY WAR STAMPS AND BONDS

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THE ALABAMA FUTURE FARMER

iron and paper. Fairview—Chapter members bought $1200 in war bonds. Fayette—Donated $10 to Beta Club Christmas Fund; host to district meeting; officers and adviser attended livestock show in Demopolis. Florence—Earned $8.45 by planting and transplanting shrubbery; 110% paid FFA membership. Fort Deposit—Sold 200 dozen eggs from chicken project for $235.60; planting demonstration plot; bought 200 fruit trees for farmers; cooperative order for 2 cca wheat for farmers; ordered 4000 pines. Fyffe—Setting out new shrubbery around building and pruning old; 100% members contributed to kudzu crowns and setting pine seedlings; conducted project visit tours, FFA boys to get terracing certificates after special study and field work; elected officers for 1944. Georgetown—Ordered 5000 pine trees; sold $5 worth of shrubbery. Guin—Operating incubators.

Gaylesville—Chapter gave $5 first prize and $2.50 2nd prize in Chapter Speaking Contest. Georgiana—Lucy—Returned shrubbery at high school; bought 100 fruit trees; planting 1 acre of turnips to be followed by sweetpotato plant bed. Oxford—Sold 1500 pines. FFA sponsored jointly with FHA bond drive at school. Gorgas—Chapter went to livestock show and sales at Demopolis. Greensboro—Ordered trees for farmers; built hotbed; attended district FFA meeting; ordered 5000 pine seedlings. Greenville—Ordered 5000 pine trees; sold $5 worth of shrubbery. Grove Hill—2 members setting 2 acres of pines; chapter to set out 1/2 acre near school for demonstration plot; built 4 lamp brooders. Guin—Operating incubators.

Hackleburg—Sold chances on regular gilt, netting $17. Hale County Joint party with FHA. Hamilton—To set pine seedlings; ordered fruit trees; organized basketball team; set out 1/2 acre of pines; chapter to set out 1/2 acre near school for demonstration plot; built 4 lamp brooders. Guin—Operating incubators.

Jackson—Two FFA gilts have 20 pigs. Isabella—Auctioned off 3 pigs. Kennedy—Demonstration on digging kudzu crowns and setting pine seedlings; conducted project visit tours. Kinsey—Eight FFA boys set out 1000 pine seedlings each. Lexington—Demonstration on campus for planting pine seedlings; bought 2 purebred gilts and started pig chain. LeFlore—Built 10 x 26 dairy barns. Marion—Ordered 1000 pine trees. Marion—Ordered and delivered 954 fruit trees; transplanted 30 shrubs from nursery area to school campus. Melvin—Ordered 1000 pine trees. Marion—Ordered and delivered 954 fruit trees; transplanted 30 shrubs from nursery area to school campus. Melford—Built 16 x 26 dairy barn; conducted project visit tours.

New Brockton—Ordered 7500 pine trees; bought war bond; ordered fruit trees for classes and evening school men. New Hope—Built large hotbed for terracing; received 1500 kudzu seedlings from S. C. S.; sold $800 worth of bonds; added 2 pigs to pig chain.

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