TRUMAN INVITED TO VICTORY CONVENTION

The national officers of the F.F.A. at the White House inviting President Harry S. Truman to be their honor guest at the Victory Convention of the Future Farmers of America. Left to right: Student Sec'y Virgil Getto, Fallon, Nevada; 2nd Vice President Eugene E. Starkey, Orland, California; President Truman; President J. Glyndon Stuff, Dixon, Illinois; 4th Vice President Joseph E. Espey, Maryville, Missouri; and 3rd Vice President Marion F. Baumgardner, Wellington, Texas.
Truman Invited To Victory Convention

The National Officers of the Future Farmers of America were highly honored while they were in Washington for the Spring meeting of the National Board of Trustees and the Leadership Training Conference. Those present included President J. Glyndon Stuf of Dixon, Illinois; Second Vice President Eugene E. Starkey of Orland, California; Third Vice President Marion F. Baumgarden of Wellington, Texas; Fourth Vice President Joseph E. Espey of Maryville, Missouri; and, Student Secretary Virgil Getto of Fallon, Nevada. First Vice President Sherman C. Beard, Jr. of Gerrardstown, West Virginia was unable to attend due to illness. One of the purposes of the meeting was to make plans for the Victory Convention which will be held at Kansas City, Missouri, October 21 to 24, 1945. Plans were also made for the attendance of a national officer at many of the State F.F.A. conventions which will be held during the year.

It was decided that the National F.F.A. Camp, which is located in the Washington area, will be opened June 1 and will close September 10. The Board recommended a charge of 50c per night for F.F.A. members who stay at the Camp. George Washington's Old Grist Mill, which is leased by the F.F.A. from the Virginia Conservation Commission, will be opened to the public during the month of April and will be kept open as long as demand justifies keeping a guide on duty. A small admission fee will be charged visitors who go through the Mill.

In addition to the regular business, the National Officers devoted much time to certain phases of leadership training. The purpose of this training was to further develop and prepare them for their participation at State conventions and other activities that they will attend as National Officers.

Mr. Wheeler McMillen, Editor-in-Chief of the FARM JOURNAL, and John Rohlf, Associate Editor of that magazine, gave a dinner for the officers. Following the dinner a roundtable discussion was held concerning rural problems. It was a most stimulating evening for the officers.

The American Institute of Cooperation gave a dinner for the boys. Emphasis at this dinner was placed on the relationship between the F.F.A. and farm cooperatives. The cooperatives were represented by Mr. D. L. MacDonald, Director of Vocational Education, American Institute of Cooperation; Mr. John H. Davis, Executive Secretary of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives; and, Mr. Earl Benjamin, Executive Representative of the Washington Cooperative Farmers Association.

The F.F.A. officers were invited to the headquarters of the National Grange for a conference. The discussion period was spent on current agricultural problems. Emphasis was given to ways in which the National Grange and Future Farmers of America might work together in improving rural living. Following the discussion a dinner was given at the Brookings Institute by Mr. Albert S. Goss, Master of the National Grange, and other Grange leaders.

Conferences were held with Dr. John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education, and Mr. Watson Miller, Administrator of the Federal Security Agency. These officials were very much interested in the report given by the National F.F.A. Officers.

The highlight of the week for the F.F.A. boys was a conference which was held with President Truman in his offices at the White House on Friday morning, January 18. At this conference J. Glyndon Suff, National F.F.A. President, invited President Truman to attend the Victory Convention as the honored guest of the F.F.A. President Truman stated that he hoped he would have the privilege of accepting this invitation. He said that due to the national problems confronting us it would be impossible for him to give a definite answer to the invitation at this time, but that he would do so as soon as possible. He appeared to be much interested in the activities of the F.F.A. and extended a cord of encouragement and greeting to all members of the organization. He reminded the National Officers that he had farmed in Missouri for 16 years before going into business.

Due to the many activities which were scheduled for the National Officers there was little time left for sightseeing. They found time, however, to visit the Nation's Capitol, the Smithsonian Institute, Washington's Monument, Lincoln's Memorial, and Mt. Vernon. They were especially interested in their visit to Mt. Vernon because of the fact that George Washington is recognized in the rituals of the F.F.A.

The officers appeared before the Federal Board for Vocational Education which met in Washington on Monday, January 21. The farm boys made a very interesting presentation concerning the activities of the F.F.A.

The Boy Scouts of America invited the National F.F.A. Officers to New York for a get-together with the national officials of the Scouts. The Future Farmers were met at the train by five Boy Scouts of New York City. They were taken on a tour through Radio City, to dinner at the Commodore Hotel with the Scouts of the Greater New York Council, and then to a show at the Radio City Music Hall. The following day they enjoyed breakfast with the Scouts at an automat. Following the breakfast a conference was held with the National Scout officials at the Scout headquarters. The boys gave a complete report of the activities of individual F.F.A. members and of local chapters of F.F.A. Many questions were asked by the Scout officials concerning practices followed in the conducting of F.F.A. chapters. It was agreed that there were many ways in which Boy Scouts and Future Farmers can work together in rural America. It was also agreed that older F.F.A. members and former members have an excellent opportunity to serve farm youth by organizing rural Scout troops.

A conference was arranged with Vincent R. Impelletteri, President of the City Council of New York. Mr. Impelletteri extended a warm welcome to the Future Farmers and showed them some of the sights at the City Hall and downtown Man-
The F.F.A. officers attended a dinner at the Biltmore Hotel which was given in honor of youth organizations that were active in the production of Victory Gardens. Mr. Wheeler McMillen was the keynote speaker of the occasion. His address was broadcast over the Mutual Network. Mr. McMillen read the following greeting from General Douglas MacArthur:

"Please convey to the youth of America represented in the meeting of January 22nd, my admiration for the magnificent spirit and tireless energy which characterized their efforts to increase our agricultural production to meet the pressing demands of war. Tell them that they have met a challenge to patriotism in the tradition that has carried our country forward in the world to its present exalted position. I am fully confident that as with the passing years the mantle of responsibility for guiding its future destiny falls upon their capable shoulders, they will meet such a test with all determination and vigor."

A medal was presented to Eugene Starkey, representing the Future Farmers of America, in honor of the thousands of Victory Gardens that were grown by members of the organization. J. Glyndon Stuff, National President, delivered an informative and interesting address on behalf of the Future Farmers. The meeting was closed with an interesting ceremony that was presented by the Future Farmers of America and the Boy Scouts of America.

Following the luncheon the F.F.A. boys were taken by their Scout hosts to the Empire State Building where they went to the top of the highest building in the world for a view of the New York area.

This was a very interesting and inspirational week for the National Officers of the Future Farmers of America. The many courtesies extended to them by the friends of the organization are appreciated by Future Farmers everywhere.

Little Johnny loved the bees;
They said he was their friend.
He used to sit upon their gums,
But they stung him in the end.

Riverton Developes Visual Aids

After spending about $95 on visual aids last year for a projecting machine, a large screen on which the pictures were reproduced, and blackout shades for the room, the Riverton boys started looking for a better way. The visual aids box used by the army air forces seemed to be the idea. After studying the box the boys made several changes in the direction of cutting the cost. Mr. J. D. Wigley, adviser at Riverton, and Mr. T. C. Smith, adviser at New Market, worked with the boys in developing these improvements. The Riverton boys have also made boxes for the Bradley and Hazel Green High Schools.

In appearance the box looks like a big flat-sided megaphone. It is four feet long, and the rectangle at the back contains a 12 x 14 inch mirror facing the inside of the box. The front rectangle contains a glass 23¾ x 14 inches. Plain window with a frosting compound.

A small projector placed at the side of the box near a small opening throws its beam on the back mirror, which reflects the slide image back, at a 15 degree angle, to the front glass where the image produced covers the front rectangle, which is in view of the entire classroom under ordinary lighting conditions.

Some advantages of this type of visual aid over those previously used are: (1) the cost is only $12.50, (2) no blackout shades are required, (3) students can keep their notebooks and other working materials in view, and (4) the teacher can direct the study to better advantage since he may be seen by the class members.

The trick of the apparatus is to have the image reflected at a 15 degree angle. The main revision made by the Riverton boys was in the frosting of a window glass instead of the sand glass used by the army. This greatly reduced the cost.
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Assistant Adviser's Corner
F.F.A. News
May we take this opportunity to remind you again that we need news of your chapter activities for publication in the Alabama Future Farmer and for a number of farm magazines. It is true that we get your monthly chapter reports, but too many chapters fail to use the space on the back of this report blank for giving us a write-up of some of the outstanding things the chapter is doing. A success story of an individual member will always be timely and welcomed.

Public Speaking and Quartet
Things are beginning to happen now. Every mail brings us the names of new winners in the public speaking and quartet contests. I hope your chapter is one of those we have heard from. There are one or two things I think about along about this time of the year, and they are:

1. District public speaking and quartet contests must be held in February and winners reported to us not later than March 5. (Send 3 copies of manuscript.)
2. Names and dues of new members are due April 1.
3. Quarter finals of the public speaking and quartet contests must be held in March and winners reported not later than April 5.

Initiation and Degree Promotions

Has your chapter held its initiation ceremonies? Has your chapter held all of its degree promotions? If not, then don't put it off any longer, but do it so you are not neglecting to do one of the things set forth in the State Activity Program;

If you neglect to advance members as soon as they become eligible for a higher degree you are not showing them all there is in the F.F.A. They do not get the full value of being an advanced member.

There is no need for having a rough ceremony as has been the practice, but instead use the ceremonies printed in the official manual. This eliminates the old practice of holding rough ceremonies which stimulates an over-indulgence in horse-play. The ceremonies in the manual are much more impressive to new members who could easily get the wrong idea about our organization.

Early last fall, at the State Executive Committee Meeting, the subject was brought up about local chapters having initiation ceremonies. This was discussed, and it was met the approval of all the members that we should recommend to all chapters the use of the ceremonies printed in the manual for their degree promotions.

Another important factor in advancing members is that all members taking part should memorize and know their part. Everyone knows the monotony of having one read his part in the ceremony.

I believe the essentials of a good, impressive ceremony would be to have all standard equipment such as manuals and paraphernalia, as many members as possible present, all officers and other members know their parts, properly rehearsed ceremonies, and less horse play.

Charles Stringfellow
State Sentinel
Methods of Financing

Chapter Budget

A chapter budget should be the basis of a sound financing program for a F.F.A. chapter. In order to operate on a budget, ways and means should be provided for this type of activity.

Most of us, in these good times, are not worried with some way to raise money, though various money making activities such as supply stores, pop-corn machines, selling seed and insecticides, selling plants from hot beds, and many others are my suggestions for financing the chapter.

To have a good F.F.A. chapter it must be financially sound with a well worked out budget. We must not think of the chapter only in good times but in the years to come.

"You can spend saved money, but you cannot save spent money." After the operating expenses of the budget have been taken care of, it would be wise for each chapter to invest other money in some sound investments. One of the best investments is VICTORY BONDS. Still another way is to look to the needs of the community for suggestions as to what service the F.F.A. chapter might be to it.

Martin Cranford,
State Treasurer

Paint Rock Valley FFA

The Paint Rock Valley FFA chapter is promoting better breeding and feeding practice through the production of fat calves for the spring shows. Chapter members are preparing 19 calves for the spring show in Birmingham.

After studying breeds, breeding, and selection of good animals, the boys selected the very best calves that could be found in the section for show purposes. Feeding practice was studied as plans were made by each boy to grow out his calf. Winter grazing crops were studied and planted with a high degree of competition between the boys as to who would do the best job.

A group meeting of parents and boys was held for the purpose of discussing the possibilities of having better bred and better fed livestock. A cooperative plan was put into operation whereby purebred males were placed in the community for the benefit of all for a small fee. The growing of more and better feed is another step in the project. Permanent pasture, along with winter grazing, grain crops, and permanent hay are being stressed.

Realizing that the growing of cotton cannot be profitably continued in this section of the state, the FFA boys are working hard with their dads to develop a program that will give a better living to the people of the community.

Harris Bingham, Reporter

American Farmer---Successful Advisor

Ollis Hancock, left above, was one of three Alabama boys to receive the highly coveted American Farmer degree awarded by the National FFA Association in Kansas City last October. The details of his farming program were carried in the September issue of the Alabama Future Farmer. The broad smile in the picture to the right is that of his teacher and adviser, Mr. R. L. Yielding. Although the timing of the snapshot is not known, it could easily be that the smile is one of satisfaction for a job well done. What greater success could come to a teacher of vocational agriculture than to have one of his boys earn the success necessary for this degree?

Ollis is from Crane Hill in Cullman County and is a 1943 graduate of Cold Springs High School where Mr. Yielding was his FFA adviser and agriculture teacher. Mr. Yielding is now teaching at Isabella High School in Chilton County.

Good Farming Program

The Ashville chapter is proud of the start in farming made by Harris Beason. During his first year in vocational agriculture Harris got the following returns:

Enterprise | Yield | Net Income
---|---|---
3 acres of cotton | 3 bales | $389.41
2 acres of hay | 2½ tons | 47.05
2 hogs | 800 lbs. pork | 30.70
1 dairy cow | | 126.00
1 dairy calf | | |

In addition to these production projects, Harris started a home orchard with 25 trees and had a home garden. All of this was accomplished on 40 acres of land. Recently a 440 acre farm has been purchased by the family. Harris plans to operate the farm while his dad works in a store.
**FFA Trading Post**

**Want to Buy**
Two registered Duroc-Jersey pigs, 6-8 weeks old. Male & female, unrelated. Within 50 miles of Blanton, Alabama.

—H. K. Bolt, Adviser
Blanton, Alabama

One registered polled Hereford Heifer; about 6 months old.
—W. J. Thompson, Adviser
Rt. 3, Blountsville, Ala.

Either 1/2 or 1/4 horse power electric grinder with or without rocks.
—C. M. Roberson, Adviser
Marbury, Alabama

Three patented bee hives.
—C. A. Hyatt, Adviser
Rt. 2, Warrior, Ala.

A registered male O.I.C. ready for service. State lowest price and answer promptly.
—B. H. Walkley, Adviser
Jackson, Ala.

One purebred medium type Poland China gilt.
—L. C. Shields, Adviser
Leroy, Ala.

Registered purebred Duroc, Poland China, or Chester White gilts, 10-12 weeks old.
—O. D. Gissendanner, Adviser
Leroy, Ala.

**Want to Sell**
Registered O.I.C. choice pigs.
—M. Thornton, Adviser
Lexington, Alabama

Dodge motor mounted on creosoted timbers with pulley attached.
—W. G. Estes, Adviser
Lyeffson, Alabama

Zoysia grass at $3 per yard.
—P. A. Cox, Adviser
Arley, Alabama

Purebred S.P.C. males, 160 lbs., not subject to registration, $30. F.O.B. shipping point.

Tomato plants, 75c per 100, delivered. Ready March 1st.

—L. E. Porter, Adviser
Blue Springs, Alabama

Registered Jersey bull calf.
—H. T. Pruett, Adviser
Cullman, Alabama

**Poultry Farmer**

Ralph Hall of the Stevenson chapter is fast becoming established in the poultry business. When he entered the Junior III class in vocational agriculture last year he had a definite purpose in mind, and that was to become a poultry farmer. With his teacher he worked out a plan of work and study that would help him accomplish his goal. In the classroom he would study and plan his work to be done at home.

The first step was to convert a shed by the side of the woodhouse into a brooder. One hundred and fifty New Hampshire Red chickens were ordered at 14c each. How well Ralph mastered his job is demonstrated by the fact that after eight weeks he had practically all of his chickens weighing 2 pounds or better and selling for 40c per pound. The net profit from this first venture was $65.48.

Encouraged by this initial success, Ralph tore down some old houses on his father's place and built a new brooder house that would house 500 baby chicks. By providing all of the labor himself, he was able to build this brooder house with very little cash. He now has approximately 500 chicks weighing 2 pounds each. The best of the pullets will be kept for a laying flock while the others will be put on the fryer market.

Ralph has also converted an old barn into a laying house. The capacity of the house is 800 layers, with 300 hens already on the job. The house will be filled by spring if some unseen difficulty is not encountered.

Ralph reads all of the material that he can find on poultry. Disease control, management of the flock, feeding, housing, and equipment are the major problems that require attention. Systematic culling is practiced to be sure that no hens are "bordered".

**Community Service**

Blue Springs F.F.A. Chapter held its regular meeting Tuesday, January 6, 1946. The meeting was called to order by president Max McLaughlin. A regular business session was held after which Mr. L. E. Porter, chapter adviser, was asked to discuss the prospects of erecting a post treating plant in connection with the canning plant as a part of the vocational agriculture program of the community. Various methods of treating posts were discussed, particularly the creosote method, most commonly used in other similar projects of this kind. A survey was made among the boys present, and it was found that enough posts were needed by families represented to keep a plant like the one discussed busy for more than twenty days. The chapter voted unanimously to assist in an investigation for further facts and details. Mr. Porter agreed to write or contact proper officials for advice and further facts and make a report at the next regular meeting. The chapter adopted a resolution supporting the project 100% if it should be deemed advisable to attempt its erection. If this project is attempted, the public will be informed of developments later.

Howard Shehan, Reporter

**F. F. A. Library**

The Luverne FFA chapter has again enlarged its library by the addition of forty-two new books. Added to the twenty-five books bought last year, this year's contribution has brought the reading opportunities of the chapter members up to the goal for the year. The selections cover a wide range of topics that are of interest to chapter members, ranging from pure fiction to reference books.

In accomplishing this goal, the committee responsible for this item in the program of work financed the project from three sources. The chapter gave $25.00, the principal contributed $53.00 from the school fund, and the county superintendent added $50.00 from county funds. This made a total of $128.00 spent for enlarging the FFA library.
Learns From Poultry Enterprise

When Leroy Dunn entered the agricultural class at Greenville High School as a Junior III, he was a very ambitious young fellow. While the farming programs were being planned, he fully made up his mind to carry out a poultry project, which was the thing he was most interested in. He decided to get a year ahead of the other boys. He purchased 250 baby chicks and applied the knowledge gained by past experience to the growing of chicks. Now you can see 92 hens in the yard at Leroy's home that are products of his own hands. These hens are paying off to the tune of $10 per week profit.

Leroy capitalized on his mistake and started all over again. This time he purchased 250 baby chicks and applied the knowledge gained by past experience to the growing of the chicks. Now you can see 92 hens in the yard at Leroy's home that are products of his own hands. These hens are paying off to the tune of $10 per week profit.

To date Leroy has spent $228.25 on his chicken project and has taken from the sale of young roosters, eggs, and a value on the hens, $348.25. The loss on his first experience has already been gained, and a nice income is being realized daily.

Calvin Winter, Reporter

A Home Beautification Program

The Greenville Future Farmers have started a plan that will enable every member to beautify his home with shrubbery without cost to him. As the shrubbery at school is being pruned the cuttings are made and buried until spring. The cuttings will be removed and set in beds to remain until next fall. At that time the young stock will be removed from the beds and placed in lining out rows either at school or in the garden at the boys' homes. The third year the boy is in agriculture the plants will be ready to place around the house.

Five thousand cuttings have already been made from 10 different shrubs. The operation of this plan is in the hands of a special committee.

Calvin Winter, Reporter

CHAPTER NEWS

Addison—Seventeen boys entered the F.F.A. public speaking contest; Mack Richie winning first place and James Denton second place. Akron—Basketball team played veterans. Albertville—Built bleachers for gymnasium and voted to buy a trailer for shop use. Arab—Repaired farm machinery. Arley—Planned beautification of Meek Baptist Church; established Christmas tree nursery. Athens—Made plans for party with the F.H.A.; played three basketball games. Auburn—Constructed 12 poultry brooders.

Beulah—Began a series of programs planned to help members learn something as it is new to all members. Blue Springs—Quartet gave program; chapter president and quartet entertained Lions Club in Ozark. Brookwood—Reopened vocational department after 3 months of idleness for the lack of an instructor; Mr. B. L. Fowler new teacher; organized school newspaper.


Danville—Purchased 61 acres of land on which to make money for F.F.A. chapter. Daviston—Initiated 3 Green Hands. Enterprise—Organized basketball team to play in district F.F.A. tournament. Eva—Made a 200 foot movie reel of F.F.A. boys butchering a hog; took pictures of the F.F.A. boys project work; made door and window frames for the vocational agriculture teacher’s barn; took pictures of the quartet. Evergreen—Ordered fruit trees; operated popcorn machine and shoe shine stand.

Fairhope—Conducted an assembly for the high school; held public speaking and quartet contest. Fairview—Initiated twenty Green Hands. Falkville—Painted inside of classroom; dressed 36 chickens for the lunchroom; bought and delivered to vocational building over $100 worth of fruit trees and shrubbery for members and farmers. Fayette—Stressed scholarship and posted monthly average of all members. Flomaton—Held a chicken fry; sold produce to lunchroom; sold popcorn; operated certified nursery. Fords—Elected chapter officers; appointed committees; welcomed Mr. H. M. Finney as their new adviser. Frisco City—Initiated seventeen new members.

Georgiana—Worked and sprayed
FOR BETTER PAINTING
FOR BETTER CLEANING
FOR BETTER HEALTH
FOR BETTER LIVING

Use Gum Spirits Of Turpentine

AMERICAN TURPENTINE FARMERS
ASSOCIATION COOPERATIVE

Valdosta, Georgia

chapter orchard; ordered 200 fruit trees; drained laboratory area; held officer training school. Glencoe—Organized quartet and basketball team; 45 members entered public speaking contest. Gorgas—Built 10 chicken brooders; landscaped two homes; set out shrubbery patch in lab. area; ordered 500 baby chicks; continued growing vegetables in garden to sell to lunchroom. Grand Bay—Ordered 50 peach trees for members; planned joint box supper with F.H.A. Grant—Purchased 2 beef calves to train for B'ham sale; pruned and sprayed shrubbery on campus; put up shrubbery guards on sidewalks; sponsored Robert Lunn show. Oneonta—Organized basketball team; bought 2 pigs for M.D.F.S. banquet.

New Brockton—Put up play ground equipment. New Hope—Made arrangements for sponsoring a program featuring stars from the Grand Ole Opey. New Market—Had a picture show. Ohatchee—Gave demonstration of F.F.A. meeting to P.T.A.; sold chances on nylon hose.

Oneonta—Ordered basketball team; pruned home orchard.

Palmerton—Organized chapter. Pine Hill—Ordered 650 baby chicks for members. Reelftown—Had contest in parliamentary procedure; presented chapel program at which time the regular F.F.A. public speaking contest was held. Reform—Enjoyed 4 good movies including George Henry. Repton—Repaired plows; sold 3,027 gallons of syrup for farmers; ordered $57 worth of fruit trees. Rogersville—Initiated a rat killing campaign; bought a moving picture projector.

Sardis—Organized quartet band.

Sidney Lanier—Sold 10 chicken brooders; landscaped two homes; set out shrubbery patch in lab. area; ordered 500 baby chicks; continued growing vegetables in garden to sell to lunchroom. Grand Bay—Ordered 50 peach trees for members; planned joint box supper with F.H.A. Grant—Purchased 2 beef calves to train for B'ham sale; pruned and sprayed shrubbery on campus; put up shrubbery guards on sidewalks; constructed 4 lime spreaders; organized pig chain; constructed two tool lockers for shop. Vina—Joint party with F.H.A.; selling garden seeds.

Waterloo—Elected new officers; landscaping homes; sub-rented a pasture. West Limestone—Plan for keeping school campus. Wetumpka—Raising chicks for chicken fry; pruned and sprayed fruit trees; sold fruit trees.