

REPORT OF STATE PRESIDENT

1957

Last year at our 27th annual State FFA Convention, one of the greatest events of my life happened. I was elected by your chapter delegates to serve as your State President.

One very short unbelievable year has passed since that time. Now it is my turn to come before you with a report of my activities and accomplishments.

My first official duty was to attend the Alabama Poultry Industries Association banquet on June 13th along with Mr. Faulkner, and Mr. Cannon in Birmingham, where I met Miss Delores Phillips, State FHA President.

June 16th, I appeared on WSFA-TV in Montgomery, Alabama, along with some fellow Future Farmers from the Sidney Lanier chapter, where we discussed the National FFA Convention and the FFA Contests and Awards.

July 30th through August 1st I attended the Alabama Farm Bureau Training School here at Auburn. I had the opportunity of speaking to the Youth Farm Bureau group at one of their sessions and I also appeared on the Farm Bureau TV program with Mr. Dorrell and Mrs. Parker.

September 13th through the 15th, I spent with my fellow officers in our first Executive Committee meeting here in Auburn.

October 11th I journeyed to Birmingham for the Associated Industries of Alabama banquet, where I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Myra Keeble, State FHA Vice President and Allen Hunter, 4-H Club President.

October 14th through the 19th I experienced one of the most wonderful events of my life, attending the National FFA Convention. It was really an inspiration to me to see how the National officers carried on the convention. It was really a pleasure for me to serve as one of your official delegates. While there I had the opportunity of traveling over to Independence, Missouri and addressing the large Men's Club at their monthly get-to-gether. I will always be indebted to you fellow Future Farmers for this wonderful opportunity.

November 12, 13 and 14th, I was guest of the Alabama Federation of the Farm Bureau at their State Convention in Bolixi, Mississippi. I was honored in having the opportunity to speak to them and getting to meet their fine board of officers.

January 13, 14 and 15th found me again with my fellow officers in an Executive Committee meeting here in Auburn.

February 13, 14 and 15th, I was on the road again. Attending the county presidents and State Officers meeting in Birmingham. There we were the guest of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, for two of the most wonderful days of my life. We enjoyed immensley the tours of the magic city, the wonderful banquets, and the great fellowship between Future Farmers and business men.

February 20th, Mr. Grooms, my local advisor, and I attended our first Father-Son, Mother-Daughter banquet at Wetumpka. We enjoyed an excellent meal and program prepared by Mr. Bazemore and his wonderful boys.

February 21st, My advisor and I journeyed to Chatchee where we enjoyed another delightful banquet. We were also pleased to be with Mr. McGraw and Mr. Culver on this occasion.

February 28th, I was guest at the Chilton County Public Speaking Contest held at Verbena.

The 8th of March I renewed my friendship with Mr. Manning and his boys at their local banquet at Marbury.

March 14th, my advisor and I again enjoyed a pleasant evening at the annual Plantersville banquet.

March 21st, my parents and I attended a well planned program and banquet of the Greensboro chapter.

The 23rd of March I took part in the Central District eliminations.

April 7th through the 10th I spent with my fellow officers in our third Executive meeting here in Auburn. During those three days I had the opportunity to speak to the Auburn Kiwanis Club and Auburn collegiate FFA chapter at their regular meetings besides the other work we accomplished.

April the 12th and the 18th respectively I enjoyed excellent banquets at Dadeville and Suttle.

April 23rd I had the pleasure of being at a luncheon at which the Frank Watts Award was presented to the Alabama Power Company in the Thomas Jefferson Hotel in Birmingham.

April 25th I again journeyed to Birmingham to speak to the Opatomist Club of Birmingham. Then rushing back home that afternoon to attend our neighboring Billingsley FFA chapters banquet that night.

The 9th of May, my advisor and I had another good banquet with the Reeltown FFA chapter. May 14th I was guest of the Production Credit Association at their meeting in Montgomery. I had the privilege of speaking to their directors and officials at one of their regular sessions.

A summary of my activities is as follows:

1. Days spent in the interest of FFA -	60
2. Speeches made	28
3. Radio and Television Programs	10
4. Total expense to FFA	\$

For the wonderful experiences that I have had during the past year, I am truly thankful.

I would like to, at this time, thank a few of the many deserving people who have aided and guided me in the past year.

To each of you 13,666 fellow Future Farmers who make up the Alabama Association and who have made this such an enjoyable year for me - - a sincere thanks.

To my fellow officers, George, Johnny, Lawrence, and Jacky - - I hope

that our work together this year only marks the beginning of one of the most wonderful friendships ever known.

To Mr. Faulkner, Dr. Cammack, Mr. Dailey, Mr. McGraw, and all the other staff members - - thanks for the sound advice, the good background, and the never faltering faith. You have instilled into me a faith and an assurance that I cannot easily define.

To Mr. Grooms, my local advisor, and Mr. Turner, my principal, and all the other instructors at Autauga County High - - thanks for the many helps along the way.

To my Mom and Dad, I know that you will understand when I simply say- - thanks for the untiring effort, the always understanding and love you have shown me in the past year. For without you and the other two members of our family, my brother, Larry and my Grandmother, who have given so much of their time and effort in my behalf, I would not have been able to complete my task as State President.

In closing, I would like to express my confidence in the future of our great organization, and to leave you with this thought from a poem by Edgar A. Guest:

"Do the first task well, and later
you'll be trusted with one greater.
If you fail at the beginning,
Lessened is your chance of winning.
This is how men have succeeded,
Serving well where they were needed.
Shirk today, and to your sorrow,
you'll be overlooked tomorrow.
Boy from this there's no escaping,
Now your future you are shaping."

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Rogers