ALABAMA'S AMERICAN FARMERS for 1962

1962 CHAMPION BROILER GROWER

See Page 2
Champion from Wetumpka

Joe Brown State Broiler Producer

JOE BROWN, 16-year-old broiler producer, Wetumpka FFA, is champion broiler grower for 1962. Mr. C. S. Bazemore, his FFA advisor, discusses Joe's records with him.

Joe Brown, 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Brown, Route 2, Wetumpka, has been named the champion FFA broiler grower in Alabama for 1962.

The program which Joe has in partnership with his father, is set up to produce at least 100,000 broilers per year. The year 1962 has shown a total production of 106,200 broilers. These broilers have been produced very efficiently as is evidenced by an average feed conversion ratio of 2.46. The average age of broilers at marketing time was 8 weeks and 6 days old.

The total farming program which Joe also shares in consists of 11 beef calves, 10 acres of corn, 17 hogs, 3 acres hay and a home garden.

Aside from his FFA leadership activities Joe participates in the Elmore County and State Jr. Cattlemen's Association, shows calves in the fat calf show and is an active member of his church and Sunday School.

Joe will receive a state award of $100 from Southeastern Poultry & Egg Association, which sponsors the contest. He will also be considered for a regional award, which is $500.

A great deal of what we see depends upon what we are looking for.

On The Cover

This group of FFA members and advisors boarded the train in Birmingham on October 8 to attend the National FFA Convention in Kansas City. Other advisors and members also attended the convention, traveling by car.

GOVERNOR John Patterson presented trophies to the FFA winners in the Governor's Conservation Awards Program. The winners are, from left, Buddy High, Union Springs; Jerry Brown, Butler, Billy Powell, State Award, Leroy, and Ted Tindal, Greenville. Other FFA winners not present were Jimmy Barnes, Sulligent, and Bill Smith, Chavala.

A penny will hide the biggest star in the universe, if you hold it close enough to your eye.

FFA FORESTRY plots provide a good laboratory for teaching forestry to FFA members. This roadside sign marks the Reform forestry plot for all to see. Mr. B. F. Boyett, left, and Mr. C. W. Burrage, agricultural and forestry agent, G.M.&O. Railroad, are admiring the sign.

THE ALABAMA FUTURE FARMER
ALABAMA DELEGATES ATTEND NATIONAL SAFETY CONGRESS

KENNY McMILLAN, left, National FFA President; Bunny Middleton, Georgiana FFA member; Mr. Hubert Christian, FFA Advisor, Georgiana; Billy Henderson, Alabama FFA President; Darryl Eastvold, immediate past National FFA vice-president, central region and Mr. William Paul Gray, National FFA executive secretary, discuss the Safety Program during the National Safety Congress in Chicago.

The Alabama delegation has just returned from what I would judge to be a very successful National Safety Congress. It was held in Chicago, Illinois on October 29th through the 31st. Of course, since our delegation was composed of FFA members and leaders, we were principally interested in the farm youth section of the Congress. Only one general meeting was attended by the farm youth at the beginning of the Congress. After this general meeting all youth activities were planned and conducted by the youth in attendance.

As you would suspect, the FFA had much to do with these meetings. Darryl Eastvold, immediate past central region vice-president, Future Farmers of America was chairman of the farm youth section planning committee and had much to do with the success of the meetings.

At the Congress, we heard presentations, discussions, panels and saw demonstrations on all phases of safety. Subjects covered included farm equipment safety, safe use of farm fuels and chemicals, farm fires, home accidents, safe use of electricity and safe use of automobiles and highways. Of course, emphasis was put on youth and their use of these facilities, but facts and figures were produced which proved that each citizen has the responsibility for his own safety and those around him.

As I have stated before I feel that this was a very successful meeting. I would like to suggest that all State FFA Associations become as involved as possible in this activity. Representatives from industry everywhere had the opportunity to meet and see representatives of our youth organizations in action. The FFA exerted its leadership and was well recognized for this leadership. I feel that it will become more evident as time goes on.

One of the most outstanding products of the Congress was the enthusiasm which all delegates shared for a better safety program in the home and on the farm in the future. We delegates from Alabama brought this enthusiasm back with us and are very hopeful that it will be responsible for a better and improved FFA Farm Safety program in Alabama. Because of this I can heartily recommend that all State Associations, if possible, participate in the Safety Congress in the future.

AN EVALUATION session held by FFA members present at the National Safety Congress in Chicago, was led by Kenny McMullan, national FFA president and Darryl Eastvold, immediate past vice-president, central region.
AMERICAN FARMERS FOR 1962

Alabama can well be proud of the 14 young farmers who received the American Farmer Degree from this state in 1962. These are the FFA members who, through hard work and self-application, have proven themselves outstanding in FFA work and agriculture.

This degree can be awarded to only one boy in a thousand so you can see why these members might be termed "best" among FFA members in Alabama.

These American Farmers are the members who decided early to do an outstanding job in their supervised farming programs and to apply themselves through FFA.

The records of these young farmers show that the road chosen by each, no matter how rough in spots, in the end led to success.

To these young farmers, the entire membership extends its wholehearted congratulations and wishes for many more successes in the field of agriculture.

Mickey Jackson
West Limestone

Dairying as a way of life started early and paved the way for Mickey Jackson of West Limestone to receive the American Farmer Degree.

Mickey enrolled in vocational agriculture in the fall of 1957. His productive projects consisted of one dairy cow, one dairy bull, corn, one beef heifer, hay and grain sorghum. Since that time he has continued to expand his dairy program until at the present time he owns 28 head of dairy cattle and is part time artificial inseminator for Limestone County and Giles County, Tennessee.

Mickey has purchased land and equipment from his father, who retired in 1959. Many modern improvements were put into practice in his dairy program while taking vocational agriculture. A new milk parlor, silo, feed shed and pastures are a few of his improvement projects.

Taking care of the farm and attending school makes a full time job, but Mickey found time for many activities in FFA, school and community. He has served as Chapter reporter, vice-president and president of the West Limestone chapter. He was a member of the chapter dairy judging team for three years, winning third place Star Dairy Farmer of Alabama and fourth place in the FFA contest in 1961. In school Mickey was a member of the Beta Club and class president for one year.

Activities in the community included Church usher, wildlife conservation director for the Lester area. He works with the community club and helped build a park site.

Since graduation from high school, Mickey is still active in civic clubs and continues to improve his dairy program. He may be a Master Farmer of tomorrow.

David Page
Vina

David Page of the Vina FFA chapter began his farming career at the age of 15 at the time he enrolled in vocational agriculture. The family already owned a small farm and at that time they purchased a second farm. Even though the land on this new farm was in poor condition it presented a real challenge to David. He became very interested in vocational agriculture and decided that through the Soil and Water Management contest he would improve their land. This program, which he initiated at that time, eventually resulted in his being selected State Soil and Water Management contest winner. He and his father worked out an agreement on their entire farming program which would continue through David's college career and after graduation from college. David's plans are to return to the farm.

Progress which led to the present farming program was reflected in David's supervised farming program while in vocational agriculture. His first year program consisted of four acres of cotton, one sow, five acres of corn and nine market hogs. This program was expanded and during the second year David had one acre of truck crops, enlarged his market hog program to 24 head, his sows to four head, added 10 acres alfalfa and continued his five acres of corn and four acres of cotton. At the end of his second year he repaid his father the loan which he obtained to begin his first year program.

During David's third year of vocational agriculture, his supervised farming program consisted of 25 market hogs, three brood sows, 14 acres of corn, 5 acres of cotton, 1 head sheep and 15 acres of alfalfa. At this point David loaned his father his savings and he and his father formed the Father-Son partnership, which still exists.

David's interest in FFA grew and at the end of his third year he was elected to an office in the State FFA Association.

His projects during the fourth year consisted of 13 dairy cattle, 18 beef cattle, 25 acres of cotton, 70 acres of corn, 100 head market hogs, five brood sows and 15 acres of soybeans. He also owned one registered Landrace male and one registered Angus bull.

This is the program which he left to go away to Auburn University to study Agricultural Education. After graduation from college he hopes to continue his farming activities and, if possible, become a teacher of vocational agriculture in his home county.
Mack Patterson
Buckhorn

Mack Patterson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Patterson, Huntsville, Alabama and a member of the Buckhorn FFA chapter has come a long way toward accomplishing his goal of becoming a successful farmer since enrolling in vocational agriculture in 1956.

His first year's supervised farming program was 1 acre of cotton, 1 market calf, 1 brood cow, ½ acre of truck crops and 1 brood sow which gave him a labor income of only $334.83. The scope of his farming program increased each year bringing in more income. He invested most of his earnings in farm machinery while in school. At the end of his second year out of school his labor income was $7,155.82.

Coming from a family of ten made his ambition even more difficult to accomplish. However, his opportunity came two years ago when his father decided to retire and turn the farming over to Mack. They operate on a 65-35 basis.

Mack was the chapter treasurer, chairman of Earnings and Savings committee. He was elected chapter Star Farmer and delegate to the State FFA Convention.

Thomas Smith, son of Mr. Luther Smith of Castleberry, Route 1, began his study of vocational agriculture in September, 1956. At the present time he is continuing his farming operation. He is owner and operator of the family farm and forester for T. R. Miller Mill Company.

During the last four years in high school, Thomas made a total labor income of $1,607.25. His supervised farming program consisted of swine, cotton and corn. The next three years he made a total labor income of $2,799.33 from corn, swine, cows and cotton.

In 1959 Thomas purchased the family farm. He then operated the farm along with his job as forester for T. R. Miller Mill Company.

While in high school Thomas was president of the Beta Club; treasurer of the Student Council, and a member of the Junior Directors of Southern Pine REA Coop.

In FFA Thomas was president one year, secretary one year and member of the land judging and livestock teams. He was also champion cotton grower. He served on the membership, recreation and pig chain committees. He was elected chapter Star Farmer and delegate to the State FFA Convention.

Thomas is now a member of the Ruritan Club and chairman of its program committee. In addition, he is teacher of the junior class in the Methodist Sunday School, president of MYF, and president of the sub-district youth organization of all churches in his district. He is a member of the young farmers class of the vocational agriculture department at Conecuh County High School in Castleberry.

Billy Lee
Town Creek

Since Billy Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lee, was only a small lad he has been interested in farming and improved methods of farming. When Billy was only 13 years old he was participating in fat stock shows and carried on several projects in the 4-H club.

When Billy entered the vocational agriculture classes at Town Creek he set as his goal the winning of the Star Farmer Award in FFA. With the cows he already had and with the gilts he had from his pig chain Billy began the steady growth that was to later win for him the District Star Farmer Award.

Billy made some arrangements with his father as to the farming program he would carry on. His father had been wiped out of the hog business the year before by disease and he told Billy that if he wanted to carry hogs as a project that he could have the whole hog program as he did not intend to raise anymore himself. Billy started with the two gilts he had, bought two more purebreds and a boar and developed all his hogs from these. He installed automatic waterers and feeders during the time he was in vocational agriculture and built a modern farrowing house with farrowing crates inside made in the vo-ag shop.

Several professional agricultural workers visited his hog operation and said it always be counted upon in school by all his teachers when a job needed to be done.

J. D. Wigley, chapter advisor, says that Mack was a valuable FFA member and an outstanding young farmer. There can be but little doubt that Mack will succeed in his ambition of becoming a successful farmer.

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BILLY LEE

MACK PATTERSON

BILLY LEE
Billy fed balanced rations and practiced recommendations given. He also planted times. tested all his soil and followed the recommendation two years, and one of the five boys receiving the Star Farmer Degree for Kenneth. He entered many contests with success but in dairy judging he was most successful, winning fourth place in the state FFA competition and first place in Birmingham to receive a nice education trip with the extension service.

Kenneth tried diesel mechanics for a short course but due to the illness of his father he returned to the farm. He is expanding his dairy program to have a larger monthly income.

Since finishing High School, Kenneth is practicing many things that he studied in Vocational Agriculture and learned through FFA. He is first in chemical farming for his community. This is putting into practice those leadership activities received by belonging to the Future Farmers of America.

Joe Brannan
Citronelle

Joe Edward Brannan, his wife Patricia Ann and baby son, live on a 160 acre farm located five miles east of Citronelle, Alabama, in Mobile county. Joe is nineteen years old and the son of Mr. Earnest Brannan and Mrs. Mary Alice Brannan, Citronelle, Alabama.

In addition to the home farm, Joe also rents an additional 185 acres of crop land plus 60 acres of woodland grazing area which is rent-free. The type farming is diversified — corn, soybeans, cotton, swine, beef cattle, watermelons, small grains, pecans, and peaches.

Having been raised on a farm, Joe has a great love and appreciation for farm life. He is farming full-time now and has plans to continue doing so.

Due to unfortunate circumstances the operation and management of the farm became his responsibility almost four years ago. This responsibility was a rather heavy load for him at this time but with encouragement and desire he successfully carried on the operation and management of the farm.

Since Joe’s two brothers at home are too young to help much on the farm, he has hired a cousin who is still in school to help with the work. The farm has been placed in Joe’s name and he has assumed the responsibility of its operation.

Not only has Joe carried on an outstanding supervised farming program at home, he has been very active in FFA and community activities. He has served as local president and vice-president of the FFA chapter and served on several committees. Last year, 1961, he was selected first place winner in the farm mechanics contest in Alabama.

Joe’s farming program for this year consists of 60 acres of corn, 3 acres of watermelons, 10 acres of Crimson clover, 25 acres of oats, 38 brood cows, 27 market hogs, 5 sows, 1 boar, 2 dairy cows, and a peach and pecan orchard. Joe has in partnership (50%) 40 acres of cotton, 100 acres of soybeans, and 51 market cattle.

James Taylor
Suttle

The familiar expression, “grow into farming,” certainly applies to James Taylor, 20 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Taylor, of Sprott, Alabama. As the expression implies this is a long drawn out process and cannot be accomplished in a day. This is the story of James Taylor and his growth into farming.

To say that James was successful in his attempt to become a farmer would be to underrate his efforts. The program which he has built was started with two pigs, 2 calves, a garden plow, 1 acre of corn and determination to be a successful farmer. From this meager beginning, during his years in vo-ag, he gradually expanded his program until he had a farming program equal to those in his community and one which commanded his full efforts to manage.

During James’ first year in vocational agriculture his opportunities for farming were very limited so he planned one acre of corn, 2 beef calves and 2 market hogs for his supervised farming program. He used the family garden tractor to cultivate this one acre of corn which was used to feed his calves and hogs. Hogs were cheap that year so he butchered his and sold them at a much higher profit. His interest grew.

Joe E. Brannan
JAMES TAYLOR

The second year’s program consisted of one brood sow, 26 acres of corn, and 4 acres of cotton on rented land. James bought a secondhand tractor and equipment to cultivate his corn and cotton with. The profits from his second year vocational agriculture netted James $563.83. He decided to continue his growth in farming and work toward the State Farmer Degree.

Further expansion of the program showed a 3rd year supervised farming program of 1 beef calf, 40 acres of corn, 8 acres of cotton and 60 head of market hogs. At this point James decided to expand into the hog business. In order to do this he would need farrowing houses and good sows. He built a farrowing house with four pens, concrete floor, good drainage and pig brooders in order to save more pigs.

During his fourth year in vocational agriculture he had 5 brood sows, 4 beef cows, 1 purebred boar, 20 acres of cotton and 35 acres of corn. At this time James knew he needed more equipment for his farming operation. He bought a new tractor to go along with his old one and either bought or constructed the equipment needed to carry out the operation. In the farm shop he built a grain elevator and in his home farm shop he built such items as self feeders and stalk cutters. Through good management, by the time James had graduated from High School he had netted $5,256.73 and had an inventory of 2 tractors and equipment, a farrowing house for his hogs, 7 sows, and one boar, 3 beef cows and had built a tractor shed for his equipment.

Along with the expansion of his farming program this year showed that through James’ efforts the family built a new home, improved their home grounds, established a small home orchard and generally improved the living conditions for the family. By this time James had also become a leader in his school, church and community. In his FFA he had served his chapter on many committees, was a strong contender in the Farm Mechanics contest, and had been chapter reporter. In school he served as a member of the Beta Club, was on the school paper staff, had been vice-president of his Beta Club and a school bus driver. In the community he took part in all worthwhile activities and is a member of his local church and Sunday School.

With these accomplishments James applied for the State Farmer Degree and was named State Star Farmer of Alabama for the year 1959-60. Since that time James has become further established in farming and is a good solid citizen in his community.

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James Stewart
Coffee Springs

James Stewart, Coffee Springs FFA chapter, entered vocational agriculture in September of 1957, and shortly was initiated as a Green Hand by the chapter.

James’ fourth year projects were 30 acres of corn, 15 acres of peanuts, 12 market cattle and 24 market hogs. He did much work on his supervised farming programs and FFA activities the first part of this year.

At present James is farming in partnership with his parents. His farming program consists of 65 acres of corn, 26 acres of peanuts, 16 brood sows, 1 boar, 198 market hogs, 72 cattle and 2 bulls. In addition to his farming program and FFA activities, he is an active member in his church and community.

JAMES STEWART

During his first year in vocational agriculture he had three acres of corn and five market hogs as his productive enterprise projects. He also had several improvement projects. In addition to these projects he served on the livestock judging team. Most of his first year was spent becoming familiar with the FFA and helping on committees when possible. He learned much about FFA that first year and established a small home orchard.

During his second year of vocational agriculture which was in 1958, James improved his farming program. He had

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Jimmy Collins
LaFayette

Jimmy Collins of the LaFayette FFA chapter lives on a beef cattle farm with his parents Mr. and Mrs. James S. Col...

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registered Angus cows and heifers in partnership with his interest in farming since his father bought 14 registered Angus cows and heifers. Jimmy's farm program left much to be desired when he enrolled in the FFA. It consisted of a show steer and a beef brood cow. The following year, 1959, he added a beef heifer, pecans, and a garden to his program.

A real advance came in Jimmy's program in March of 1960 when he and his father bought 14 registered Angus cows in partnership. Other projects which were added were a partnership feeding of steers, five acres of barley, five acres of hay, and two additional beef heifers.

In 1961 Jimmy added one more beef heifer, five more acres of barley, and nine more registered Angus cows. This year Jimmy's farming program consists of two show steers, three beef brood cows, two acres of certified barley, 37 registered Angus cows and heifers in partnership with his father, and he also had 34 acres of barley and 18 acres of oats in partnership with his father.

Jimmy owns no land because the farm is tied up in an estate, but he has plans to buy part of the farm at the time the estate is settled. At the present time Jimmy owns no machinery, but rents the necessary equipment from his father. The reason he hasn't bought equipment is that most of the money he makes will be used to help finance his college education. Jimmy's future plans are to help buy equipment as it is needed.

Upon graduation from college Jimmy would like to return to the home farm and produce registered Angus cows. If things work out as he has planned, he and his father should have all Angus cows in another five years.

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**Robert Caine**
Orrville

Robert Caine, of the Orrville FFA chapter, entered high school in September 1956. He came to high school with an interest in farming since his family had lived on the farm for several years. This interest caused Robert to have a desire to enter vocational agriculture and become an FFA member.

He began his program in vocational agriculture with a supervised farming program of 2 beef calves, 1½ acres of corn, 1 acre of cotton, 15 turkeys and 2 acres of pine seedlings. The money to finance this program was loaned to Robert by his father. At the year's end he showed a net profit of $359.99, which was deposited in a savings account. With his accomplishments for this first year Robert earned the Chapter Farmer Degree.

During his second year Robert's supervised farming program consisted of 2 acres pines, 2 head of hogs, 15 turkeys, 2 beef calves, 1½ acres of cotton, 1½ acres of corn and 5 acres of oats. He also received a purebred gilt through the chapter pig chain program. His net profit during his second year was $494.96.

During Robert's third year in high school he was unable to schedule vocational agriculture but he worked very closely with his vo-ag teacher and continued his farming program. His net profit that year was $1,015.93. During the State FFA Convention that year he received his State Farmer Degree. When he became a senior in high school he enrolled in AG III and expanded his supervised farming program. He inherited 40 acres of land and formed a partnership with his father which still exists.

At the present Robert is a Junior in Agricultural Education at Auburn University but he spends his week-ends at home on the farm. His plans are to go back to the farm after he graduates from college and resume his position as a responsible citizen in his community.

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**Clark Gaston**
Sidney Lanier

Clark Gaston, 21 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Gaston, Pike Road, Alabama represents what can happen if a person becomes interested in farming and does something about it. Clark, an easy going, hard working young boy, has been interested in dairy farming for a number of years on a small scale, but the production of more milk and producing it cheaper didn't interest him until he entered vocational agriculture.

When Clark entered vocational agriculture, he had as an only project one registered Jersey heifer, not too good. Realizing that it would take a long time to build a herd with one cow, he began to discuss with his father a business deal in the dairy. Mr. Gaston, seeing Clark's interest in dairying, decided it was time to make him a partner in the business. Clark was at that time doing more than half the labor.

Thus, when in October, 1955, a partnership was formed between Clark, his father and younger brother, Bill, things began to happen. There were only fifty-five cows and calves in the herd at the time the partnership was formed. The herd needed culling, and replacements were needed to increase milk production.

Clark purchased a registered Jersey bull, February 1956, from Sanitary Dairy in Dothan, Alabama. In May of the same year, he attended a Jersey sale at Montgomery and purchased two registered Jersey heifers. When his father saw them, he wanted to know why he didn't buy more. In June, they purchased fifteen springing Holstein heifers that freshened in September and October. They were so pleased with these that ten more were purchased in December and plans for 24 more were made soon after and these were to be delivered June 7, 1957. Four of these were registered and one registered Holstein bull was delivered on the same date. This brought the herd size up to over 100 with about one-half Holstein and the other half Jersey and Guernseys. Clark's share was 12 registered bulls, cows and heifers and several head of grade cows and heifers. In addition to this, he owns one-third interest in the 120 producing cows.

The Gaston's labor is no problem inasmuch as Clark, Bill, and Mr. Gaston know what each job requires and this is done without any confusion. During the absence of one or two the work is carried out by anyone of the three. They do not believe in hired help as they feel that that part is most of their profit.

Clark made several improvements since entering vocational agriculture such as concrete walk ways for cattle, new milking machines, 650 gallon milk tank, hot water heater, feed room and mixing room. Plans are now to put in pipe line milker, trench silo, cull low producing cows, buy a farm, and grow more hay, and grain. Clark's ambition is to have 160 producing cows with an average of more than 12,000 pounds of milk per head and 4½ percent butter fat.
During Jack's junior and senior years he expanded into the beef cattle and hog business. Needing pasture, he exchanged labor on his father's farm for the use of some of Mr. Davis' land. Jack planted Bahia grass and Coastal Bermuda grass. When his pastures were sufficient for an increased herd, he borrowed money from the bank and purchased 16 purebred Angus cows. At the same time he increased his hog program, his grain crops, and began feeding out steers.

After graduation, recognizing the need for technical information, he enrolled in the school of agriculture at Auburn University. His two older brothers, Edgar and Hubert, who had farms adjoining Jack's, agreed to look after his while he was in school. But they were called into the National Guard and Jack returned home to look after farming for the three of them after only two quarters at Auburn.

Jack plans to return to Auburn to get his agricultural degree when his brothers are discharged from the army. He also plans to acquire land, increase and improve his pastures in the future.

Jack's farming operation now includes 24 beef heifers, 9 steers, 12 beef cows, 50 acres of corn, 25 feeder pigs, 2 sows, 50 acres of Bahia grass, 2 mules, 1 horse and machinery and equipment to carry on his business.

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Jack Davis
Troy

From a ninth grade student in Troy High School to a young adult farmer, Jack Davis of Linwood, Alabama, has shown a strong interest in agriculture and he has used his energy to make his interest a profitable agricultural career.

Jack's father, Mr. E. L. Davis, is an enthusiastic, successful farmer, and Jack, one of nine children, early acquired farming skill from the teaching of his father.

As soon as he was of age to enroll in vocational agriculture at Troy High, he displayed a desire to have ambitious farm projects and he early demonstrated that he would conscientiously attend to the gilt, the 25 layers, the beef cattle, and the corn which he chose as his first projects. He spent his holidays, vacation, and after school hours working with his projects.

With the encouragement of his vocational agriculture teacher and his father, he increased the number of projects at the same time that he was improving the ones previously started. Over the school years his agricultural inventory was increasing.

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Gordon Bain
Carrollton

Gordon Bain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter B. Bain of Carrollton, reached another highlight in his farming career when he was awarded the American Farmer Degree. Gordon has been an outstanding member of the Carrollton FFA chapter. He served as vice-president for two years and was always willing and ready to serve on any committee and assist with any chapter projects which came along.

In September 1956, Gordon enrolled in vocational agriculture. His productive projects consisted of one show calf and 10 acres of corn. The next year his farming program included 1 market hog, 2 brood cows, 5 acres of corn, 3 acres of hay and 1 show calf. The third year his program expanded to 1 sow, 10 market cows, 12 acres of corn, 5 acres of hay and 1 acre of truck crops. During his senior year in high school, his program increased to 6 acres of hay, 12 registered Angus brood cows, 30 acres of corn, and 4 show calves.

Gordon's present farming program has expanded to 12 brood sows, 53 market hogs, 12 registered Angus brood cows, 14 market calves, 50 acres of corn, 30 acres of hay, 15 acres of grain sorghum and 50 acres of oats.

Show calves have always been Gordon's specialty. He fed out and showed the Reserve Grand Champion of the Pickens County fat stock for four years in a row. He didn't mind winning only the reserve grand champion title, because all four years the grand champion was won by his younger brother who has been his partner in farming for the last three years.

Gordon is active in community and church activities and was active in school activities throughout his high school career. He served as president of his senior class and also president of the student body. He was an outstanding athlete for Carrollton and won letters in football, basketball and baseball.

At the present time Gordon is enrolled as a sophomore at Mississippi State College in Animal Husbandry.

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Prejudices are rarely overcome by argument; not being founded on reason, they cannot be destroyed by logic.
Alabama At The National Convention

ALABAMA'S DELEGATES to the National FFA Convention were Jerry Brown, right, and Billy Henderson. They were responsible for representing our association in all sessions of the National Convention.

NEAL HOWELL, Grand Bay FFA, participated in the National band at the National FFA Convention. Neal was caught for this picture during a break.

ELEVEN of Alabama's 14 American Farmers are preparing to receive their degree during the American Farmer ceremony at the National Convention.

Mr. J. A. WHITE, district supervisor, Southwest Alabama, chats with Sam Sullivan and Mr. C. W. Crawford from Millry enroute to Auburn from the National FFA Convention.

THIS group of American Farmers attended the National FFA Convention. Eleven of the 14 American Farmers from Alabama were able to attend and receive their degrees in person.

DONNIE GIPSON, Buckhorn FFA served as Alabama's Flag bearer during the National Convention. He is preparing to display the Flag during the Star Farmer of America ceremony.
MR. C. W. CRAWFORD, Advisor at Millry, talks with Sam Sullivan, State Forestry winner from Millry, about the tour which Sam made. He was the guest of Seaboard Airline Railroad on a tour through the Eastern United States. The tour began in Mobile on Thursday before the National Convention and proceeded through Jacksonville, Washington, New York, Boston, St. Louis and to Kansas City for the Convention.

OUR congratulations to Mr. Romaine Smith, Young folks Editor, Progressive Farmer, for his outstanding support of the FFA in Alabama and nationally. During the National Convention he was awarded a plaque for outstanding service to the FFA and a 15 year Donors plaque which he accepted on behalf of the Progressive Farmer. We are proud to have the Progressive Farmer and its staff behind the FFA in Alabama.

MR. D. N. BOTTOMS, professor, agricultural education, Auburn University, served as Alabama's adult representative on the Courtesy Corp during the National Convention. It is the Courtesy Corp's responsibility to assist in maintaining order and harmony during the convention.

MR. J. M. JOHNSON, Union Springs FFA advisor, and his livestock judging team represented Alabama in the National livestock judging contest. The team members are from left, Jimmy Maxwell, Harry Rotton, Mike Reynolds and Sidney McCall.

MR. PAUL DEAN, Hartford FFA advisor and his poultry judging team represented Alabama during the National FFA poultry judging contest. The team members are from left, Frank Ketchem, Kenneth Hales, and Paul Ketchem. They are displaying a plaque which they received for their Silver rating performances during the contest.

MR. PAUL DEAN, Hartford FFA advisor and his poultry judging team represented Alabama during the National FFA poultry judging contest. The team members are from left, Frank Ketchem, Kenneth Hales, and Paul Ketchem. They are displaying a plaque which they received for their Silver rating performances during the contest.

THOMAS BUFFORD, Tuskegee, is congratulated by Prof. D. N. Bottoms at the National FFA Convention after he received the Bronze chapter emblem for his chapter.

ROBERT CAINE, American Farmer candidate from Orrville, lost no sleep while enroute to and from the National Convention.

MR. D. N. BOTTOMS, professor, agricultural education, Auburn University, served as Alabama's adult representative on the Courtesy Corp during the National Convention. It is the Courtesy Corp's responsibility to assist in maintaining order and harmony during the convention.

TOMMY BILES, Buckhorn FFA, received congratulations from Billy Henderson, State FFA president, on receiving the Gold FFA Emblem for the Buckhorn FFA chapter.

WOODVILLE

Many useful and worthwhile things are being taught to a class of about 70 FFA members at Woodville this year.

One class is currently learning the art of landscaping. Later this fall and in the spring this class plans to landscape our entire five acre campus.

Another class is studying the care and maintenance of gasoline engines. They plan, after instruction by their advisor, to individually tear apart and reassemble a gasoline engine, testing each part and replacing it if necessary. To enable these students to do a better job of this, the chapter plans to spend $117.04 for tools. These tools can be used for many years and they will be a valuable addition to our tool room.

Another class is at this time sealing, finishing, and painting our ag classroom. This work was not done when the building was built several years ago because it was not necessary at the time.

The skills these students are now learning will be of use to them later in life, no matter what profession or vocation they choose.

PISGAH

The Pisgah FFA boys are doing a splendid job repairing the football bleachers and building more new ones. The new bleachers, supervised by Mr. Earnest Pruett, will add forty feet to the end of the old bleachers. These new bleachers will make it possible for more
people to be seated to watch the games. The FFA boys are also building a stand where popcorn will be sold to every one who wishes to buy it. The profits from the popcorn will go in the FFA treasury to buy the supplies and equipment which are needed.

**GUIN**

Officers for the Guin FFA chapter have been elected and installed for the coming year, according to the chapter advisor, M. E. Ekstrom. President is Earnest Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Robertson; secretary, Julion Lowrey; treasurer, Vance Sexton; reporter, Butch Chaffin, sentinel, Mike Gann.

Other officers are Crable Stover, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stover, vice-president; Jack McCullar, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. McCullar, secretary; Tommy Glenn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Glenn, treasurer; Ronald Cleveland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cleveland, reporter; Kenneth White, son of Mr. and Mrs. James White, sentinel.

Enrollment in the chapter this year is 60 members.

**WATERLOO**

Waterloo FFA chapter held its regular meeting, initiating 20 new members. Boys initiated and receiving their Green Hand degrees were Tommy Arnold, David Barrier, Raymond Benson, Tommy Bevis, Richard Boatright, Larry Brannon, Ronnie Brown, Donald Folkes, Gene Frazier, Kenny Harris, Ernie Hinton, Daniel Johnson, Wayne Lack, Troy Lard, Donnie Robertson, Tommy Robertson, Wayne Ward, Jimmy White, Jimmy Wood, and Jerry Wylie.

**MONTEVALLO**

On October 28, Mr. Francis Lueth, game biologist, was a guest and speaker in the vocational agriculture department. Mr. Lueth discussed most of the factors involved in the maintenance and operation of his work with deer and other game in Alabama. He stated that his job was to furnish game harvest for the many people over a long period of time.

In point of individual responsibilities required for future game management and preservation, Mr. Lueth emphasized that the matter of working with hunters was the big job and that when hunters did their part, the problem of a good harvest of game was less a factor.

**GUIN**

The Guin chapter of Future Farmers of America has elected the following students as officers for this year: president, Jimmy McKay; vice-president, Larry Robertson; secretary, Julion Lowrey; treasurer, Vance Sexton; reporter, Butch Chaffin; sentinel, Mike Gann.

Committees have been appointed in these areas: program of work, Julion Lowery, Larry Robertson, Jimmy McKay; activities, Jerry Gann, David McKay, Mike Gann; budget committees, Vance Sexton, Butch Chaffin, Grice Webb.

**ATTALLA**

Ten young men from the Etowah County High School area are participating in a farm welding short course at the vocational agriculture building at Etowah High School. The course is being taught by Earl Henderson, local vocational agriculture teacher, and is sponsored by the Lincoln Electric Co. through its local dealer. The course includes such topics as welding safety, how to perform such skills as flat welding, fillet welds, brazing, soldering, overhead welding, etc.


The course will last for a five weeks period. One session is held per week, each session lasting for about three hours.

**DOUGLAS**

October 18, 1962 was an exciting day for 19 boys of the Douglas High School. This was the day they were initiated into the FFA chapter as Green Hands. The following now have earned the honor of being Green Hands in the Douglas FFA chapter, which is the first degree in FFA work: Gilbert Adams, Larry Bean, Farriial Berry, W. C. Brown, Jr., Benny Camp, Donald Claborn, Johnny Denson, David Faeth, Joe Ed Formby, Robert Fowler, Larry Frachisse, Frank Gibb, Jarad Jarvis, Roger Mahan, Buddy Merrill, Harvey Ogle, Marvin Scott, Lewis Sims, and Michael Spears.

This makes the Douglas chapter have a total membership of 65. Forty-five Chapter Farmers, two State Farmers, and the 19 newly initiated Green Hands.

**ALEXANDER CITY**

C. A. Crockett's second-year vocational agriculture class, which delves into a wide range of subjects from the intricacies of electricity to the precision of mechanical drawing, this week completed a unit on one-cylinder gas engine repair, maintenance and operation.

The class-room instruction included the principles of operation, measuring parts for wear and tear, and the disassembly and reassembly of the motor with a class demonstration.

Laboratory experience was gained through the use of eight motors brought in by the students, who were divided into groups of three and given a motor to disassemble, repair and reassemble.

**ATTALLA**

The Guin chapter of Future Farmers of America recently. The impressive cere-
mony in the official FFA manual was carried out by the FFA officers.

The new members in the Aliceville FFA are Max Allen, Bobby Baldin, Dixon Corder, Kenny Fields, Sonny Foster, Kenneth Johnson, Jerry Reynolds, Larry Stokes, John Walker, Ed Conner, Jimmy Garrison and George Griffith. Each of these boys received a Green Hand pin, a membership card and a decal of the FFA emblem to put on their car.

ASHFORD

Charles Robert Ingram, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ingram of Pansey, is Ashford FFA chapter's Champion Corn Grower for 1962. This accomplishment has been a performance for Charles Robert for the third consecutive year. Even though the title is the same there is a difference in the amount of corn produced. In 1960, Ingram was awarded the title of chapter winner and also the Houston County winner, producing 85 bushels per acre. In 1961, he retained both the chapter and county Champion Corn Grower title with the production of 106 bushels per acre. This year he has increased production to 114.9 bushels per acre on a 9 acre plot.

Ingram planted Dixie 18 variety on April 16 in rows 36 inches apart and left the plants about 13 inches apart in the row. He applied 500 pounds of 4-12-12 fertilizer at planting time and side dressed with 300 pounds of nitrate of soda on May 10, 1962.

KINSTON

Gerald Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin, of Kinston, Route 1, took top honors in the FFA corn growing contest. Gerald's yield of 84 bushels per acre was made with Florida 200 hybrid corn and spaced 16 inches in the drill in 3 foot rows. For fertilizer he used 500 lbs. of 4-12-12 before planting and side dressed with 150 lbs. of anhydrous ammonia.

MILLERVILLE

The Soil Conservation committee of Clay county introduced and sponsored a county-wide Forestry Judging contest for the first time October 23, 1962. The Millerville FFA chapter team of ten boys, or members, joined the ranks of the judges to capture two wins of the event. This judging team was selected as follows: five members were chosen from the first year, or Ag I class. Two members were chosen from the second year, or Ag II class. One member from the third year class, and two members from the fourth year class, or Ag IV class. The Millerville FFA chapter came through with a second place scoring situation, while Joe Martin, a second year boy, came up with a third place score in the individual contest.

HARTFORD

The Hartford FFA chapter took high honors in the hog shows at Birmingham, Montgomery, and Dothan. A total of $483 and 80 ribbons was won by the chapter. Individuals who showed hogs of their own were Joel Childs, who won $50, and Peggy Sue Dean, who won $157.

A few of the placings were 26 first places, 17 second places, 4 reserve breed champions, 3 breed champions, 6 reserve grand champions, 8 grand champions, and 4 junior champions.

Five of the chapter members entered barrows in the Geneva County Barrow Show at Geneva, Alabama on November 15. Only one third place in one class kept the chapter from walking off with the whole show. The placings were two first places, two second places, one third place, grand champion, and reserve grand champion.

DADEVILLE

The vocational agriculture program at Dadeville High School is off to a good start with an enrollment of 85 students. This is an all time high for enrollment at the Dadeville department. Thirty-five of the students are first-year boys who are studying vocational agriculture for the first time. These 35 new students were initiated at a joint FFA-FHA winner roast. They now hold the Green Hand degree.

CENTREVILLE

The Centreville FFA chapter Farm Woodland Improvement contest awards were presented to 14 FFA members at the Brent Civilian Club meeting recently. Winning first place and $25 was Ray Steele, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Steele.

"I'm getting cattle to market weight 15 days faster now that I've got a concrete feed lot!"

Says Francis Gallery, Masonville, Iowa

"On concrete, my 80 head average 2.6 lbs. gain per day for 140 days. That's mighty good for low choice heifers and steers! And with a concrete lot, I can feed 20% more cattle in the same space."

A concrete feed lot is a real money-making investment. There's no mud for cattle to fight. Every bit of feed turns into profitable weight. Wagons unload faster, never bog down in the mud. Cleaning is easier, too. Tractor scoops can't gouge concrete. There is no hole filling, no maintenance.

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A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete

Please send free booklet, "Concrete Improvements for Cattle Feed Lots."

Also send material on subjects I've listed:

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of Eoline. Second place and $15 went to Franklin Huey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Huey of Liberty. Bobby Steele son of Mrs. Steele and the late Mr. Steele of Eoline, received $12 for winning third place and Jimmy McSpadden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vea McSpadden of River Bend received $8 for winning fourth place. Each one of the other participants, Fred Lawley, Earl Lawley, Wesley Foster, Ronald Chapman, Raymond Yeager, Johnny Anderson, Luther Lemley, Jimmy Buford, Jackie Argie, and Billy Allen received $4 for winning fifth place. The forestry contest is sponsored jointly by the Brent Civic Club and the Gulf Mobile and Ohio Railroad Company.

GREENVILLE

The Greenville FFA was host at a county field day at Mr. J. Rob Williams' farm. The purpose was to determine the county winners in each contest. McKenzie won first place in all contests held. Georgiana, having 94% of their chapter present, won the attendance prize. Greenville came out with three second places and one third, leaving Georgiana with one second and three third places.

The field day was sponsored by the Butler County Soil Conservation District. The donors for prize money were banks, civic clubs and cattlemen's association.

Reliable "Handy Man" for the Farmer

Quick, Convenient Long Distance

Today's farmer, like other businessmen, uses Long Distance to save important time and costly travel. He relies on Long Distance for buyer contacts, market facts, hurry-up equipment repairs, and many other things.

The farm family also uses Long Distance as a pleasant and practical way to visit folks who live in other towns.

Use Long Distance often—and remember, you get extra bargains on most calls after 6 p.m. and on Sundays.
KINSTON—rented Opp school bus and 25 members attended South Carolina Fair; showed slides of summer educational tour to Canada at chapter meeting; held Green Hand initiation for 14 new members.

LAFFAYETTE—held regular monthly meetings; Game Warden gave talk on game and hunting laws.

LEIGHTON—completed successful drive for sale of rat poison; FFA calendar almost complete; emphasis placed on safety behind the wheel; saw a safe driving film; bought $100 worth of tools for shop; ordered 15 FFA jackets.

LEBOY—held regular chapter and executive meetings; 30 members attended Alabama State Fair; auction got raise for shop; raised money to buy new welder; made plans for the rest of year; added 48 new members; started painting shop.

MILLPORT—held two chapter meetings; paid in November; initiated 21 Green Hands; started work on contests; made five typing tables; placed two pigs in pig chain.

MONTEVALLO—held 56 attended State Fair; went on deer hunt; were ordered to National Future Farmer; ordered five jackets; held regular meeting; elected officers.

NEW BROCKTON—initiated 26 new members; presented Green Hand degree pins; working on lawn mower engines.

PAINT ROCK VALLEY—held regular meetings; approved annual program of work; took annual trip to Nashville; students pulled corn on FFA plot; proud owner of $110.51.

PISGAH—new hog pasture fence; sold popcorn at football games for chapter; welded an old house bought; made plans for fair.

RANBERNE—held Green Hand initiation; plans made to raise money for FFA trip; bought new clock on football field; wired caution lights for the city; electrical overhauling.

ROGERS—won first place exhibit in North Alabama Fair and third place in Alabama State Fair; ordered five jackets; held regular meeting; elected two new officers; made plans for programs for the remainder of year; added 48 new members; began welding in shop; completed six weeks in shop; bought new sand; selected chapter corn growing winner.

SCOTTSBORO—75 boys enrolled in vo-ag for year; studying differential leveling, identification, and use of hand tools; electricity and woodworking; earned enough money to buy one new 225 amp welder for shop by painting metal framework of bleachers in the stadium; added about $1,000 worth of tools to shop by sale of hogs donated by a local lumber dealer.

SECTION—ordered new power equipment in vo-ag shop; initiated 61 Green Hands using official ceremony; held parents work bench and welding tables for new shop; member entered poultry production contest; started numerous official program on farm safety; published news articles in school paper; elected Future Farmer of the Month; starting sales campaign for program; received official T-shirts for all members; ordered FFA paraphernalia and officer station symbols; established clean up program.

SMITH STATION—selected officers; initiated 51 Green Hands; entered livestock judging contest; have 100 FFA members.

SOUTHSIDE—took an overnight fishing trip to Guntersville Lake; bought a Herford calf at Sand Mountain Feeder Sale; feeding out two Hereford steers for fat calf show next spring; took a trip to the State Fair; building second ping pong table for chapter recreation room; sold a Holstein calf for $110.51.

SPARKMAN—held two meetings; serviced two tractors; held tractor clinic; built eight mailboxes; repaired furniture for local church; sent off for seven jackets; organized string band; bought $1,000 worth of shop equipment; built livestock equipment for local farmers; shop work consists of building trailer, working on motors, building gun rack and tools locker.

SULLIGENT—ordered eight official jackets and T-shirts for members; 36 members in chapter; elected officers; sold Farm Journal magazines; checked corn yields; selling fruit trees.

WHITE PLAINS—won second place in Calhoun County Fair; elected sweetheart; have one county officer; 36 members in chapter; elected officer.

WOODVILLE—held regular meeting; Green Hands initiated; building fence for Sena Hall; committee working on handbook; sold concessions at ball games to raise chapter funds; began work on speaking contest.

YEOUPKA—have 60 members; initiated 22 Green Hands; helped with Halloween Carnival; selected officers; sold Farm Journal magazine; planned activity program; held four regular meetings; Ag 11 class studied welding; Ag 11 studied regulating of small gasoline engines.

You can't mean it! THOUSANDS?

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An ELECTRICALLY operated feeding system is saving six man-hours daily . . . and increasing production and profits . . . for Montevallo Dairyman N. H. Waters, Jr.

Mr. Waters says the electrically powered system permits feeding of silage to his high-producing herd of Holsteins with maximum efficiency and minimum waste.

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