Alabama Makes Strong Showing, Has Good Attendance At Convention

Alabama’s 17,000 Future Farmers were well represented at the 37th National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, during October. Over 40 members and adults made the trip by train together from Birmingham, and several others went by other means to the week-long meeting.

THE STAGE at Kansas City’s National Convention during the presentation of the American Farmer degrees. Seven Alabama candidates were on hand for theirs.

Chapters. Rex Bond, Newville, was first-place national electrification winner, and he was among the delegation along with his advisor, R. H. Lisenby. Alabama’s judging teams—Hartford, Section and ALABAMA’S GOLD EMBLEM CHAPTER receiving its award through representatives, Cecil Gant, Jr., advisor, and Gordon Carter, livestock judging contestant.

The State got its share of awards, too, from the Convention stage. Seventeen American Farmer degrees were awarded, and seven Alabama boys were on hand in person to get their degrees and their $100 checks. Four chapters—Section, Union Springs, Ider and Foley—had their representatives on hand to receive their awards as national emblem-winning.

JACK LISTER, JR., Southside chapter, Alabama’s entry in the “Mail Order” band.

Five Points—won medals for their good work. And, we also had one Honorary American Farmer, Dr. R. W. Montgomery, of Auburn University, and one National FFA Foundation donor, The Progressive Farmer magazine, represented by Romaine Smith, who were on hand at the Convention but did not attend in a body with the other delegates.

Attending the 1964 National FFA Convention from Alabama were: Byron F. Rawls, Auburn; H. N. Lewis, Auburn; Dr. R. A. Baker, Auburn; Jim Edwards, Montevallo; Bob Thompson, Ozark; C. W. Reed, Gordo; D. P. Whit...
Vo-Ag—Opportunity, Danger Ahead

By J. F. INGRAM
Alabama Director, Vocational Education
Montgomery, Alabama

The one group of people in America who are most essential to our national existence, our national strength and our national progress is the group engaged in agriculture! Despite all the progress made by scientists in producing synthetics of all kinds there are not yet any substitutes which can effectively replace the products of the soil.

The programs of education, experimentation, and research in agriculture have enabled American farmers to increase greatly the productions of products of the soil. While greatly improving productivity of the soil, ways have been found to reduce drastically the manpower requirements in agriculture. This has released manpower needed in our laboratories and factories and to fill the need for workers in the service areas. It is truly significant to our national safety that so few workers are required to produce food and fiber for so great a population! It was proved in World War II that the United States can feed itself, help feed its allies, produce guns, ammunition, and bombs, and still have an adequate supply of manpower for all of our military services! Our capabilities in all these matters continue to increase. Russia and her Communist satellites and allies would pose a far more serious threat to the free world if their proficiencies in agriculture approached those of the American farmers. Manpower requirements to produce the essential food and fiber are so great that these countries cannot wage an all-out war over any extended period of time. This is truly a great advantage to the United States in its role of keeping the peace.

Agriculture, being so very vital to the United States, can never be overlooked in our continuing programs of research, experimentation and education. While the number engaged in agriculture decreases, the necessity for education and training for those engaged in agriculture becomes ever more apparent. As the population of the United States increases the demands for products of the soil increase. There will not be any more land but the demands for products of the soil will continue to increase.

Much credit for the efficiency in agriculture of this nation must go to the program of vocational agriculture. Although Land Grant Colleges, agricultural experiment stations and the scientists of this nation have discovered and uncovered information, methods, techniques and procedures for improving agriculture, such information has been carried to the individual farms principally through teachers of vocational agriculture. It will be no less than tragic if the excellent program of vocational agriculture is ever allowed to become diluted or to be diverted from the most excellent job it has been doing.

The new Vocational Education Act of 1963 has great significance for the program of vocational agricultural education of this nation. In addition to continuing the excellent program of vocational agricultural education for persons preparing for and/or engaged in agricultural pursuits, teachers of vocational agriculture will now be called upon to teach the agricultural skills and knowledge necessary in other occupations. In our changed and changing economy many new kinds of occupations have appeared. Others will appear in the future. Until a relatively short time ago there were no salesmen of farm chemicals and insecticides. There were no salesmen of farm machinery and equipment. These and many other such occupations which require of workers some of the skills and knowledge of agriculture have emerged in recent years. No people in education are as well prepared, equipped, and qualified to teach the agricultural skills and knowledge required in such jobs as are teachers of vocational agriculture. It will indeed be very foolish not to fully utilize these excellent teachers in their areas of proficiency.

It is entirely possible that in the future we may see vocational students who, as graduates of a vocational program, may be the products of special teachers in agriculture, in distributive education and in trade and industrial education. An illustration might be farm machinery sales and service. A vocational agriculture teacher might teach the agricultural skills and knowledge. A distributive education teacher might teach the salesmanship. A qualified commercial farm machinery repairman might teach the trade skills and technical knowledge of commercial repair of farm machinery. In each case a qualified and recognized specialist would be contributing Continued on page 13
Howard L. Smith, Jr.
Kinston
F. W. Wood, Advisor

Howard L. Smith, Jr.

Saluting Alabama's Seventeen

Alabama should be very proud of the young men who received their American Farmer degrees this year from our State. Each is the one-in-one thousand most outstanding recent graduate of vocational agriculture and FFA in Alabama. They have proven, by hard work and sincere purpose, that they believe in the future of farming as a way of life and a way of earning a living that will take second-place to none other. They have all taken advantage of the many opportunities open to them through FFA participation and the vo-ag process of learning to do by doing, to reach their's, the highest level of Future Farmer attainment.

Howard Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Smith of Route 1, Kinston, became interested in farming at an early age. As soon as he was old enough to become a 4-H member, he showed calves in the fat calf shows each year, and he has shown calves in FFA through his senior year. Howard became an FFA member in 1959-60 and added market hogs and corn to his farming projects.

In his second year of vocational agriculture he was chapter president, and during his term of office the chapter purchased a school bus and a pickup truck. He represented the chapter in the tractor driving contest, and was a runner-up in the public speaking contest in Coffee county. In the summer of 1960, Howard, along with other members of the chapter, made an educational tour of the West Coast of about four weeks' duration. The FFA members visited various agricultural and tourist attractions.

The sophomore class of 1961 elected Howard as their class president. The next year he served as the Chieftains of the Cherokee Literary Society, one of the largest organizations in Kinston high school's student body. The junior class also elected him to Boys' State. While a junior and senior, Howard was in most of the action of the basketball team and went to the State tournament.

In the fall of 1961, his father, Howard L. Smith, became ill, and it was necessary for Howard to operate and manage the farm. In the 11th grade he finished feeding out 100 head of market hogs and wintered the beef cattle. It wasn't an easy task, but the determination and ability to keep things going started at daybreak and ended sometimes after the ballgames.

The following year, 1962, his father was still unable to carry on the farm, but Howard still added six acres of cotton and ten acres of peanuts to his projects. He harvested 755 pounds of lint cotton per acre, and 1900 pounds of peanuts per acre.

As a senior, Howard farmed on a 50-50 basis with his father. He held his cotton yield high on twenty acres. Because of dry weather the twenty acres of peanuts did not satisfy him as well as the cotton. A good crop of corn allowed Howard to increase his hog herd to 15 sows and three gilts which he bought from the Auburn Experiment Station. He is trying to get started in the beef business with five purebred Hereford cows.

The idea of chemical weed control and herbicides has excited Howard. This young Future Farmer intends to make farming his occupation and with this in mind, his program for next year includes 175 acres of row crop and 40 acres of pasture with fifteen sows and twenty-five beef cows on a 50 per cent partnership with his father. His machinery consists of a tractor and equipment, a pick-up truck, and a ton and one-half truck.

Howard is active in church and community activities and believes in improving Alabama agriculture.

Charles W. Hilyer
Wetumpka
C. S. Bazemore, Advisor

Charles W. Hilyer

Charles W. Hilyer enrolled in vocational agriculture in the fall of 1958. His first productive projects consisted of two acres of corn, two dairy heifers, two acres cantaloupes, six acres oats and six market hogs. In addition to these productive projects, Charles was active in his local FFA activities. He entered a calf in the county and district dairy shows and was a member of the FFA dairy judging team.

Charles second year's projects included 20 acres corn, one dairy heifer, two acres truck crops and two beef calves grown for the county and district fat calf show.

The first summer after finishing high school Charles' father was killed in an automobile accident. At this time Charles took over full responsibility of the entire farming program consisting of 79 acres cotton, 17 acres cantaloupes, five acres tomatoes, 10 brood cows, nine beef calves, one beef bull, and 12 acres hay. Since that time Charles has continued to manage the entire farming program as well as to work off the farm. His present farming program, which he is entirely responsible for, consists of 60 acres cotton, 10 acres cantaloupes, 12 acres hay, 25 acres oats, eight brood cows, eight beef calves, and one beef bull, and 25 acres corn.

Charles has been very active in school
American Farmers For 1964

These 1964 American Farmers are the special few FFA members who decided early to do an outstanding job with their supervised farming programs and to apply themselves through their chapter responsibilities. The records of each of these young men show that the different roads they chose, no matter how rough they may have been in places, always led to success. Their combined cash net worth, even this early in each of their careers, is nearly one-quarter million dollars. But, what they really represent, and what they each have to offer, is priceless. To each of them we extend our wholehearted congratulations.

Charles W. Lewis
Geneva
J. L. Parish, Advisor

Bill Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Lewis of Route 1, Geneva, discovered his natural love for the farm early in his childhood. He was born and reared on a farm near Geneva, and he is now established in partnership there with his father. He entered vocational agriculture at Geneva and joined the FFA chapter in

JAMES C. WILLIAMS
Chavala
F. G. Hendrick, Jr., Advisor

James Williams is the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Williams of Seale, Alabama. Early in life James discovered that he had a natural love for animals and an interest in soil conservation and forestry. He enjoyed working with livestock, but he did not realize the importance of good stock and good management until his first year in vocational agriculture. James entered vocational agriculture at Chavala high school and joined the

1958. He began developing his farming program right from the start with two market calves, two beef heifers, two dairy cows, and 20 acres corn. The net earnings from his first year's program were $614.87.

Through proper planning and investment, Bill used his earnings to expand his farming program and has developed a small herd of good Hereford cattle during his four years of vocational agriculture. His program expanded each year, and in 1964 it included 20 brood cows, 11 heifers, two bulls, 13 market cattle, 14 market hogs, five gilts, four sows, 20 pigs, and one-half interest in 110 acres corn, 35 acres oats, and 83 acres Coastal Bermuda for grazing and hay. Bill's total labor income from his four years of supervised farming programs has been $6,749.95.

Bill owns a $3,200 interest in farm machinery, which he purchased in joint ownership with his father. This includes a corn conveyor, feed mill, hay baler, tractor, and corn puller.

Bill has achieved much through his improvement projects in soil and water management, forestry, pasture, farm shop and home improvement. In addition to his farming program, Bill feels that he has received valuable training in leadership through his work in Geneva FFA activities. He has been a member of several judging teams, served as chairman of several committees, was district champion corn grower, and chapter star farmer. During his senior year, Bill received the DeKalb award as Geneva's outstanding agriculture student.

Bill has been active in school and community affairs. He has been a representative to the student council; played football, baseball, and basketball while in school. He is a member of the Junior Cattlemen's Association, American Hereford Association, and he is an active member of the local National Guard unit.

James entered vocational agriculture at Chavala high school and joined the
James bought five brood cows that had already been bred and increased his pasture from 75 acres to 200 acres.

His plans for this year are: twenty acres corn, forty acres Bahia grass and Coastal Bermuda, forestry, five Hamp­shire hogs and five Black Angus cows.

All of James' supervised farming programs have been on shares with his parents with the idea of one day developing them into a full scale partnership. This will be done after his graduation from college. His main emphasis so far has been in forestry and cattle. James has not purchased any equipment since he be­lieves that his profits should be invested in a college education and more cattle. Profits from his farming programs to date have been $6,986.45.

In addition to his farming program James feels that he has received valuable training in leadership, brotherhood and rural opportunities, through work in his FFA chapter. He has served as vice pres­ident and secretary in his local FFA chapter, as well as on various chapter committees. James has earned the Green Hand and Chapter Farmer degree, State Farmer degree along with several other awards.

He was treasurer of the Phenix City subdistrict Methodist Youth Fellowship for three years, president of his local MYP for two years, and is now serving as president of his Sunday School class.

He is now a student at Troy State Col­lege majoring in pre-agriculture. James and his parents are looking forward to his graduation from college and a full­time partnership in farming.

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Bill C. Smith
Chavala
F. C. Hendrick, Jr., Advisor

Bill Smith, son of Mrs. John T. Smith, is one of the busiest young men in Russell County. His interest in farm life be­gan as a youngster, watching and helping his father on a farm of 406 acres. He has had his own animals since he was old enough to care for them.

At an early age he went to the bank and borrowed money to buy his first An­gus cows. With the sale of the male calves, he repaid the loan and then bor­rowed money to buy his first registered bull.

Bill's interest in a better grade of cows increased in his years of showing steers in the 4-H Club. He won many medals and held offices in the 4-H Club. He was champion corn grower of his home county and was president of the 4-H Club for two years.

Bill's father died in 1959. Being the only son at home, the running of the farm and care of the livestock fell to Bill alone. When he was fourteen years old he had a farm to run, cows to tend and 55 pigs to feed out. He had to do this and go to school.

In the fall of '59 Bill became a member of the FFA under Frank Hendrick, teacher of vocational agriculture at Chav­ala high school. He has completed four years of FFA, being president three years. He made the Green Hand degree in 1960, Chapter Farmer degree in 1961, State Farmer degree in 1962 and was awarded the American Farmer degree at the 1964 National FFA Convention.

Bill has continued to run the farm, in­creasing his own herd to 34 brood cows, plus calves and his own bull. He has pur­chased a 260-acre farm of his own and continues to run the home farm in part­nership with his mother.

Bill has planted Bahia grass, Coastal Bermuda grass, and White Clover on much of his grazing land. This is a vital step in improving his total livestock program. Other things that he is doing include construction of a well-planned cross­fencing system, cattle handling corrals, catch-pens, chutes and squeezes. Existing buildings are being remodeled and im­proved for adequate feed and equipment storage.

The sires of Bill's beef and swine herds are all performance tested animals. He plans to maintain this standard as his total livestock program grows.

At present Bill has the responsibility of supporting his mother, sister, and grandfather from the family farm. He plans to continue this operation plus be­coming established in a farming program on his own land.

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Kenneth Gilbert
Sylvania
G. M. Bult, Advisor

Kenneth Gilbert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Junie R. Gilbert, of Route 2, Henagar,
quaxter while the other runs the farm, and then we swap. We use our earnings and off-farm wages to buy beef cattle and equipment for our own separate farming programs of the future. "My father died suddenly in 1958, and after graduating from high school and serving in the army for a short time, I took over management of our entire farming operation. At that time my mother gave me 40 acres of land for my own use."

At the present time Spencer's livestock holdings are valued at nearly $9,000. They include 40 beef heifers, one quality Angus bull, eight head feeder calves, 12 high production dairy cows in the partnership herd, two horses and one bird dog that Spencer likes best of all, and that he values at $150.

His equipment inventory lists three wagons, one tractor, various trailers and moving machines, rake and baler for haying. It also names sprayers, bulk tanks and milking machines, arc welding machines and trucks owned both in partnership and privately. Altogether Spencer's livestock and equipment worth is valued at more than $12,000.

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Alonza I. Williams

Gurley

B. C. Adcox, Advisor

Alonza I. (Lonnie) Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Williams. Route 2, Gurley, is another young man who has turned to farming. Just 19, Lonnie is now operator and manager of the family farm of over 600 acres.

To produce an income for himself and his family, Lonnie has 51 brood cows, 40 heifers, 3 bulls, 85 head market cattle, and he feeds out 200 head of hogs in his livestock projects. His row crop program consists of 110 acres cotton and 60 acres corn.

Mr. W. G. Williams became ill in the fall of 1963, and he is unable even to give any management advice as of this writing. Until Mr. Williams' illness, Lonnie was in college looking forward to returning to farm work with his father after completing his education. Lonnie now operates and manages the farm with all its responsibilities.

While in high school, young Williams was very active in vocational agriculture and FFA activities. He served as sentinel, treasurer, and vice-president of his local chapter, chairman of program committee, entered the public speaking contest several times, as well as livestock judging, and tractor driving. He also showed six show calves during his school years. He was a delegate to the State FFA Convention, where he was awarded the State Farmer degree, June 9, 1961, at Auburn.

Lonnie has one sister. His hobbies are hunting and fishing.

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OLLIE V. YATES

Ollie V. Yates

Sylvania

G. M. Bulter, Advisor

Ollie V. Yates, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Yates, of Route 1, Rainsville, is the husband of Mrs. Mary Jim Yates. Ollie's love of country life has aided him to push toward his goal of becoming an American Farmer.

He enrolled in vocational agriculture in the 1958-59 school term and with his advisor and father set his goal to be a full-time farmer.

To expand his after school program he bought a new 1962 Farmall cotton picker which has enabled him not only to pick his own cotton but 150 or more custom picked bales for the past two years. Ollie served as chairman of the recreation committee and was a member of the cooperation and community service committees during high school.

Continued on page 10
DR. R. W. MONTGOMERY, Honorary American Farmer from Alabama for 1964, is head professor of agricultural education, Auburn University. Dr. Montgomery has served actively on the counseling and directing bodies of the National FFA, and was honored for his work in that field as well as agricultural education.

ROMAINE SMITH, of the Progressive Farmer magazine, being met by a delegate as he leaves the stage after being honored as a long-time FFA Foundation donor.

BILL RAINER, UNION SPRINGS, on stage at the 37th National Convention to get the Silver Emblem award his chapter was honored with for being one of the four outstanding FFA outfits in Alabama last year. Union Springs advisor is J. M. Johnson; Bill is chapter president.

REX BOND, national electrification winner, his advisor R. H. Lisenby, Newville, and Byron F. Rawls admire the plaque awarded Rex for his home farm electric program.

FUTURE FARMER ROUNDUP

Largest Enrollment
In School History
 Reported By New Site

Schools started in Tallapoosa county August 31, and W. D. Key, advisor of the New Site chapter, reports that vo-ag enrollment there is the largest in the history of his school.

The agriculture program is rapidly being changed, and taking shape for the new year, Key said. "We already have 100 per cent membership in FFA," he stated, "and we have gone over 100 per cent subscription for the National Future Farmer magazine." That is a record that New Site can be very proud of since the national magazine should be a part of each FFA member's reading list. But, the New Site chapter is not satisfied with just that.

"Our work on several of the State and foundation sponsored FFA contests is already showing good results," Advisor Key continued, "and, the New Site livestock judging team is making serious preparation for their judging contests. They should give somebody a race for their money this spring," he predicted.

The entire New Site chapter is engaged in a pine cone collecting contest among themselves. The rewards are twofold; chapter recognition is given to the FFA member collecting the most cones, and the proceeds from selling them will be used by the chapter to pay travel expenses for the group throughout the year.

Things are off to a fine start in New Site, and by the time this issue of the Alabama Future Farmer magazine is sent out they should be well on their way in north Tallapoosa county. Just as Key says, "If our beginning is any indication of the sort of year we will have, we will have one of the most successful and outstanding ones on record."

Ronnie Mathis, State vice president, served on the Future Farmers' supply service committee. He was charged with presenting a budget report and a resolutions list for this service that supplies FFA members everywhere with all their official publications, awards, medals and paraphernalia.
Luverne Chain Pigs Win At Montgomery

Billy Davis, reporter of the Luverne chapter, reports that 41 members from that Crenshaw county FFA outfit attended the South Alabama Fair in Montgomery this October, for the purpose of viewing the FFA-Sears hog show.

The chapter had two of its quality gilts entered in the FFA judging event, and they came in first and second in their class.

At Luverne, one of the most outstanding projects is the swine production and improvement program. They take full advantage of the Sears pig chain program, and work closely with it to improve their hogs. Many of the FFA members at Luverne have individual swine production projects of their own, says Advisor L. M. Carter, and seven members have Sears pig chain gilts on their home farms now.

--- FFA ---

Busy Work Program
Set By Sparkman FFA

Vocational agriculture students at Sparkman high school numbered 92 at the end of the first six weeks of the fall session. W. W. Dulaney, vocational agriculture teacher at Sparkman, said the number of students taking the course this year is slightly more than last year.

The Sparkman FFA chapter has over 102 members. The chapter is being led by its president, Leigh Sanderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sanderson of Harvest. Other officers are Jerry Ary, vice president; Jackie Billions, secretary; Phil Campbell, treasurer; Donald Jacks, reporter; Brown Douglass, sentinel; Wayne Daly and Jerry Keel, program chairmen. Phil Campbell was a chapter representative for Sparkman at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City in October.

--- FFA ---

Blue Springs Exhibit
Gets Nod At Two Fairs

Blue Springs' Curtis Eiland, vo-ag teacher and advisor, said that his FFA chapter recently entered an exhibit in the South Alabama Fair at Montgomery. Among a field of 8 exhibits, the Barbour county set-up was good enough to win second place, and a cash award of $225.

The very next week the exhibit was entered in the National Peanut Festival and fair, an annual event in Dothan. In the South Alabama judging, the Blue Springs exhibit took first place and a $50 prize.

--- FFA ---

8 Ramer FFA Members Fattening 10 Steers
For Spring Beef Shows

Advisor E. H. Winborne, of the Montgomery county high school FFA chapter, Ramer, reports that eight members of his vocational agriculture classes have a total of 10 show calves on feed for this spring's beef cattle shows.

The Ramer FFA'ers with calves are listed as follows:

Benny Spear, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Spear, Lapine, two head; Sonny Couther, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Couther, Ramer, with two head; Frank Noble, parents Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Noble, Sellers, one head; Jerry Russell, with one beef calf on feed, lives with his parents on a Ramer route; Kenneth May, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. May, also has one calf on feed; John H. Ellison, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ellison, of Rramer; J. C. Norman, parents Mr. and Mrs. Stanford Norman, Ramer, and Cleary Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleary Gibson, Sr., Rramer, each have one beef calf feeding out for calf shows.

--- FFA ---

Wedowee Receives Sears Bull, Gilt

The Wedowee FFA held its first meeting of the year September 9 and elected officers for 1964-65. The officers are president, Bobby Burroughs; vice president, Mike Fisher; secretary, Stanley Sheppard; treasurer, Bobby Kirby; reporter, Tom Lumpkin, and sentinel, Tony Heard.

The chapter has held several regular chapter meetings since school opened. It held its annual initiation September 22. Fifteen of the thirty-two members were present. Refreshments were served after the meeting. The chapter held ceremonies for awarding 25 Green Hand and 27 Chapter pins and degrees to the members. The chapter has 75 members at present.

Wedowee was awarded a registered Hereford bull and $200 with which to grow him out. The chapter was selected to receive the bull out of 16 other counties. This is the first project of this kind to be tried in Randolph County. "We feel it is a district honor to receive the bull over so much competition," said chapter advisor James Kendrick.

In addition to this the chapter also received a bred gilt through the Sears-Roebuck Foundation pig chain. "We now have gilts placed with Wayne Browning and Gerald Higgins and the new Sears gilt will go to Stanley Sheppard at New Hope," Kendrick said.

--- FFA ---

The Future And You

By JIMMY CRAVEY
State President

Future Farmer, what does the future hold for you? Will you be a real farmer tilling the soil and helping to feed the world? Many of us need to do just that. Our population is increasing. The need for more food and other farm products is growing.

In 1963 fewer farmers planting more acres raised an all-time record amount of food and farm products. This was done with 6,500,000 workers, the smallest farm labor force in modern times. These facts help us to realize that we need to take our agricultural education very seriously. We must keep up with the latest scientific findings. We must study and realize what is practical for our needs; we must put our findings into practice.

If you are not going to farm, you might decide to go into the scientific background of farming. Why not? You know what problems arise on a farm and there is no one better equipped to solve these problems than you, Future Farmer. Perhaps you will become a chemical engineer helping to develop new fertilizers and insecticides, or go into the broader field of agricultural engineering.

Or, experience acting as good teacher might encourage you to make use of your parliamentary procedure and public speaking. You certainly could use these qualifications if you were to become members of your State or national legislature. Here again your experience on the farm would help you play an important role in the farmer’s life by helping to pass bills which will aid agriculture.

Opportunities are many in the broad field of agriculture. These are just a few. But whatever your future holds, Future Farmer, remember . . . learn to do, do to learn, earn to live and live to serve.

--- FFA ---

DECEMBER-JANUARY, 1964-65 >
the last 5 years. His interest in FFA was kindled at an early age by his older brothers who all were FFA members and made excellent records for themselves in FFA work. One of his brothers served as State FFA president and another also holds the American Farmer degree.

Bryan served his local FFA chapter as president for two years and he was State FFA reporter in 1962-63.

In September, 1959, Bryan enrolled in vocational agriculture. His productive projects consisted of one show calf, one market hog, two brood cows, five acres corn and three acres hay. The next year his farming included one sow, 10 market steers, 12 acres corn, five acres hay, and one acre truck crops. The third year his program expanded to six acres of hay, 12 registered Angus brood cows, 30 acres corn, and four show calves. His senior year in high school his program further increased to six brood sows, 16 registered Angus brood cows, 50 acres planted Kobe Lespedeza and Coastal Bermudagrass hay, 12 acres oats, 50 acres corn, 61 market hogs and 15 acres grain sorghum.

Bryan’s present farming program is 60 head of registered and grade beef cattle, 26 market calves, two registered Angus bulls, 100 acres Kobe Lespedeza hay, 50 acres Coastal Bermudas, 30 acres grain sorghum and 60 acres oats.

Show calves have always been Bryan’s specialty. He fed out and showed the Grand Champion in the Pickens county fat stock show for 4 years in a row. All prize money and profits from his show calves were invested in registered Angus heifers which are the foundation for his cattle herd.

Bryan is active in community and church activities and was very active in school activities throughout his high school career. He served as class president for two years and won a letter in football also for two years.

At the present time Bryan is enrolled as a sophomore at Mississippi State college in pre-veterinary medicine. His plans are to complete pre-vet at Mississippi State and transfer to Auburn University to complete his veterinary schooling. After college, he plans to return to Pickens County as a veterinarian and continue to expand his farming operations.

Leon Smith
Sylvania
G. M. Bulter, Advisor

Leon Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Van Smith, of Route 2, Fort Payne, began his supervised farming program in 1959-60. He received the Green Hand degree in March of that year and set his goal toward attaining all four degrees in FFA. He received the Chapter Farmer degree in 1961, and the State Farmer degree in June 1962. He served on the land judging team for three years, winning third, second, and first place honors in county competition and third place in the district FFA eliminations his last year in high school.

Leon has served as chairman of the supervised farming, earnings and saving committees, and as a member of the recreation committee. He also entered several different contests while enrolled in school.

His productive projects in 1963 were 2 acres corn, 2 acres cataloupes, 3 acres watermelons, and 20 acres cotton. Leon served and continue to serve as assistant school bus driver.

Leon is a cooperative and dependable Young Farmer. He attended the 1962 State FFA Convention where he was awarded the coveted State Farmer degree.
Charles Entrekin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Entrekin, enrolled in vocational agriculture class and FFA have helped me toward reaching that goal. I would certainly recommend vocational agriculture to produce higher crop yields and make a good living from the land.

"I plan to be a general farmer, producing row crops and livestock, and all the things that I have learned in vocational agriculture class and FFA have helped me toward reaching that goal. I would certainly recommend vocational agriculture and the Future Farmers of America to all farm boys."

Charles Entrekin
Cotaco
D. C. Lott, Advisor

Charles Entrekin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Entrekin, enrolled in vocational agriculture in September of 1958. His productive projects that year were three sows, 10 acres cotton, 10 acres corn, and 47 market hogs. During this first year of vocational agriculture Charles increased and expanded his farming program each year. For his projects the second year he had seven and one-half acres cotton, three sows, one-half acre truck crops, eight market hogs, one boar, and 10 acres corn.

In the fall of 1961 Charles had increased his farming program to such an extent that he, with the cooperation of his father, had outgrown their 250 acres.

Because of this, and the desire that Charles had shown to farm, he and his father formed a 50-50 partnership in January, 1962. They combined all of their equipment, animals and machinery and were to share everything on an equal basis.

After this partnership was formed they purchased several pieces of new equipment so that they could farm in a more efficient manner. They rented several hundred additional acres of farm land and in 1964 their farming operation consisted of 185 acres cotton, 200 acres soybeans, 225 acres hay, 60 acres corn and 30 head of beef cattle. In addition to this, Charles has 15 beef cows and a bull of his own.

During and after finishing high school, Charles has been very active in school and community activities. He is establishing a place in his community for himself as the type of young rural leader upon which the future of our rural way of life and our Nation depend.

Robert G. Whiten
Heffin
W. B. Thrash, Advisor

Robert G. Whiten, was born September 4, 1945, and lives now on his home farm at Rt. 5, Heffin. The way he spent the time between 1945 and the present day is typical of the success of most of this year's American Farmer degree recipients.

He always had a love of farming and farm life, and it was natural for him to enroll in vocational agriculture when he entered high school, which he did on August 28, 1961. Robert graduated from Advisor W. B. Thrash's vo-ag classes at Heffin high school in May, 1963. The way he spent his high school years is typical of only the best Alabama Future Farmers.

Robert had three years of vocational agriculture during high school, and during those years his farming program grew into an important, economic operation. His first year of supervised farming consisted of managing and tending a one-quarter interest in 10,000 broilers. He also had one market hog of his own, five acres corn on a 50-50 basis, and two head beef cattle. His labor income for that year, his first in an expanded, supervised farming program, was $294.50.

During his second year of work, Robert enlarged his farming operation from what it had been the previous year to include total ownership of 20,000 broilers, six head of market hogs, eight acres corn, and five head beef cattle. He also added two acres peas to his production program. Robert earned $1,201.74 for the time he invested in farm work in his second year of vo-ag.

The last year he farmed under the high school supervised vo-ag program, Robert earned $3,145.82 labor income, and he was on his way toward a self-supporting, full-time farming operation. His third year program included 24,000 broilers, 11 head market hogs, 10 acres corn, 12 head beef cattle, and a partnership set-up with his father on the necessary farming equipment.

Robert had also compiled a very good record of activities by the time he graduated from Heffin high school. He was named Star Farmer of 1963 and during the same year he was selected in the Governor's Awards program as Alabama's Soil and Water Conservation winner. The Heffin FFA named Robert their champion corn grower, and he won the Cleburne county and DeKalb Award trophies for his corn-growing proficiency, all during 1963.

Robert is a member of the Happy Hill
There is always a reason when something goes wrong. I knew that something had definitely gone wrong with my farm program that year, and I knew that I must determine the cause. After carefully studying my records, I finally decided that the crops I had produced had made the expected yield but I just did not plant enough acres. I needed more volume.

With the help of my father, I traded the Ford for a 35 Ferguson tractor and equipment and rented 120 acres of additional land. At the end of the year I found that I had accomplished much more than the year before and that volume was certainly one factor in attaining the results I desired.

Again this year, I have increased my acreage and invested in more and larger equipment. I found that the net gains were much more satisfactory than at the end of the year before.

I am sold on the future of farming, and I am going to stay in the business. I am not expecting everything always to go just as it should, but I am going to put forth every effort I can to profit from my mistakes and to learn from my own experiences and from those of others.

Just as farm life can be the most satisfying life, so can it also be the most difficult life. I have good health, a strong back, a wise and understanding mother and father to help and guide me, and a just and merciful Father above to watch over and care for me. With all of this in my favor, I have no fear of the future.

C. Jerry McCallister
Ashford
W. F. Knight, Advisor

I, Jerry McCallister, as most other young farmers that I know, started in the farming business in a very small way. After graduation from high school, I had to decide whether I should go into some other kind of work or make a start on my own in a farming operation.

I had lived on a farm all my life and knew that farm life was what I wanted. However, I was not sure that farming would be as economically profitable as some other kind of work. I decided that the only way to find out would be to give it a try. So, on a proverbial shoestring, I ventured into the farming business.

The first year on my own, 1960-61, proved to profit me very little in the money department, but it gave me a great deal of knowledge and experience that money cannot buy. I bought a small 8-M Ford tractor with which to work that year. When I finally paid off all my bills and notes, I found that I had not made a net profit in an amount that looked attractive to a young man’s eye. I was very discouraged.

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county high school at Gurley, and his productive enterprises have been brood sows, market hogs, cotton and corn. After graduation he discontinued the hog program and enlarged his row-crop projects.

The first year out of school Harold’s projects were 10 acres hay, 2 acres corn, 50 acres soybeans, and 52 acres cotton which gave him a labor income of $2,468.78. The second year he had 100 acres cotton and 50 acres soybeans, which gave a labor income of $6,650.22.

Harold owns one tractor and equipment, cotton trailer, combine, cotton picker and cotton oiler. The other equipment that is needed to work the farm is owned in partnership with his father.

As Harold is their only child, his parents deeded him a 180-acre farm. It is his plan some day to be a livestock farmer. According to Mr. B. C. Adcox, local FFA advisor at Gurley, Harold uses the latest knowledge of farming in his program. This was proven when he produced 2 bales of cotton per acre on 10 acres last year. He believes in soil testing and skip row planting for greatest yields.

As Harold entered high school in 1957 and graduated in 1961. The State Farmer degree was awarded to him June 9, 1961 at the State FFA Convention. While in high school, he was chairman of the supervised farming program for two years, a participant in the public speaking and tractor driving contests and served as a delegate to the State FFA Convention from Gurley.

**HAROLD R. SANDERS**

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**VO-AG OPPORTUNITY**

from his specialty to the education and training of people for a job. A person so trained and educated would normally be a much superior farm machinery sales and repairman.

The new Act broadens the scope of service which all phases of Vocational Education may render. It opens the way to serve more people in additional ways. Along with these new opportunities come some real dangers unless programs under the new Act are carefully and sensibly planned. Vocational Education in Alabama has too good a reputation nationally, as well as within the State, to allow it to depart from sound principles of good vocational education everywhere.

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**State Farmer Degree Recipients For 1964**

Continued from Oct.-Nov. Issue

North Central District 75

Alexandria—James (Sonny) Watts.

Ashland—Terry Whatley, Johnny Upchurch, James Morrow.

**DECEMBER-JANUARY, 1964-65**
There’s one lubricant that’s right for all your farm machinery and one gun that’s right for applying it. Get Standard Oil’s Multi-Purpose Grease Cartridge, and our Econo-Grease Gun. Load and use in 30 seconds! Faster. More convenient. No contamination of grease. Ask your Standard Oil man to demonstrate this modern time-and-labor saver!

STANDARD OIL COMPANY (KENTUCKY)

we take better care of your farm equipment

AMERICAN OIL CO. representative, Bob Ervin, one of the company’s fine chemists from their Atlanta, Ga., office, spoke to vo-ag teachers during an American Oil-sponsored breakfast at the teachers’ conference in Auburn this July.

American Oil Joins Conference Sponsors

Over 300 agriculture teachers, super-visors, teacher educators and friends had breakfast as guests of the American Oil Co. at the annual vo-ag teachers’ conference in Auburn this July.

American Oil, in joining the ranks of several different sponsors of events dur-
ing the conference, sent their agricultural chemical representative, Bob Ervin, to Auburn to address the teachers. Ervin told of the need for more continued use of and research into agricultural chemicals, and of America's leading role in developing useful insecticide and pesticide materials. He also said that American Oil is always willing to cooperate with farmers and agricultural leaders in every way.

Seated with Ervin at the speakers table (pictured above) were P. M. Wilder, Grant B. O. Bugg, Highland Home; K. V. Reagan, Greenville; Mrs. S. J. Gibbs, and Mr. Gibbs, Sulligent; Joe Beardon, Atlanta, also an American Oil Co. representative, Ervin, and J. C. Hollis, Jacksonville.

**FFA**

**ON THE MARCH**

**ASHFORD**—elected officers, held officer training school; participated in hog judging contest; repaired motor in car; studied FFA manual and contests; built racks for FFA symbol.

**ALEXANDER CITY**—held two business meetings; selling chocolate bars to raise funds; held regular meetings.

**ATTALLA**—adopted plans for fund raising projects to purchase tools; ordered 8,000 pine seedlings; collected dues; six articles published in paper; adopted program of work; ordered two official jackets; held three meetings.

**LÜVERNE**—chapter elected officers; and sweetheart; purchased $125 worth of tools for shop; pig shown vaccinated for cholera and tested for Bruns' disease; chapter row improved 15 pigs.

**MCKENZIE**—won first place with FFA exhibit at county fair; making plans for exhibit at South Alabama Fair.

**MALOVALE**—held first meeting of school year; committees set up to conduct projects which are selling popcorn at ball games, making trailers for sale and other small projects; total of 61 members this year.

**MIDLAND CITY**—held first meeting for the year; all new officers attended meeting and plans set forth for coming year; quartet and string band practicing.

**MONTICELLO**—held two executive board meetings; arranged for concession stand for football games; two from chapter attended National Convention, officers working on chapter budget; attended State Fair; selling pine cones.

**NEW SITE**—enrollment largest in history of chapter; 100% membership and subscriptions to the National Future Farmer magazine; working on several state sponsored contests; livestock judging team working.

**ODENVILLE**—had pictures of two members in local paper with story about their projects; plan to have a quartet this year; one member attended forestry camp; operating school supply store; planning supervised farming programs; two members going to National Convention.

**PLEASANT HOME**—held leadership training school for all officers; president appointed committee; plans made for year; two meetings held.

**RUSSELLVILLE**—held regular meetings; elected officers; appointed committees for year; prepared chapter calendar; revised chapter constitution; held officer training program.

**SILVERTON**—held officer training school; Ag I studying essentials of vo-ag; Ag II studying agriculture related occupations; Ag III studying farm management; observed National Farm Safety Week; three American Farmers plan to attend National Convention; preparing program of work; collecting dues; all members own a manual; 100% of members subscribed to National Future Farmer; planned contests for year; published two articles and one picture; held regular chapter meeting with new officers presiding; ordered jackets for 12 members; planning Green Hand initiation; ordered three State Farmer pins.

**SUTTLE**—two members attended forestry camp; held officer training school in cooperation with the Marion FFA Chapter; irigated chapter corn demonstration plot; making slides of members productive and improvement projects; took five Landrace hogs to State and South Alabama Fair; reporter working on Star Reporter contest; Green Hands pulled corn on demonstration plot; held regular chapter meeting; elected FFA sweetheart; 12 Green Hands initiated; Ag III studying landscaping; Ag IV studying plumbing.

**THOMASTON**—sold refreshments at Labor Day events; participated in county and district dairy shows; planned FFA-FHA barbecue, held officers meeting; adopted activity program for year.

**ETOWAH SMALL MOTOR CLASS**—Larry Minshew, Donald Baty, Dennis Mardis and Tony Proctor; learned the theory of small gasoline engines in vo-ag work under their teacher, E. C. Henderson. After they know how to disassemble and rebuild engines, Etowah vo-ag students may bring small motors of their own from home for repair in shop.

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West Central

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East Central

B. J. YORK
Southwest

L. L. SELLERS
Southeast

Specialists
H. N. Lewis, Livestock and FFA
Byron F. Rawls, Subject Matter
Thomas H. Bell, Information