

ALABAMA



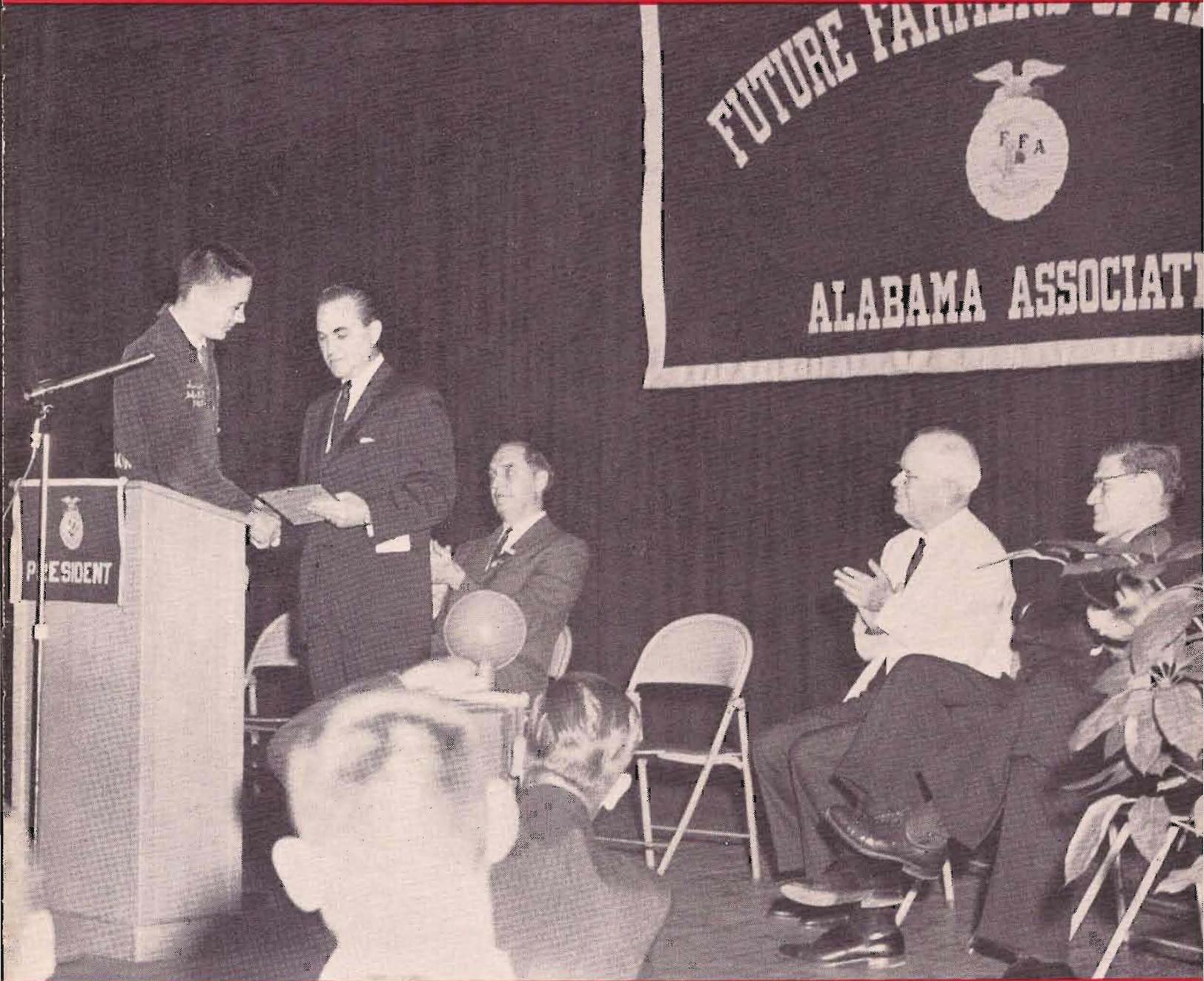
FUTURE

FARMER

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ALABAMA'S STAR FARMERS, 1964 SWEETHEART ROUNDUP

Suttle FFA-FHA Stage Annual Parents' Night

Apple-shaped programs with bright red covers marked the places for guests at the Suttle High School's FFA-FHA Parents' Banquet. The programs carried out the "Apple Blossom Time" theme.

Guests were welcomed by Gail Oakes, FHA president, and by Dale Fuller, FFA president, who also introduced the visitors at the banquet. W. A. Evans, principal of the school, gave the invocation.

Members of the FFA and the FHA combined their talents to present the entertainment for the evening. The FFA quartet, accompanied by Blakey Crowe, sang several songs, and a sextet of FHA girls put on a skit. Members of the quartet are Johnny Hoggle, Glenn Hale, Carvel Foster and David Nichols; and taking part in the skit were Kay Evans, Lorene Swindel, Sybil Stone, Linda Ivey, Linda Gibbs and Donna Mitchell.

Sandra Hughey outlined the accomplishments of the FHA, and Eddie Johnson, Franklin Colburn, Glenn Hale and Blakey Crowe conducted the Honorary Chapter Farmers ceremony, initiating the Rev. H. A. Seals, Mrs. Dennis Fuller, and J. F. Suttle, III, into the chapter.

Miss Mary Evelyn Jones presented the Betty Crocker Homemaking Award to Linda Bledsoe. Shop awards were given to Johnny Reed for an automatic hog waterer; Johnny Hoggle and others for projects which included gun racks, mailbox stands, shoe shine kits. Presentation of these awards were made by Mr. Troy Nichols and Mr. E. L. Dyess, vocational agriculture teacher.

A choral group, composed of Donna Mitchell, Linda Ivey, Ellen Hopkins, Carolyn Bamberg, DeWitt Hughey, Larry Hughey, David Nichols and Johnny Hoggle, sang before the introduction of the new officers.

A feature of the evening was the crowning of Miss Ellen Hopkins as the FFA Sweetheart. The crown was placed on her head by Dale Fuller and Eddie Johnson presented her with the official FFA Sweetheart jacket.

The banquet ended with the singing of "Bless This House" by the FHA sextet.

Special guests at the banquet were Representative and Mrs. Roy Barnett; Superintendent of Education and Mrs. L. G. Waler; Mr. and Mrs. Duval Belcher; Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Suttle; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Oakes; Mr. and Mrs. John Allen Hughey; Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Cumming; Mr. Troy Nichols; Mr. L. A. Smith; Mr. and Mrs. H. D. McVay and Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Fuller.

— FFA —

It is nice to know that when you help someone up a hill, you are a little nearer the top yourself.

Small Engine Repair

By ROY SUMMERFORD

With the ever increasing emphasis being placed on mechanics in rural America every boy should have accumulated a knowledge of the subject before graduation from high school. If a person knows how an engine operates, he is better able to cope with problems that might arise with lawn mowers and other small engines and even larger engines.

With this in mind vocational agriculture departments across the State of Alabama have carried a program of small engine repair for several years. The program being carried out by the Sylvania vocational agriculture department is in keeping with the overall State program. The Ag II class, under the direction of Gilbert Butler, recently studied the basics of small engine repair. Their course of study was conducted in a well ordered schedule in which every boy could become acquainted with the basic ideas of mechanics. A complete study on the general theories of operation was followed by the actual disassemble and reassembly of engines.

The class learned the answer to such questions as: "what are the compression and power strokes," "what are some advantages of the air cooled engine and the advantages of liquid cooled engines," "what is a venturi," and "which is the best fuel for a small engine, regular or unleaded white gasoline." The group learned the four stroke cycle of an engine, how to determine piston displacement and compression ratio, and the purpose of a condenser.

All the boys of the class were given an opportunity to disassemble and repair engines. All fuel lines, the carburetor, pistons and all other important parts of the engine were disassembled and cleaned completely. The engine was then checked thoroughly for defects and reassembled. By actually working with an engine, the boys gained far more knowledge of mechanics than if they had merely studied it in a classroom.

As a further tribute to the students, a test of the reconstructed engines proved all to be working perfectly.

The reason why the FFA boys at Sylvania and almost all vocational agriculture departments in Alabama are studying the operation, maintenance, and repair of small gasoline engines is really quite simple. On almost any farm and around almost any home gasoline engines are used to make the work of the farmer and his family easier. At the same time these engines enable the farmer to grow more crops and manage a large operation with less help. Thus gasoline engines have established themselves as

a very important part of any farming operation.

The skills learned during a course of study such as this can be carried over into every home and farm. Truly this is one of the many courses studied in vocational agriculture that will be useful to the students for the rest of their lives.

— FFA —



CHAPTER officers at Hokes Bluff for next year are, left to right, front row, Roy Croft, vice-president; Don Maddox, president; left to right, back, Sammy Lambert, sentinel; Curtis Strange, reporter; Robert Hayes, treasurer; Herman Godfrey, secretary.



ELLIS McDILL, Ohatchee FFA chapter, used his time in the shop to improve his farm gates. Scrap pipe, wire, a welding machine and imagination are the materials used in this project.



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Vocational Agriculture Important

Research and technology in agriculture are responsible for the great productive capacity of American farmers. But without farmer education, research and technology would be worthless.

Dr. M. D. Mobley, executive secretary of the American Vocational Association, has made these statements in a speech he delivered to several vocational agricultural education groups throughout the country. "Through your teachings and efforts, research findings have been made known to American farmers and Future Farmers and thus put to use on our nation's farms," Mobley told the teachers.

As a consultant on vocational education to the new government of Pakistan, Mobley found that 80 percent of that country's labor population were active farmers. Yet they still did not produce enough food to feed their own number properly.

47 percent of all Russian workers are engaged in farming. This is the handicap the Soviets face in trying to increase their industrial production, Mobley said. In the United States, with only about 10 percent of our working people farming, more workers are available for industrial employment.

Research findings, and the education of farmers in new farming practices uncovered by these findings, are the reasons why 10 percent of our workers can feed the rest of us, Mobley believes. And feed us better than in any nation at any other time in the history of man.

To find the best students for training as replacements for the 10 percent farming population the enrollment in vocational agriculture in public high schools has to be tremendous. Supporting that large enrollment makes vo-ag the most expensive vocational educational program.

The expense would not be justified if only 1 out of 10 could hope to find work in the field for which he had been trained. Thus, the vo-ag course of study has to provide training for those students who do not intend to go into farming.

Vo-ag high school training is useful and necessary for those millions of boys who will work at jobs related to farming. These jobs are all part of what is called "agri-business."

Agri-business includes, along with farming, transporting, processing, and marketing all farm products. It also includes manufacturing, disbursing, and selling all the things that farmers need to live and maintain their farms. All these jobs together, farming, the handling of farm products, and the handling of farm supplies, make up the largest single industry in the United States.

Nearly 50 percent of everybody who works in this country works in agri-business. They either make their living farming, or with farm products or with the materials farmers need.

Mobley believes that the credit for this work is due in large part to the vo-ag teachers. "No one should ever forget the part vocational agriculture has played . . . in this country in the last twenty years," Mobley said. "The great progress in agricultural production . . . will ever stand as a shining monument to you, your efforts and your devoted service."

On The Cover

Governor Wallace received a well deserved honor from the Alabama FFA Association during his appearance at the recent State Convention. John Varner, State FFA President, left, presented Governor Wallace with the Honorary State Farmer Degree. Shown on the stage are Mr. T. L. Faulkner, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, Montgomery, seated left; Dr. Ralph B. Draughon, president, Auburn University and Mr. J. F. Ingram, State Director of vocational education, Montgomery.

ALABAMA'S STAR FARMERS, 1964



ALABAMA CAN be very proud of its Star Farmers for 1964. They are, left to right, John C. Lochridge, Sulligent, North Central District; Barry Mefford, New Hope, North District; Buddy Brawley, Gurley, State Star Farmer; Ronny Huey, Camp Hill, South Central District Star Farmer and Ronnie Rainey, Troy, South District Star Farmer.

Buddy Brawley

ALABAMA'S STATE STAR FARMER 1964

From the ranks of the outstanding District Star Farmers must come one who is best of all — The Star Farmer of Alabama. The honor this year goes to a 16-year old Madison County youth who has expanded a small start into a profitable, well balanced farming program.

Buddy Brawley, of Gurley is the FFA Star Farmer of Alabama for 1964. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Judson Brawley of Gurley, Alabama.

Determination, willingness to work, managerial ability, a brood sow, 2 acres of corn, 3 market calves and 2 market hogs — these were the resources at Buddy's command when he enrolled in vocational agriculture in 1961.

From this beginning came a gradual build-up of interest and expansion of his farming program. Today's records show that Buddy plans to continue expansion of his program on 500 acres of land which will be his in the near future. At

present he is a full partner with his father on this land and is saving the profits from his share to attend college with. In college he will study agriculture and will return to the farm to apply what he has learned.

Buddy Brawley has, as you would expect, the qualifications for being the Star Farmer of Alabama, which includes being an outstanding leader in the chapter, school and community. Buddy meets all of these qualifications.

He has served his chapter as Sentinel, vice-president, and is president for 1964-65. He has participated in the public speaking contest and has served on many committees, judging teams and has shown calves in several fat calf shows. In school his records show he has served as vice-president of his class, class favorite, three years basketball, three years of baseball, one year football, sophomore play and member of the Library Club, band and attended the district band clinic in 1962. His community can be very proud of his activities there. He is a member of his church choir, MYF vice-president and helped greatly in a drive

to build a new church. He has been a member of the Boy Scouts, 4-H Club and at present is a member of the Junior Cattlemen's Association.

—FFA—

John C. Lochridge

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT STAR FARMER

John C. Lochridge, 17-year old senior at Sulligent high school, is the main cog in the big program carried out on the 540-acre home farm and 101 rented acres. He can hardly remember when he entered the farming picture since he is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen J. Lochridge. Farming in partnership with his father, a college graduate in agriculture, John is assured with a continuance in farming during and after college. He is a "regular" on the farm each day after school and on Saturday. During the summer months he is the leader on the Lochridge farm pouring into it new ideas and methods of present day farming brought out by his teacher of agriculture, Mr. S. J. Gibbs. From the beginning, John's supervised farming program and ability in the classroom has been outstanding.

Farming with two tractors and equipment, his project records show his first year in vo-ag he had two head of market cattle, 10 acres of cotton, two acres in corn, 32 market hogs, four sows, and 400 hens with a total profit of \$2,930.86. Last year his farming program grew up with him and he expanded to 38 acres in cotton, 112 acres in corn, 20 acres of hay, 88 market hogs, 8 sows, 53 head of breeder cattle, and two bulls with his part of the income being \$1,760.82. This year, he has planted 53 acres in cotton, 100 acres in corn, 20 acres of hay with 54 breeder cattle and 500 layers. He and his father have adjusted the farm business to fit into his years in college.

His improvement projects have been beef herd improvement, poultry improvement, pasture improvement, vetch, orchard improvement, home and grounds improvement, home garden and two fish ponds.

John's assets, including money on hand, savings, land owned, cattle, crops, standing timber, machinery and building, total \$30,467.00. His liabilities amount to \$1,028.98, leaving a net worth of \$29,438.02.

He is very outstanding in the FFA. He was reporter for his chapter last year and placed second in the State Star FFA Reporter Contest. Last year he was a member of the district winning livestock judging team and for two years he was on the dairy judging team. He was chapter delegate to the State FFA Convention in 1963 and to the State Forestry Camp last summer. He was elected assistant Forester. For this a Sabre Saw

was awarded him and in the test for the "top 10" he placed third out of more than 100 that attended camp.

On March 6, 1964, he led the annual Father-Son banquet program. As president, he was chairman of all committees that put on this banquet for the 230 that attended. At school, he is president of the Honor Society, Beta Club member, and on the varsity football team.

Summing up, John C. Lochridge, is an established farmer, an outstanding student, top FFA member, a football player, a leader . . . and supporter of his church.

— FFA —

Ronny Huey

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT STAR FARMER

Ronny Huey, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Huey of Route 2, Waverly, Alabama, enrolled in vocational agriculture in September 1960. His first year's supervised farming program consisted of five acres of corn; one acre peanuts; one-half acre of sweet potatoes; one acre of truck crops; one-half acre ribbon cane; one acre of watermelons and two head of beef market cattle. From this program Ronny received \$504.75 labor income, and planned to expand his program the next year.

His second year program included corn 15 acres; peanuts one-half acre; watermelons 1 acre; truck crops two acres; beef brood cows four head, and beef market cattle three head. His total labor income for the second year was \$1,384.15.

Ronny's third year supervised farming program was further expanded and included corn 15 acres; truck crops two acres; watermelons one acre; peanuts one acre; five head beef brood cows; beef market cattle five head; market hogs two head and peach production 320 bearing-age trees. The 320 peach trees were planted by Ronny in the fall of 1960 as one of his improvement projects. Ronny's labor income for 1962-63 was \$3,208.12.

His supervised farming program for 1963-64, his fourth year in vocational agriculture, consists of oats 20 acres, to be overplanted with re-seeding Crimson Clover in September 1964. The oats will be combined in the spring of 1964 and the Crimson Clover will be left to re-seed the area. In September 1965 he will plant oats again on the Crimson Clover area and combine the oats the following spring. He will allow the Crimson Clover to again re-seed then disc the area and plant coastal bermuda for hay and grazing for his Hereford cattle. Other enterprises in 1963-64 will include peach production 320 trees; beef brood cows five head; beef market cattle three head; reg-

istered Polled Hereford bull one head; market hogs two head; and Bahia grass five acres.

Ronny's improvement projects during his four years of vocational agriculture have included home orchard improvement; pine seedlings and forestry management; agricultural library; home ground improvement; home improvement; pasture improvement; care, repair and storage of farm tools and equipment and farm shop. He planted 216 semi-dwarf apple trees in January 1964 and plans to plant an additional 216 trees next fall for commercial fruit production. Peaches and apples will be one of his major cash enterprises in the future.

In addition to commercial fruit production Ronny plans to develop as major cash enterprises a good grade Hereford herd by use of registered Polled Hereford bulls and good grade brood cows. He also has planned a good feed and

grazing program for his beef cattle. His third major cash enterprise will be forest products. On their 1,500 acre farm a major portion of the land is planted to pine trees. Approximately 160,000 trees have been planted by Ronny, his father and brothers in the past eight years.

Ronny plans to selectively harvest these trees in order that he may derive the maximum benefit from them over a period of years.

Ronny has been actively engaged in the Camp Hill FFA chapter programs for four years. He has served as reporter, vice-president and is now president. He was a delegate to the State Forestry Camp at Camp Grist; a chapter and county FFA corn growing champion; won fourth place in the State Forestry Contest in 1962-63; served on the Dairy judging team and on many FFA committees. His extra-curricula school activities include Jr. 3 class treasurer; Sr.

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1 class president; Camp Hill C-Club; and Jr. Science Club. He earned three letters in football and was team captain two years. He earned four letters in baseball and one letter in basketball.

Ronny plans to continue operating the farm in partnership with his father. He has two older brothers who have married and are now in business for themselves. He has one younger brother at home; his father is in the automobile business and Ronny will have the responsibility of the farm operation. He enjoys farm life, and plans to make a good farm better in future years.

Ronnie Rainey

SOUTH DISTRICT STAR FARMER

From Pike County, Troy FFA chapter, comes the district Star Farmer for South Alabama for 1964. The record for Ronnie Rainey, who is the 18-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Rainey, has resulted in his receiving a great deal of recognition and credit in his chapter school and community.

In Ronnie's first year of vocational agriculture he began his supervised farming program with two brood sows, one

gilt, 10 market hogs, 15 acres of corn; one-half acre garden and one acre of peas for truck crops. This program, which Ronnie managed and worked entirely on his own, has expanded into a well rounded farming program. Since Ronnie's father works full-time away from home he has the entire managerial responsibility on the farm.

His present program shows 20 acres of corn, 6 brood sows, 60 head of market hogs, 6 acres of coastal bermuda grass, 1 acre garden, 1 acre of peas and 6 beef brood cows. His plans are to expand his livestock program as his feeding program is expanded. This will be done after Ronnie's graduation from high school. All of Ronnie's activities have not been confined to farming. He has served his chapter well on many committees and as Sentinel for two years. He is also a good worker and leader in many school and community activities.

—FFA—

Barry Mefford

NORTH DISTRICT STAR FARMER

Barry Mefford of the New Hope FFA chapter has been farming for most of his 18 years. When he was five years old, he began chopping and picking cotton. At seven, he was breaking and harrowing land with a tractor, although he was still so small that he had to stand up to release the tractor clutch.

When Barry entered fifth grade, he and his father were working a thirty-acre farm, and they had four brood sows. Today they own 40 acres, plan to buy 240 more, and rent several hundred acres. The hog herd has grown to almost 500, including 39 sows. Barry owns three sows and 23 market hogs; the remainder he shares in partnership with his father. They top out between 250 and 325 hogs each year.

Barry's first farming program consisted of one acre of cotton and one of corn in 1961. In 1962 he increased his cotton to two acres, and had one acre of corn and three acres of soybeans. He was also farming about 200 acres with his father, using two 2-row tractors. Last year he boosted his crop to five acres of cotton; five acres of corn; five acres of soybeans and one acre of wheat. Another tractor enabled him and his father to work an additional 200 acres of land.

Two years ago Barry and his father started a grade herd of cattle with 7 head. The herd now numbers 26 head.

This year Barry and his father are farming 850 acres of land, exclusive of permanent pasture. This includes 210 acres of cotton, 300 acres of corn, 300 acres of soybeans, and 40 acres of wheat. They have six tractors, a combine, a cotton picker, and all other equipment needed to operate a large farm.



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Barry's father is employed fulltime off the farm, so Barry is responsible for the farm operation. He is going to farm the rest of this year, and hopes to boost the yields of their crops and livestock. Next year he hopes to go to college.

Barry has completed three years of vocational agriculture, and he has been active in the New Hope FFA chapter four years. He served as both president and vice-president of his chapter. He has been Chairman of the pig chain committee, leadership committee, initiation committee, and supervised farming committee.

He won first place in the county tractor driving contest this year; having also won Chapter first place last year. He placed second in the county public speaking contest this year. He has entered other contests, too - soil judging, corn, cotton and dairy judging.

Barry is a good man to have around a shop. He built a cedar chest and helped build the chapter exhibit for the State Fair last year. He has built many labor-saving devices, such as an overhead feeder for his pig parlor. One of his most outstanding shop jobs was the complete building of a good, usable tractor from two wrecked ones. This was accomplished by Barry and one hired hand.

Last winter when a 17 inch snowfall in North Alabama virtually paralyzed traffic, Barry manned one of his big tractors and scraped many miles of roads until the roads were once again passable. You can see that he is a very active young man.

SWEETHEART ROUNDUP



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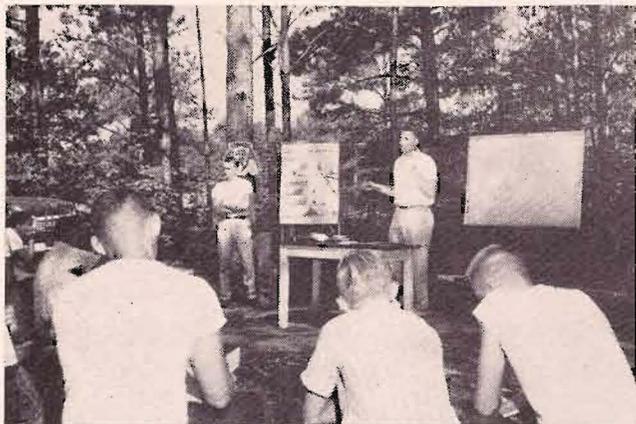
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STATE FFA PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS



107 FFA MEMBERS and 15 advisors attend the Forestry Camp each year. Sound instruction such as this is the order of the day at camp.



THE TEACHER'S conference last year saw teachers studying farm management. This in-service training was very beneficial to them.



ALABAMA'S Future Farmer of The Year, Abe Green, Lincoln, left, gets congratulations from Mr. Eddie Downs, vice-president, Central State Bank, Calera, Alabama.



ALABAMA'S Champion FFA Corn Grower, Gwin Wood, Wetumpka, right, and his advisor Mr. C. S. Bazemore, proudly examine a trophy which was awarded to Gwin.



DISTRICT FIELD days in the spring saw the emergence of the best individuals and teams in all contests. Winners competed in the State contests at the Convention June 4-6.



HORTICULTURAL workshops proved very helpful to the teachers in the state who taught landscaping. This is typical of the in-service programs arranged for teachers during the summer months.